



# MONROE THIS WEEK

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*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes details on Lodging Tax Advisory Board vacancies, the May 2022 Economic Development Newsletter, how the City is giving back to the environment, the Monroe Police Department's new Chaplains, the local recognition of Building Safety Month, the delay of the 2022 Monroe Clean Up, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's Incentive Program, and a summary of the May 10 City Council meeting.*



*Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at [GThomas@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWA.gov).*

*Yours in Service,*

*Mayor Geoffrey Thomas*

## **LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

The City of Monroe has four vacancies

on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee: two (2) members who represent businesses required to collect lodging taxes (i.e., hotels and motels), and two (2) members who represent activities authorized to be funded by lodging taxes (i.e., businesses, government, and non-profit agencies which promote tourism).



Applications are due Friday, June 3. Please visit the City's [Boards and Commission Vacancies page](#) for further information and to apply. For more information, contact Management Analyst Rich Huebner at [RHuebner@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:RHuebner@MonroeWA.gov).

## MAY 2022 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

The City of Monroe has published the [May 2022 Economic Development Newsletter](#). This issue includes details on the 2021 Economic Development Annual Report, highlights of the 2021 Business Survey Results, info about County & State Grants for Businesses, the Regional Economic Perspective, Monroe Board and Committee Openings, and a calendar of upcoming events. Visit the City's [Economic Development page](#) for more information about Monroe economic development activities.

*Monroe, Washington Economic Development Newsletter for May 2022*

## GIVING BACK TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Last month, the [Public Works Department](#) partnered with [Sound Salmon Solutions](#) to plant 465 conifer trees in the riparian area adjacent to Miracle League Field. The native trees, a mixture of Western Red Cedar, Douglas Fir, and Western Hemlock, were donated to the City. The juvenile trees will grow to provide shade and critical habitat for many species of wildlife traveling along the Skykomish River corridor. A special thank you to the owner of the donated trees, and the efforts of Sound Salmon Solutions and Public Works staff!



## POLICE DEPARTMENT GAINS THREE NEW CHAPLAINS

[The Monroe Police Department](#) recently welcomed three new Chaplains to their department. They include Mike and Dana Sherstad, as well as Henri Fischer. Each of them graduated a week-long Chaplaincy Academy on April 29. In their roles as Chaplains, each of them serves in a volunteer capacity providing counseling or emotional support to members of the Police Department, member families, and the public. Often, the Chaplains are called to crisis events where they lend support and comfort to the grieving. Monroe PD is excited to have them join the team.



## MAY IS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH - CITY RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF SAFE BUILDINGS

As I mentioned in a recent edition of *Monroe This Week*, the theme of Building Safety Month 2022 is “Safety for All: Building Codes in Action”. The International Code Council (ICC) has designated each week of May as a different building safety theme to help raise awareness. This week's theme is Building Safety Careers. There is a tremendous work opportunity for qualified candidates seeking a job in the building industry, including code officials. Professions within the building safety field vary widely in their specialties, and the industry offers many well-paying career options for today’s workforce:

- **Building inspectors** inspect structures to determine compliance with the various building codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction.
- **Building officials** manage the development, administration, interpretation, application and enforcement of the codes adopted by their jurisdiction.
- **Permit technicians** assist in the issuance of construction and development permits to ensure compliance with the provisions of a jurisdiction’s adopted regulations and codes.
- **Public works inspectors** check digging and fill operations, and the placement of forms for concrete. They observe the concrete mixing and pouring, asphalt paving and grading operations and keep records of all work performed and the materials used. Public works inspectors may be specialists in one kind of operation such as reinforced concrete, dredging or ditches.
- **Plan reviewers or examiners** begin the evaluation process which ensures that a building or structure conforms to the requirements of the local or specified code. The plan reviewer examines the construction documents used to describe a project, including architectural, structural, site plan, mechanical, plumbing, electrical and fire protection drawings as well as the corresponding specifications, structural design calculations and soil report.

- **Code enforcement officers** evaluate and enforce local building codes. They typically issue warnings or give citations for any code violations they find.

