

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE

The October 7, 2014, Regular Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council was called to order by Mayor Geoffrey Thomas at 7:01 p.m.; Council Chambers, City Hall.

Councilmembers present: Cudaback, Davis, Hanford, and Rasmussen.

Staff members present: Farrell, Feilberg, Nelson, Popelka, Quenzer, Martinson, and Warthan; City Attorney Lell.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Cudaback and recited by attendees.

Mayor Thomas noted, without objection, Councilmembers Gamble, Goering, and Kamp absences as excused.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. AB14-123: Public Hearing on Revenue Sources for 2015, Including Consideration of Possible Property Tax Increases

Ms. Dianne Nelson, Finance Director, provided a presentation giving background information on the revenue sources for the 2015 budget and the possible increase in property taxes; including: 2014 property tax levy; assessed value of City for 2014 and 2015; the formula for the levy rate; examples of individual home's taxes; how new construction will affect tax revenues; the cumulative effect of a one percent (1%) increase; and property tax levy schedule, including adoption of ordinance for property tax levy.

Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing. The following people addressed Council regarding the property levy: Marie Debach; Kenji Wah; Dugan Flanders; and Richard Farver.

Councilmember Cudaback moved to close the public testimony portion of the public hearing; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis.
On vote,

Motion carried (4-0).

Councilmember Hanford moved to close the public hearing; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Cudaback. On vote,

Motion carried (4-0).

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

The following person spoke regarding the East Monroe project: Douglas Hamar.

The following persons spoke regarding bikini barista-type coffee houses: Michael Hanford; Isaac Hanna; Aaron; Kenji Wah; Dugan Flanders; Richard Farver; and Brandi Blair.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes; September 23, 2014, Regular Business Meeting
2. Approval of AP Checks and ACH Payments

Councilmember Hanford moved to approve the Consent Agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. On vote,
Motion carried (4-0).

NEW BUSINESS

1. AB14-124: Preliminary 2015 Budget Presentation

Ms. Dianne Nelson, Finance Director, presented the preliminary 2015 Budget, including a review of the following topics: formal presentation to Council; conservative estimates utilized for revenues; anticipated revenue losses; ending fund balance estimate; and the General Fund and Utility Funds presentation schedule. Ms. Nelson answered Council inquiries thereto. Mayor Thomas provided comments on the 2015 Preliminary Budget, including: a status quo budget for 2015; a delay in hiring a Parks position; the undesignated fund balance; and no proposed property tax increase.

2. AB14-125: Discussion: Coffee Stand Regulations

Mayor Thomas gave background information, including clarifying “public places.” City Attorney Zach Lell and Police Chief Tim Quenzer responded to Council inquiries thereto. Staff will return to Council with additional information for consideration.

3. AB14-126: Discussion: Marijuana Business Buffers

Mr. Paul Popelka, Planning and Permitting Manager, provided background information and a map detailing marijuana business buffers. Mr. Lell commented regarding buffers and responded to Council inquiries thereto.

4. AB14-127: Request – Bearcat Flags on Main Street

Mayor Thomas provided background information on the request.

Councilmember Cudaback moved to approve displaying the Bearcat flags; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Rasmussen. On vote,
Motion carried (4-0).

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Cudaback commented on the new Kidney Center Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

Councilmember Hanford commented on Ms. Eadye Martinson’s attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Mike Farrell, Parks and Recreation Director, shared photos of a Netflix production which recently filmed in Monroe, noted revenue gained from the endeavor, and stated that the production crew complimented working with City of Monroe staff.

Councilmember Hanford commented on emails he has received about pedophiles in Monroe and confirmed that it this on a future agenda for discussion.

Councilmember Cudaback commented on a Snohomish County Health District Website that would help organizations to collaborate strategically.

Mr. Popelka commented on a conceptual land use plan and policy that he will present at the October 21st meeting. He noted that there is a proposed joint meeting with the Planning Commission, Park Board, and City Council on October 29, 2014.

STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Finance - Revenue Estimates for the Current Year (2014)

Ms. Nelson commented on the Revenue estimates report for 2014, provided to help Council with budget planning for 2015.¹

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Thomas commented on two events in Monroe on October 16th: the Snohomish County Cities meeting, which the City of Monroe is hosting at Paula's Wine Knot at 5:30 p.m., and the Steamstack dedication at 4:30 p.m.

1. Draft Agenda for October 14, 2014, Regular Business Meeting

Mayor Thomas reviewed the draft agenda for October 14, 2014, Regular Business Meeting, and the extended agenda. The following items were noted: the Civil Service Commission confirmation was moved to October 21st; downtown parking was moved from "New Business" to "Councilmember Reports" on October 14th; and marijuana buffers and coffee stand discussions will be brought back for further discussion on November 18, 2014.

The meeting recessed for two minutes at 9:00 p.m., to determine if there would be an Executive Session; and the meeting reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Property Acquisition -- RCW 42.30.110(B) (*5 minutes*)

Mayor Thomas stated that the Council would recess into Executive Session to discuss Property Acquisition [RCW 42.30.110(B)] for approximately 5 minutes; and read the appropriate citation into the record.

¹ NOTE: Comments on the Finance Report were presented at the time of Council Reports, in response to inquiry.

The meeting recessed into executive session at 9:04 p.m.; and reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

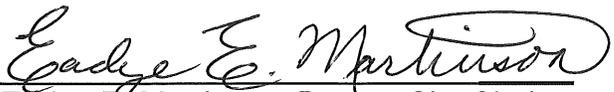
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilmember Rasmussen and seconded by Councilmember Davis to adjourn the meeting. On vote,
Motion carried (4-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:10 p.m.



Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor



Eadye E. Martinson, Deputy City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Regular Business Meeting of October 14, 2014.