



MONROE THIS WEEK

December 9, 2022 • Volume 8/Edition 4



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition includes details on the 2023 Lodging Tax Award applications, the City's recruitment efforts for a paid intern, the new playground coming to Blueberry Park, the Monroe Chamber of Commerce's After Hours shopping event tomorrow, the local recognition of Universal Human Rights Month and December 10 as Human Rights Day, and a summary of the December 6 City Council meeting.



Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours in Service,

LTAC FUNDS APPLICATION WINDOW NOW OPEN

The application window for 2023 Lodging Tax Awards opened this week, with applications due no later than January 12, 2023 by 4:30 p.m. Submissions will be reviewed by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee who will make recommendations on awardees and award amounts to the City Council. To be considered for funding, the request must be used for one of the following activities (**RCW 67.28.1816**):



- Tourism marketing;
- Marketing and operations of special events and festivals designed to attract tourists;
- Operations of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by nonprofit organizations as defined by the IRC 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6).
 - Verification of nonprofit status will be required.

Priority consideration will be given to applications that feature events scheduled from July thru April of each year, and activities that promote tourism during July thru April.

Lodging taxes are collected for lodging in hotel and motel rooms in Monroe. In prior years, they have supported events like TriMonroe, Kid's Fishing Day, Fairfest 3on3, theatre productions with Sky Performing Arts, Music in the Park, Fair Days Parade, and the Monroe Chamber of Commerce to run the visitor information center. For more information on the 2023 award cycle or Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, please visit our [website](#). You can also fill out an application directly [here](#). All applications must be mailed or delivered to City Hall at 806 W. Main St.

CITY RECRUITING FOR A PAID INTERN

The City has an opening for a paid internship. This intern will provide administrative support to the Executive Department, city programs, and policies pertaining to all areas of local government, with particular responsibilities in policy analysis, agenda bills, strategic planning, and organizational change. We anticipate this position to last for 12 weeks with a



flexible start date in January. The successful candidate will possess or be enrolled in a bachelor's degree program in public administration, business administration, or related field, and have some experience with project management and the research, analysis, and development of public policy. For more information and to apply, please visit the City's [website](#).

NEW PLAYGROUND COMING TO BLUEBERRY PARK

The City received a \$100,000 grant from Snohomish County toward the construction of the new Blueberry Park Playground. Construction of the playground is currently scheduled in 2023. This money will go toward improving the initial design by adding amenities and creating additional visual interest for the kids. We want to extend a particular thank you to Councilmember Sam Low, Executive Dave Somers and his entire team at the County for their excellent partnership and quick work to make this grant a reality.



AFTER HOURS SHOPPING ON MAIN TOMORROW

Get into the holiday spirit and visit Downtown Monroe's shops tomorrow as they unveil their holiday decor and displays. Every store will have a great selection of Christmas gifts and decorations to make 2022 the best holiday season! No ticket purchase necessary, just come down anytime from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. and enjoy this Main Street event put on by [Choose Monroe](#). Our amazing Downtown restaurants and bars will be getting into the spirit too, offering holiday drink specials and festive foods.



CITY RECOGNIZES UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS

At this week's Regular Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of December as Universal Human Rights Month and December 10, 2022 as Human Rights Day. Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10 — the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The UDHR is a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.



I invite you to read the text of the Proclamation, and I call upon everyone to:

- Stand up for the inherent rights, worth, and dignity of every human being
 - Be kind, just, and humble enough to consider how our actions and inactions contribute to discrimination and oppression of human rights
 - Have conversations about ways to change
 - Emphasize the importance of making those changes a reality for the betterment of every human being
-

DECEMBER 6 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The City Council met in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, December 6. The following items were discussed and acted upon during the meeting:



Public Hearing:

- Kate Tourtellot provided a staff report and explained that this was the required public hearing for the interim amendments ordinance that was adopted on October 25, 2022. She explained that the point of the interim amendments is to remove municipal facilities from the tourist commercial zone. Ms. Tourtellot explained that written comments were received shortly before the meeting and asked Council to continue the public hearing to allow staff to thoroughly review the comments. There were public comments in opposition to the interim amendments. The public hearing will be continued during the December 13 meeting.

