



MONROE THIS WEEK

January 12, 2024



JANUARY 15, 2024

MLK DAY

I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Monday, January 15 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. challenged Americans to make freedom a reality for all, and to believe each of us is created equally. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was proposed in the federal congress on August 2, 1983, signed into law on November 2, 1983, and first celebrated on January 20, 1986. Celebrated annually on the third Monday of January, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day pays tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. King and his contributions to our nation. I encourage Monroe residents to read the full text of the Proclamation, and to remember and reflect on the profound contributions of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



I hope you all enjoy this week's edition of Monroe This Week which features details on:

- Building inspection service hours
- Staying safe in cold weather
- The Snowplow Nickname Contest
- The upcoming Women in Public Service Event
- A call for artists
- A summary of the Jan. 9 City Council meeting

Please reach out to me with what may be on your mind about and for Monroe. I can be contacted at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICE HOURS TEMPORARILY REDUCED STARTING JAN.19

Beginning Jan. 19, 2024, building inspection services will not be available on Fridays as we are in the process of completing the process to fill a vacant position. Building inspections will resume for weekdays when the person selected has completed onboarding. Land use and engineering inspections are not impacted.



The City provides inspection services associated with residential and commercial building permits, land use permits, and engineering (public works) permits. Fire permit inspection services are provided by [Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue](#) (SRFR). Electrical permits are to be obtained and inspections requested from the [Washington State Department of Labor & Industries](#) (L&I).

If you anticipate needing a permit to reroof your house, build a new house, or start a tenant improvement, please contact our [Building Department staff](#) who can assist you in the permitting requirements, application process and inspections.

STAYING SAFE IN COLD WEATHER

With dropping temperatures and light snowfall in the region, wet roads will become icy. We encourage everyone to follow these tips from [SRFR](#):

- Slow down and increase your following distance.
- Avoid sudden stops and quick direction changes.
- Be more observant of other drivers, pedestrians, and first responders.
- Keep windows and mirrors clear of ice.
- Give yourself more time to get to your destination.



We encourage motorists to be prepared when heading out onto the roads. Look at road conditions before you leave by visiting [WSDOT's website](#).

SNOWPLOW NICKNAME CONTEST

While Monroe is not the first city to host a “Name that Snowplow” contest, we’re excited to engage “Monrovians” of all ages to submit suggested names for three of our five snowplows. Here’s what you need to know:



- Submit suggested names by Jan. 18 at 5:00 p.m. to Trevor Ore, Public Works Department at TOre@monroewa.gov. Suggestions posted to our [Facebook page](#) will not be eligible for consideration. Names are limited to 15 characters, may not be your name, cannot be protected by copyright or trademark, and must be appropriate.
- City staff will review all submissions and publish a survey link on our [Facebook page](#) by Jan. 25 for the community to vote on the top ten “Staff Picks.”
- Community online voting ends Jan. 31 at 5:00 p.m. and the winning entries will be announced Feb. 1 on our [Facebook page](#).

Could yours be the winning entry? If it is, you’ll see it displayed on the side of the snowplow and thousands of our Facebook fans will read about it on our (you guessed it) [Facebook page](#)! Contest details can be found on our [Snowplow Nickname Contest webpage](#).

WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT JAN. 31

Are you ready to kick off the New Year with a rewarding career in public service? The Monroe Police Department is excited to announce their upcoming ‘Women in Public Service’ Career & Recruiting Fair, happening at Galaxy Theatres Monroe on Jan. 31, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Connect with representatives from various public service agencies, including corrections, law enforcement, dispatch, victim advocacy, and the fire service. The team is dedicated to making a positive impact in our community, and they want you to be a part of it!

Whether you're a seasoned professional or considering a career change, this event is your chance to explore exciting opportunities and learn more about the values that drive us in public service. Connect with inspiring women who proudly represent each of these public service agencies.

Confirmed attendees include: Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, Lynnwood WA Police Department, Snohomish County 911, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, Edmonds Police Department, Lake Stevens Police Department, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Washington State Department of Corrections, South County Fire, Volunteers of America Western Washington,

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Monroe's [Ward Roney Jr. VFW Post 7511](#) has launched a brand-new Veterans Arts Council (VAC) to open an art gallery at the Post headquarters on Main Street in downtown. The Post is seeking artists with existing works to populate its new art gallery. We look forward to this new opportunity for the Monroe Arts Community and thank the VFW Post 7511 for this exciting venture.



JANUARY 9 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The City Council met in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9. The following items were discussed and acted upon during the meeting:



Special Order of Business:

- Council selected Councilmember Hanford to serve as Presiding Officer for the meeting due to Mayor Thomas's absence and lack of a Mayor Pro Tem

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

- Accounts Payable claims through 12/27/2023
- December 2023 Payroll claims
- Meeting minutes of 12/5/2023 and 12/12/2023
- Resolution 2024-001 setting the 2024 Regular Meeting calendar for City Council and Council Legislative Committees
- Authorize the preparation of plans, specifications, and solicitation of contractor bids for new Capital Improvement Projects as listed
- The 2025-2026 Budget Development Calendar
- \$162,400 in grant funding from the Transportation Improvement Board and authorize the Mayor to sign the grant approval documents

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

Jodi Wycoff, City Clerk explained that Council Rules of Procedure states that Council shall choose their seating arrangements on the dais at the first meeting of every even year. In order of seniority on Council, Councilmembers chose their new seating arrangements and took their new seats.

Council approved the following Council Assignments for 2024:

- Councilmember Hanford as Mayor Pro Tem
- Councilmembers Beaumont, Fisher, and Walker to the P3 Committee
- Councilmembers Fulcher, Scarboro, and Gamble to the Finance/HR Committee
- Public Safety and Legislative Affairs committees remain the same.
Membership is as follows: Public Safety Committee: Fisher, Fulcher,

and Scarboro; Legislative Affairs Committee: Fisher, Fulcher, and Hanford

- Councilmember Fisher as Representative and Councilmember Walker as alternate representative to the Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee
- Councilmember Fisher as Representative and Councilmember Walker as alternate representative to the Alliance for Housing Affordability
- Councilmember Fulcher as Representative and Councilmember Gamble as alternate representative to the Snohomish County Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Councilmembers Beaumont and Fulcher to review and sign bills
- Keep representative the same for the French Creek Flood Control District Joint Board which is Councilmember Beaumont

Mayor/Administrative Reports:

City Administrator Deborah Knight reported that:

- The 147th Avenue SE signal project received funding from Snohomish County Council and thanked County Councilmember Sam Lowe for his efforts to promote the project
- The Port of Everett approved a resolution to send the Port Boundary Enlargement matter to the County Council for placement on the ballot
- There will be a workshop on Jan. 30, 2024 and reviewed the topics that will be discussed.

Mayor Pro Tem Hanford read the Proclamation for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Staff Reports:

- Finance
- Parks

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings either in-person at our [temporary location](#) (Monroe School District Administration Building, 14692 179th Ave SE) or remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the Jan. 16 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Jacob Walker



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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