Well-trained, motivated building safety professionals are key to creating and maintaining a successful built environment. Thorough training and education help code officials consistently ensure that the buildings in their community are safe, especially in areas vulnerable to natural disasters like tornados and wildfires. Here at the City we are extremely grateful for all of our building safety professionals holding positions like those listed above.

Last week I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of May as Building Safety Month. I encourage you to read the full text of the Proclamation and check out the ICC's resources for the week, including their [Building Safety Career Path Initiative](#).

## 2022 MONROE CLEAN UP TO BE HELD IN SEPTMEBER

The 2022 Monroe Clean Up, traditionally held each spring, will take place in September this year. Due to labor and equipment challenges with the local disposal systems and delays in rail services, which carries collected material to the landfill, the annual cleanup had to be moved to a later date. Republic Services is working to confirm a date which will be announced later this summer.



The annual Monroe Clean Up event has had great success in the past; the event is free to Republic Services customers city-wide. In the past four years, 48-tons of solid waste has been collected, 2-tons of yard waste has been collected, and 4-tons of scrap metal has been collected. There is no limit to the volume collected per costumer and over 19,700 Monroe residents have participated in the event.

Republic Services maintains a webpage dedicated to servicing the City; the webpage keeps up to date on service announcements, customer resources, and local events. For more information, please visit their website [here](#).

## PUGET SOUND CLEAN AIR AGENCY INCENTIVES

If you feel like it might be time to lose the old flame and upgrade to a cleaner (and easier) heating alternative, here's some further incentive:

- The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency will give all qualifying Puget Sound residents \$350 to

remove and recycle their current wood-burning stove or fireplace insert.

- Snohomish County residents can also qualify for a \$1,500-\$2,000 incentive to help replace wood-burning stoves or fireplace inserts with clean heating alternatives.

Just imagine, there will be no more clunky piles of wood lying around, no more hauling and splitting! Plus, some clean heating alternatives include AC that can cool you on hot summer days! I invite you to learn more on their website [here](#).



## MAY 10 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The City Council met in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 10. The following items were discussed and acted upon during the meeting:

**Consent Agenda** – Items considered routine and approved by one vote:

- April 2022 Payroll
- City Council Meeting Minutes for April 19 (amended), April 26, and May 3, 2022
- Accounts Payable/ACH payments through May 10, 2022
- Ordinance 012/2022 establishing June 19, Juneteenth, as a paid holiday for City employees
- Memorandum of Understanding for Collective Bargaining Agreements for Juneteenth
- Local Agency Consultant Agreement Supplement with Toole Design for US-2 Non-Motorized Shared Path Final Design and Construction Services



**New Business** – reviewed, discussed and approved the following new items:

- Initial annexation meeting for the Conner Annexation and reviewed the three resolutions Council can direct staff to prepare. After discussion, the Council chose to accept the 10% annexation petition.
- First reading of Ordinance No. 016/2022, Amending Monroe Municipal Code (MMC) 3.54.130, Transportation Impact Fees.
- Ordinance 014/2022, Adopting Emergency Interim Unified Development Regulations (UDR) Definitions for Chapter 22.12 MMC.

**Mayor/Administrative Reports:**

- City Administrator Deborah Knight reported:
  - The May 24 Transportation/Planning, Parks & Rec, and Public Works (P3) committee meeting is cancelled and will be replaced with a Transportation Benefit District meeting.

- The May 17 Study Session has been cancelled.
- I reported:
  - I recently issued Proclamations recognizing [Public Works Week](#) and [National Police Week](#).
  - That Mayor Pro Tem Gamble will preside over meetings while I am away the next couple of meetings.

**Staff Reports:**

- Economic Development
- Human Resources/Information Technology
- Parks
- Police
- Public Works

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

THE MAY 17, 2022 CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING IS CANCELLED. The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings both in-person at City Hall and remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the May 24 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

### Council Agendas/Minutes

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Ed Davis



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Kinney



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

Have a question for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov)



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