



MONROE THIS WEEK

February 16, 2018 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272 Vol 4/Edition 7
Phone - 360-794-7400



GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

Thank you!

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



MAYOR HAPPENINGS

Summit 2050

The Puget Sound region is beginning the process of planning for 2050. Snohomish County estimates having to provide housing for about 250,000 new residents by then. While this is 32 years from now, the planning decisions that will be made during this planning process will drive investments in transportation, infrastructure, schools, utilities, etc. over the course of the next 30+ years. It is crucial that we be at the table and that our voice is heard when there are meetings and opportunities to comment on these plans.

On Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018, I attended the Summit 2050 planning workshop with a number of



other elected and appointed officials. We were tasked with identifying where we thought residential growth should occur. The group I was part of focused on growth where transportation improvements were planned (eg. light rail) and in communities at transportation hubs and where job centers were being developed. Our group also underscored the importance of new growth being focused in cities instead of unincorporated county. We also shared concerns about barriers to cities annexing urban areas next to cities.

Thank you to Planning Commissioner Kyle Fisher and Heather Rousey, City Administrator Deborah Knight, and Community Development Director Ben Swanson for representing Monroe with me at this important workshop. And thank you, County Executive Dave Somers, for hosting the first of many listening sessions and workshops that will help us plan and invest in infrastructure for the next 30 years.

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Jason Gamble, Mayor Pro Tem

Patsy Cudaback

Kevin Hanford

Ed Davis

Jim Kamp

Jeff Rasmussen

Kirk Scarboro

councilmembers@monroewa.gov

EVENT HAPPENINGS

02/16	Buzz Inn Hell on Hooves - Rough Stock Rodeo, Evergreen Fairgrounds, 6:00PM-9:30PM, \$15
02/17	The Great Junk Hunt - Vintage Flea Market, Evergreen Fairgrounds, 6PM, \$20
02/17	Community Breakfast, Monroe Community Senior Center, 8-10AM, \$5
02/19	President's Day, City Hall Closed
02/20	Legislative Affairs Committee, City Hall, Council Chambers, 6:30PM City Council Regular Business Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM

City of Monroe
Year-to-Date Comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'17 to 01/31/17: \$371,743

'18 to 01/31/18: \$385,886

UP \$14,143 or 3.80%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'17 to 01/31/17: \$59,971

'18 to 01/31/18: \$103,435

UP \$43,464 or 72.47%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'17 to 01/31/17: \$4,581

'18 to 01/31/18: \$4,878

Up \$297 or 6.48%

Business License Fees

'17 to 01/31/17: \$4,108

'18 to 01/31/18: \$4,554

UP \$446 or 10.85%

Building Permit Revenues

'17 to 01/31/17: \$39,220

'18 to 01/31/18: \$41,962

UP \$2,742 or 6.99%

Planning Fee Revenues

'17 to 01/31/17: \$625

'18 to 01/31/18: \$175

DOWN \$450 or -72%

Mayor's Meeting

On Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018, County Councilmember Sam Low hosted a meeting with local mayors in the area. Mayors from Gold Bar, Monroe, Snohomish, and Lake Stevens were in attendance. We talked about the various issues our communities are facing from homelessness to transportation. We talked about how we could better coordinate and leverage resources to get much needed transportation improvements in our state routes, including SR522, SR9, and the trestle. Coming out of the conversation, we agreed to look into forming an alliance of cities and county in the Cascade foothills and valleys to better leverage resources to get the transportation improvements we need. Thank you, Councilmember Low, for organizing and hosting this much needed opportunity for our cities to meet to discuss and take action on common issues and opportunities.

Appointment Openings

LTAC Member (Hotelier)

Ethics Boardmember (3)

Salary Commissioner

www.monroewa.gov/vacancies

Job Openings

Lateral Police Officer

www.monroewa.gov/jobs

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

The Tuesday, February 20, 2018, Monroe City Council Regular Business Meeting agenda items include: Accept Railroad Crossing Sidewalk Extension, Choose Monroe Magazine Publisher, a Human Services Grant Reimbursement and Resolutions for Amending Fees and Supporting a SERS Replacement. For more information about the City Council agenda and additional items, visit www.monroewa.gov. The Legislative Affairs Committee will discuss Parks and Rec District.

CITY HAPPENINGS

Passport agency processing fees to increase \$10.00

The US Department of State Passport Services recently issued a notice that effective April 2, 2018, passport acceptance fees (execution fees) will increase to \$35 per application (previously) \$25. This is the fee the City retains for processing passport applications on behalf of the State Department. All other fees associated with applying for a US passport remain the same. If you are planning any international travel this year and need to apply for a passport, come on down to City Hall before April 2nd before the rate increase! For information regarding City Hall passport processing times, rates, and needed documentation, visit our website at www.monroewa.gov under Government then Services or call us at 360-794-7400.

Passport Day

The City of Monroe's Finance Department will be hosting a "Passport Day" on Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Monroe City Hall. If you are interested in applying for your passport, but can't come during the week, here's your chance. Applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis and the doors will be closed at 1 p.m. to insure that all accepted applications will get to the post office in time, so plan to come early. If you have any questions regarding passport applications, visit our web site at www.monroewa.gov under Government Services or call us at 360-794-7400.

Wiggly Field Fencing

We have recognized that the fencing at Wiggly Field is in need of an upgrade. Mayor Thomas and the City Council have supported this by allocating funding in this year's budget to replace and upgrade the fence, which is scheduled to occur later this year. Please feel free to contact Parks & Recreation director Mike Farrell if you have further questions at either (360) 863-4557 or mfarrell@monroewa.gov



Community Service from the Department of Corrections

We continue to partner this year with the Monroe Correctional Complex on projects that benefit the community. Inmates have begun raising 4,000 flowers from seed at the prison for use later this spring on the ends of the traffic islands along Main Street and Lewis Street. This will be the 9th year of partnering on the flower program, which is a cost saving measure for the City. In addition, we have scheduled to utilize DOC work crews again to assist with maintaining parks and public right of ways in the City.