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

- City Council Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2022
- Accounts Payable/ACH payments through November 30, 2022
- Authorize the Mayor Pro Tem to sign an Interlocal Agreement with Snohomish County for Law Enforcement Embedded Social Worker Services
- Resolution No. 2022-018, amending the City of Monroe Master Fee Schedule, and fees, fines, penalties, interest and charges to be effective for January 1, 2023.
- Ordinance 032/2022 amending Title 23 MMC by the addition of a new Chapter 23.70 MMC Right-of-Way Dedications and Easements thereto; establishing standards and procedures for the requirement and acceptance of right-of-way dedications and easements for access and utility purposes in conjunction with the development approval process
- Ordinance No. 033/2022, amending Chapter 22.12 MMC, updating, amending, deleting, and establishing new definitions and interpretative standards for zoning and land use terms utilized in the City's Unified Development Regulations (UDR); repealing Ordinance No.027/2022
- The Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB) recommendation to assign SHB1406 funding as an ongoing funding source for rental assistance and issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for organizations to administer these funds
- Award Street Tree Planting Unit Bid Price contract in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 cumulatively over the contract period (2022-2024) to NewSpring LLC; and expressly authorize a contingency amount of up to twenty percent to address further minor revisions as deemed necessary or appropriate per Section 5 of the Procurement Policies & Procedures
- Automatically renew the solid waste collection services contract (solid waste contract) with Republic Services, Inc. effective January 1, 2023
- The annual rate adjustments proposed by Republic Services, Inc. to become effective January 1, 2023
- The Community Human Services Advisory Board recommendations for the 2022 Human Services Award
- Authorize myself to sign a contract with Strategies 360 not to exceed \$4,000 for on-call federal representation

- Authorize myself to sign a contract with Luke Esser not to exceed \$48,000
- Authorize myself to sign a contract with James Hedrick not to exceed \$48,000
- Authorize myself to sign a contract with Strategies 360 not to exceed \$28,000 for services provided from May 1-November 30
- The YMCA's requested change of scope request for their 2022 Human Services Award

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

- My re-appointment of Kelsi Dockins to the Planning Commission Position 2, a 4-year term ending 12/31/2026
- My re-appointment of Bryan Lipcsy to the Salary Commission Position 1, a 3-year term ending 12/31/2025
- My re-appointment of Sally King to the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) Position 5, with a term ending December 31, 2026
- First reading of Ordinance 031/2022 amending Chapter 9.03 MMC state criminal statutes adopted; amending the City's criminal code to adopt by reference the current Washington statutes governing civil protection orders; entering legislative findings
- The SRO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Monroe School District, and to authorize the Mayor to execute the MOU on behalf of the City
- Council Rules of Procedure - Jodi Wycoff reviewed proposed edits and received feedback from Council

Mayor/Administrative Reports:

- City Administrator Deborah Knight reported:
 - The Association of Washington Cities' City Action Days is February 15-16 in Olympia and that registration opens December 12
 - Asked Council if they were interested in setting their 2023 committee assignments at the December 13 meeting rather than the first meeting in January – Council was in agreement to do so
 - The new wayfinding signs are installed and commended the Economic Development Advisory Board and Scott Peterson, City Engineer for their work on the project.
 - Commended the Public Works Department and Police Department for their work during the recent snow event
- I reported:
 - On recent meetings I've attended including a mayor's group where they discussed ways to use the funding from the opioid settlement, the Association of Washington Cities Federal Legislative Priorities Committee, a meeting with Senator Murray's staff regarding the City's opposition to a proposed requirement for certain financial reporting, and an Economic Alliance meeting
 - Commended the Monroe Chamber of Commerce for organizing the Light Up Monroe event and the Police and Public Works departments for their work during the recent snow event.
 - Expressed my appreciation of City Council and staff for all the work they do for the community.

Staff Reports:

- Finance
- Police
- Community Development
- Economic Development

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Business Meeting on Tuesday, December 13. 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 December 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



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