

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE

The November 19, 2019, Regular Study Session of the Monroe City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas at 7 p.m.; Monroe City Hall, Council Chambers.

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

Staff members present: Pfister, Knight, Jolley, Irving, Lether, Swanson, Bright, Criswell, Warthan, Feilberg, and Hasart.

Mayor Thomas noted, without objection, the excused absence of Councilmember Kamp. No objections were noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scout Pack 39, Den 4 Arrows.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Recognition of Service: The Honorable Judge Mara J. Rozzano

Mayor Thomas noted that Judge Rozzano was not able to attend the meeting. This item will be brought back at the December 10, 2019 regular business meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATION

1. AB19-238: Presentation: Monroe School District Challenge Coin Award

Police Chief Jeff Jolley provided background information on AB19-238; and introduced Greg Burns, the Safety, Risk & Security Manager with the Monroe School District. Mr. Burns spoke about the contributions Officer Derrick Lether has made to the District and his involvement with the students, specifically Officer Lether's efforts on the Safety and Emergency Preparedness videos developed for the students.

Mr. Burns thanked the police department for their support and presented Officer Lether with a Challenge Coin; only awarded for circumstances that warrant recognition for going above and beyond expectations. Officer Lether gave a short acceptance speech.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no persons present wishing to speak during Public Comments.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Gamble clarified the annual tree lighting event date and confirmed it would be noticed as a possible quorum.

STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ms. Becky Hasart, Finance Director, reported on the East County Park and Recreation District (ECPRD) bond measure results.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. City Administrator Update

Ms. Deborah Knight, City Administrator, reported/commented on the following topics:

- Next week's court assessment consultant interviews.
- Interim Judge currently serving the municipal court until the selection of a new Judge in January.
- AWC City Action Days; to contact Interim City Clerk Gina Pfister to register.
- Attended the Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation (SCCIT) meeting last week.
- The effects of Initiative 976 passing; will continue working with Strategies 360 on alternative funding sources for Highway 522.

2. Mayor's Update/Monroe This Week (*October 11, 2019, Edition No. 36*)

Mayor Thomas noted the Monroe This Week included in the meeting materials; and reported on the following topics:

- 2020 Board and Commission interview process.
- Presentation at the Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) open house; draft HPAC recommendations; community input; and next steps. Mayor Thomas thanked members of the HPAC Committee.
- Attended the Snohomish County Mayor's meeting hosted by Snohomish County Councilmember Sam Low; discussed 2020 legislative strategy.
- Attended the homelessness Response Group meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. AB19-239: 2020 School Safety (Joint Discussion with Monroe School District)

Chief Jolley provided background information on the City's School Resource Officer (SRO) program and the proactive actions the Monroe Police Department and School District are taking to maintain safe schools.

Mr. Greg Burns, the Safety, Risk & Security Manager with the Monroe School District gave Council an update on current initiatives including: a grant application for capital improvements for security; first aid kits for classrooms; discussions with the Sheriff's office regarding SRO's in county schools; and security officers/volunteers at the middle school. Mr. Burns reviewed the District's threat assessment team process.

Discussion ensued throughout the presentation regarding an interest in additional metrics and data related to school violence; and funding to provide SRO's in schools outside the city limits.

RECESS

At 7:25 p.m. the Council recessed for five minutes to address technical difficulties with the audio recording software.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. the meeting reconvened to regular session.

DISCUSSION ITEMS CONTINUED

2. AB19-240: Code Enforcement Update

Ms. Amy Bright, Associate Planner, and Mr. Stacy Criswell, Building Official, led a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following:

- Previous short and long-term recommendations
- Municipal code updates
- Staffing levels
- Best practices
- Possible software solutions
- Lean process
- Enforcement options
- Ongoing compliance

Ms. Knight reviewed the Lean charter document. Mr. Ben Swanson, Community Development Director, gave an overview of the Lean process, benefits, goals, next steps, and Lean training for staff from Public Works, Police, the Fire District, and Community Development. Lean training was facilitated by the Office of the Washington State Auditor's Center for Government Innovation.

3. AB19-241: 2018-2019 Comprehensive Plan Docket

Mr. Swanson provided background information on AB19-241 and reviewed amendment applications received by the city. Mr. Swanson noted the Planning Commission's role and upcoming recommendations based on the criteria outlined in the municipal code.

Council engaged in discussion. This item will come back to the Council at a meeting in January.

4. AB19-242: Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) Update

Ms. Knight provided background information on AB19-242 and led a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following:

- Homelessness in Monroe
- Creation of the HPAC Committee
- HPAC goals
- Committee work & assignments

- Underlying causes of homelessness
- Committee discoveries
- Considerations & possible solutions
- Current and potential partners
- Support services
- Public safety
- Policy & budget
- HPAC draft recommendations
- Next steps

Council engaged in discussion with emphasis on the topic of coordinated housing solutions in the Sky Valley area.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. To Discuss Collective Bargaining Pursuant to RCW 42.30.141(4)(a)

Mayor Thomas noted the need for an executive session for approximately five minutes to discuss Collective Bargaining [RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)]; and read the appropriate citation into the record.

The meeting recessed into executive session at 9:15 p.m.; was extended for an additional 10 minutes; and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilmember Rasmussen and seconded by Councilmember Hanford to adjourn the meeting. On vote,
Motion carried (6-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:32 p.m.

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

Gina Pfister, Clerical Specialist