



# MONROE THIS WEEK

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*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes wishes for Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year; details on the City's branding and economic development outreach, serving on a board, commission, or committee, the upcoming update to our online utility payment portal, how we are preserving a piece of Monroe history, and a summary of the December 13 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,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Thomas".

*Mayor Geoffrey Thomas*

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM MY HEART TO YOURS**

Next week we enter the holiday season. While 2022 has been another difficult year for many, through it all, I have witnessed a community coming together and helping each other. Our community has grown stronger together. Through the difficult times we've faced the past few years, there has been a light shining through, and that is the love and support that I have witnessed throughout 2022. I am truly thankful for this wonderful community, and I thank everyone choosing to live and work in Monroe for being that light. I wish all Monroe residents a very Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.



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## BRANDING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH UNDERWAY

The City wants to hear from you. By taking this 10-minute survey, you can help the City with its branding effort, which will help us uncover the heart and soul of Monroe and tell our compelling story in a way that captures our unique identity. If you are a business located in Monroe, this same survey can help the City assess how we are doing in supporting our businesses. Your feedback is both valuable and critical, which will lead to the updating of our logo, tagline, and brand to realize the City's new vision statement – Imagine Monroe. You can take the survey [here](#) or scan the QR code.



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## SERVE ON A BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE

Are you looking for ways to serve the community you live in? The City of Monroe is currently recruiting for current and upcoming vacancies on multiple boards, commissions, and committees. We are currently recruiting for the following positions:



2 - Community Human Services Advisory Board (1 mid-term vacancy ending 12/2025; 1 pending vacancy with a new term ending 12/2026)

2 - Economic Development Advisory Board (1 mid-term vacancy ending 12/31/2025; 2 pending vacancies with new terms ending 12/2026)

1 - Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (one hotelier position mid-term ending 6/2026)

1 - Salary Commission (two 3-year terms ending 12/2025)

- **The Civil Service Commission** assures that police officers are recruited through open competition, are hired and promoted on the basis of merit, and oversees civil service examinations and certifies eligibility lists.
- **The Community Human Services Advisory Board** advises myself

and City Council on work program, policy issues, and related budget issues; and provides non-binding recommendations on how to assist community members experiencing homelessness, who are at risk of becoming homeless, or who are experiencing poverty or are adversely impacted by a crisis.

- **The Economic Development Advisory Board** provides a forum for the coordination of information among entities identified as having economic development roles; recommends priorities, and establishes a means to monitor progress on goals, and provides such other advice and guidance with furthering Monroe's economic development strategy.
- **The Lodging Tax Advisory Board** reviews award applications and makes recommendations to City Council regarding allocation of local lodging tax funds. Reviews and comments on any proposed imposition of lodging tax, increase in the rate of lodging tax, repeal of an exemption from lodging tax, or change in the use of revenue received from lodging tax.
- **The Park Board** advises the City Council on the management, supervision, improvement, and budgeting for parks and recreation facilities and programs; reviews the comprehensive park and recreation plan, assists with new park sites, and advises the City Council on capital projects in city parks.
- **The Planning Commission** reviews and makes recommendations to the City Council concerning land use issues including zoning, code changes, and revisions to the comprehensive plan.
- **The Salary Commission** reviews and establishes the salaries of the Mayor and City Councilmembers.

For more information on the duties of each board or commission, please visit our [Boards, Commissions, and Committees page](#). You can apply directly [here](#), but we request that you download the document and fill it out to avoid any technical errors.

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## UTILITY PAYMENT PORTAL GETTING AN UPDATE

The online [utility payment portal](#) will be updated December 19, 2022, at 5:00 PM. The upgrade will not change any settings for autopay or account access. The new appearance provides a modern online platform and greater usability on mobile devices. Please call City Hall at **360-794-7400** for assistance.



El [portal de pago](#) de servicios públicos en línea se actualizará el 19 de diciembre de 2022, a las 5:00 p. m. La actualización no cambiará ninguna configuración para el pago automático o el acceso a la cuenta. La nueva apariencia ofrece una plataforma en línea moderna y mayor facilidad de uso en dispositivos móviles. Por favor llame al ayuntamiento al **360-794-7400** para obtener ayuda.

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## PRESERVING A PIECE OF MONROE HISTORY

During the Madison Street reconstruction project this summer, the contractor noticed and salvaged an old brass nameplate “Madison” embedded in the original concrete sidewalk. The nameplate was in rough shape and a member of our community took it upon himself to clean, straighten, and put a shine to the old nameplate, returning it to a like new condition. The City had the contractor reinstall the brass nameplate into the new concrete sidewalk and it can be seen when walking the sidewalk at the northeast corner of Madison Street and Main Street (near Candido’s). I would like to recognize and thank Mr. Randall Trivett for his interest and efforts in restoring that piece of Monroe’s history, and to Marshbank Construction (the contractor) who salvaged the nameplate from the rubble. Thank you!



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## DECEMBER CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The City Council met in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, December 13. The following items were discussed and acted upon during the meeting:



### Public Hearing:

- Continuation of Required Post-Adoption Public Hearing for Ordinance 030/2022B, Adopting Interim Zoning Amendments to Chapter 22.24 Monroe Municipal Code, Tourist Commercial zoning district

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

- City Council Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2022
- November 2022 payroll
- Accounts Payable/ACH payments through December 9, 2022
- Accept Project/Begin Lien Period for 2022 Annual Road Maintenance Project
- Accept Project/Begin Lien Period for Department of Corrections (DOC) Second Reservoir Project
- Resolution 2022-020: 2023 Council Meeting and Committee Meeting Calendars
- Authorize Mayor Pro-Tem to sign a contract supplement with BHC for continued design services for the Blueberry Lane Infiltration/Conveyance project
- Ordinance 031/2022 Amending Chapter 9.03 MMC Civil Protection Orders
- Snohomish County Partnership Proposal Award

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

- Selection of 2023 Mayor Pro-Tem, Council Committees, and various Council Appointments
- Association of Washington Cities Alternative Response Team Grant

### Unfinished Business:

- Municipal Campus Project Phase II - Proposed City Staff Relocation Options

- Amend Monroe City Council Rules of Procedure - second review/approval

### **City Administrator/Mayor Reports:**

- City Administrator Deborah Knight reported that:
  - The Association of Washington Cities' City Action Days is February 15-16 in Olympia
  - There is a community meeting being hosted by Senator Hawkins on December 30 in Council Chambers from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - Thanked Council for their careful deliberations this past year and City Attorney Lell for all of the assistance he provides to Monroe

### **Staff Reports:**

- Human Services
- Parks

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## **UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

The City Council will next meet in a Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 10. 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 January 10 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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