



MONROE THIS WEEK

Edition 14 April 8, 2016

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas
gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Patsy Cudaback
Kevin Hanford
Ed Davis
Jason Gamble
Jim Kamp
Jeff Rasmussen
Kirk Scarboro
councilmembers@monroewa.gov

City Hall

806 West Main Street
Monroe, WA 98272
Phone: 360.794.7400
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

Appointment Openings

No Openings At This Time

Job Openings

Maintenance Person II
Public Works Maint. Worker II
Senior Engineer – Development Review
Senior Planner
Seasonal Parks
Seasonal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Events this Week

04/12 *Monroe Chamber of Commerce Lunch, The Rock Church, 16891 146th St SE, 11:30AM – 1PM*

City Council Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting, City Hall, Permit Center, 6PM

City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, “Monroe This Week. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding “Monroe This Week” or the stories below, please contact me at GThomas@MonroeWa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

Be In The Know!

East Monroe

On April 1, 2016, the Growth Management Hearings Board issued a decision regarding the East Monroe Rezone. The Board’s decision invalidated the “General Commercial” designation for the property. At the April 5, 2016, City Council meeting, Council directed city staff to bring forward a resolution for Council’s consideration to essentially accept the Board’s decision which removed the “General Commercial” designation. The resolution will be on Council’s April 12, 2016, meeting for their consideration.

Got Drugs?

The Monroe Police Department accepts unused, unwanted and expired prescription drugs which may pose a risk to you, your family, and your community. Improper disposal may lead to illegal use or contamination of our waters. For proper disposal, bring your unwanted medicines to the Monroe Police Department at: 818 West Main Street, Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm.

Lake Tye Skate Park

On April 7, 2016, Monroe City Councilmembers, Senator Pearson, skate park concept design volunteers, Todd Yingling and Aris Williams, and I had a groundbreaking ceremony at Lake Tye Park for the new Lake Tye Skate Park.

**City of Monroe
Year-to-Date Comparisons**

The following are year-to-date comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'15 to 3/31/15: \$973,181

'16 to 3/31/16: \$1,100,427

UP \$127,246 or 13.08%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'15 to 3/31/15: \$159,109

'16 to 3/31/16: \$205,780

UP \$46,671 or 29.33%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'15 to 3/31/15: \$10,441

'16 to 3/31/16: \$13,813

UP \$3,371 or 32.29%

Business License Fees

'15 to 3/31/15: \$13,344

'16 to 3/31/16: \$14,221

UP \$877 or 6.57%

Building Permit Revenues

'15 to 3/31/15: \$82,947

'16 to 3/31/16: \$85,216

UP \$2,269 or 2.74%

Planning Fee Revenues

'15 to 3/31/15: \$9,090

'16 to 3/31/16: 7,625

DOWN \$1,465 or -16.12%

New House Permits

'15 to 3/31/15: 21

'16 to 3/31/16: 19

DOWN 2 units or 9.5%

Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'15 to 3/31/15: 13

'16 to 3/31/16: 4

DOWN 9 units or 69.2%

Building Division Inspections

'15 to 3/31/15: 398

'16 to 3/31/16: 420

UP 22 or 5.5%

(Skate park continued)

Our community is ecstatic to have this new facility built. We thank all those who were part of the design effort and who contributed to funding, including the State of Washington's Recreation Conservation Office. We look forward to its construction being completed in July 2016. Stay tuned!

Career Day at Hidden River Middle School

I had an awesome time meeting Hidden River Middle School students at Career Day on April 7, 2016. I presented an overview of what the City Mayor does in Monroe and answered a number of questions, including questions about SR-522, Tjerne Place SE extension, the old Albertsons/Haggen building, city parks, and city government in general.

Opening Day at the Speedway

April 2, 2016, was Opening Day at the Evergreen Speedway! The Speedway has called Monroe home for 62 years! Over the racing season, Monroe will host drivers and race fans from Monroe to Canada to participate in and watch the races. For more information about the Speedway and event schedules, check out: <http://www.evergreenspeedway.com/>.

Council Updates!

Downtown Parking

At the April 5, 2016, City Council meeting, I presented concerns to Council about downtown employee parking. Council did not provide direction to me and staff to change the downtown parking limitations to provide areas for downtown employee parking. If you would like downtown parking limitations modified, such as to provide for downtown employee parking, please contact our Councilmembers at CouncilMembers@MonroeWA.gov

Fireworks

At the April 5, 2016, City Council meeting, the City Council gave direction to me and City staff to bring back revisions to the Monroe Municipal fireworks code. Those revisions would reduce the days fireworks stands can be open in Monroe from June 28th – July 4th to be July 1st to July 4th each year. The requested revisions would not change existing laws that allow people to discharge fireworks.