



MONROE THIS WEEK

January 26, 2024



It is with a heavy heart that I share the passing of City employee Gary Watkins this week. From the words of our Public Works Director Jakeh Roberts:

"Gary was a member of our City team in the Public Works Department for 18 years serving as the GIS Specialist. Although Gary worked remotely over the past few years it always seemed as though he was just down the hall because he was so quick to respond and resolve issues in the GIS system when called upon. Gary exuded professionalism and his valuable contributions to the department's overall success are noteworthy.



Gary grew up on a farm in the Yakima area and lived in recent years just outside Monroe near Chain Lake with his wife DJ. By definition that makes Gary a Monroevian. He loved a good comedy film and in years past being at the golf driving range with his extended family. We will all miss his quirky sense of humor, quick-wit, stories of world travels, one of a kind life experiences, and welcoming him back to work after he finished a lunch break nap in the back of his Chrysler 300. Please keep Gary, D.J., and their family in your thoughts."

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

- *City boards, commissions, and committees*
- *The Snow Plow Nickname Contest*

- *The Police Department's annual award banquet*
- *The Women in Public Service event next week*
- *The return of the Chocolate Crawl downtown*
- *A summary of the Jan. 23 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

"IMAGINE MONROE" AS A CITY BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE MEMBER

The City of Monroe is fortunate to have community members serve on its boards, commissions, and committees. These volunteers show they care about Monroe by working with others and sharing their insights about issues in the community. From our park and trail system, to economic development policies and more, these insights are ultimately shared with myself and the City Council for policy, priority, and budgetary consideration. Monroe's appointed representatives are compassionate and thoughtful in the work they do and committed to [Monroe's Vision Statement](#).



There are vacancies on the following advisory boards.

- [Park Board](#)
- [Community Human Services Advisory Board](#)
- [Economic Development Advisory Board](#)
- [Civil Service Commission](#)
- [Salary Commission](#)
- [LEOFF-1 Disability Board](#)
- [Ethics Board](#)

I encourage you to learn about a board you may be interested in serving on and to submit an [application](#). If you have specific questions, reach out to Jodi Wycoff, our City Clerk, at **360-794-7400** or cityclerk@monroewa.gov.

SNOW PLOW NICKNAME CONTEST: COMMUNITY VOTING LIVE

Drum roll please! City staff have selected the top ten submissions that now need your vote!

- Austin Flowers
- Seymour Pavement
- Mr. Plow
- Olaf
- Col. Sander
- Buzz Iceclear
- Yeti
- Rocky Plowboa
- Betty Whiteout
- Sleetwood Mac



You must go [here](#) to vote for your favorite by Jan. 31 at 5:00 p.m. (Comments on our Facebook page will not be considered.) Name that Plow! Vote now!

POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

This past Thursday, I was able to help celebrate our [Monroe Police Department](#) officers and professional staff at their annual awards banquet. Among the notable award recipients were:

Chief's Award: Sergeant Springer, Officer Schuermeyer, Officer Winfrey, and Officer Hearne

Unit Team Award: Sergeant Fuller, Officer Block, Officer Michel, Officer Krug, and Officer Squires

Employee of the Year: Macy Haverly

Officer of the Year: Brendan Hearne

Distinguished Service Award: Officer Bradey Pettit

Chief Jolley expressed his pride in leading such a committed group of officers and professional staff, stating, "Their hard work, professionalism, and dedication exemplify the high standards we value at the Monroe Police Department. We are truly fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated team serving our community."

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this special evening.





DON'T FORGET: WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT NEXT WEEK

The Monroe Police Department is excited for 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, and Washington State Patrol

Join us for an evening of connection and inspiration! Explore public service careers with other women and unlock new possibilities for your future.

**Galaxy Theatre
January 31 4:00pm-7:00pm**



CHOCOLATE CRAWL RETURNS

Celebrate with a multitude of merchants and vendors along Main Street as [The Monroe Chamber of Commerce](#) holds their 3rd annual Chocolate Crawl - no tickets necessary this year! There will be yummy food trucks, sidewalk sales, and more. Additional information on participating businesses and restaurants will be released soon! The event will take place on Feb. 17 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



JANUARY 23 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The City Council met in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 23. The following items were discussed and acted upon during the meeting:

Announcements/Presentations:

- Courtney Amonsens and Christos Kokkovas with the State Auditors Office provided an exit conference presentation for the 2022 Accountability Audit



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

- Accounts Payable claims through 1/17/2024
- City Council Minutes for the 1/9/2024 and 1/16/2024 meetings
- Authorize the Mayor to sign Interlocal Agreement #2024-008 with Snohomish Conservation District for Joint or Cooperative Environmental Services
- Accept the Powell Street Reconstruction Project, M2021-0010, and begin the 45-Day Lien Period; and authorize release of retainage bond upon filing of Notice of Completion and receipt of State of Washington releases
- Authorize the Mayor to sign the Local Agency Consultant Supplemental Agreement #3 with PH Consulting, authorizing additional right-of-way services and civil engineering design for the Kelsey Street Railroad Crossing Improvements Project, M2021-0025; establishing a new

contract amount not to exceed \$223,822

- Authorize the Mayor to sign Contract #2024-009, 2024 Concessionaire Agreement with Ken Fulcher to provide concession services at Sky River and Lake Tye Parks
- Accept the 2023 Annual Road Maintenance Project, M2023-001, and begin the 45-Day Lien Period; and authorize release of retainage bond upon filing of Notice of Completion and receipt of State of Washington releases
- Accept the Monroe Wayfinding Signage Project, M2021-0018, and begin the 45-Day Lien Period; and authorize release of retainage bond upon filing of Notice of Completion and receipt of State of Washington releases

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

- Authorize submitting an application to Snohomish County Office of Social Justice (OSJ) for Funding

Staff Reports:

- Police
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- HR/IT
- Public Works

Mayor/City Administrator Reports:

- City Administrator Deborah Knight reported that:
 - The Study Session scheduled for February 6, 2024 needs to be cancelled and the Public Safety Committee will need to be rescheduled
 - Discussed upcoming events and provided an update on the current legislative session
- I reviewed recent and upcoming meetings including meetings related to the branding effort and the City's legislative priorities.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The Feb. 6 City Council Study Session Meeting has been CANCELLED. The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 13. 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 Feb. 13 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 Beaumont



Councilmember
Kyle Fisher

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov



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