



MONROE THIS WEEK

December 13, 2024



On Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2024, I signed an ordinance adopting the Monroe 2044 Comprehensive Plan (pictured below). This plan update was guided by [***Imagine Monroe***](#), supporting the vision to create a community where everyone feels at home, and everyone feels they belong.



The 20-year plan guides the development of Monroe through the Future Land Use Map that identifies where different uses (residential, commercial, parks, etc.) can locate. This plan also details short-range and long-range city infrastructure needs, projects, and programs necessary to support growth. The Comprehensive Plan serves as the basis for the City's 5-year [***Strategic Plan***](#) and [***Biennial Budget***](#).

The more than two-year process for developing the Monroe 2044 Comprehensive Plan took a tremendous effort from city staff, community

members, boards/commission members, and City Council. Thank you to everyone who engaged in this process. To read the full plan, please visit Monroe2044.com.

Thank you for reading *Monroe This Week*. This week's issue features:

- *City Board and Commission Departures and Re-appointments*
- *Changes to City Council Meeting Schedule*
- *Winterize Your Home*
- *Jayme Biendl Memorial 5k*
- *Monroe Listens Service Request*
- *Connect with the City News and Information*

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



CITY BOARD AND COMMISSION DEPARTURES, RE-APPOINTMENTS, AND VACANCIES

On Monday, Dec. 9, city staff recognized the



service of two commissioners who are leaving the Planning Commission: Jay Bull (left) and Liz Nugent (right). Jay Bull has served as a commissioner for nine years and as the chair of the commission for three years. He has worked on two Comprehensive Plan updates and was involved in the Unified

Development Regulation code changes. Liz Nugent served as a commissioner for four years. Her knowledge of the local economy was valuable to the development of the Monroe 2044 Comprehensive Plan. I invite you to join me in thanking both commissioners for their great work in serving the community through the Planning Commission.

Following these recognitions, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, the Monroe City Council approved my re-appointments of Brandi Blair to the Planning Commission as well as Janelle Drews and John Whims to the Economic Development Advisory Board. Congratulations to the commissioner and boardmembers for their re-appointments and thank you for continuing to serve the Monroe community.

Monroe still has a number of vacancies on various boards and commissions with the city. If you are interested in serving on a board, commission or committee with the City of Monroe, please submit [an application](#) to our city clerk by emailing it to cityclerk@monroewa.gov. To view a current list of vacancies and learn more about the responsibilities of each board, commission, and committee, please click the [link here](#).

Imagine
MONROE

Apply Today!
MonroeWa.gov

As a volunteer board member.

The graphic includes the Monroe, Louisiana logo in the top right corner and a photograph of a man with glasses resting his chin on his hand, appearing thoughtful.

CHANGES TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE BEGIN JAN. 1

Starting in January, the **City Council** meeting **schedule** will slightly change with Business Meetings held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and Study Sessions held on the third Tuesday. The first and fifth Tuesdays will be reserved for Special meetings, such as workshops or retreats. Meeting times (7 p.m.), location (Monroe School District Administration Office), and format (hybrid) remain the same, unless otherwise posted. The City Council will take a recess during the month of August.



Council Committee meetings (Finance/Human Resources, Public Safety, Legislative Affairs, and Transportation/Planning/Parks & Recreation/Public Works (aka P3)) will continue to occur at 6 p.m. prior to the Council meeting.

City Council and Committee **packets are posted online** by the end of the day on the Friday before the Tuesday meeting.

Please **visit the City Council webpage** to learn how to provide oral comments in-person at the meeting, attend the meeting via Zoom, and how to submit written comments to the Council.

HOW TO PREVENT FROZEN WATER PIPES

The recent cold temperatures are a good reminder to winterize your home. It is especially important to remember how to prevent your water pipes from freezing and knowing what to do if they do freeze. Below are some basic suggested tips for preparing your home for the cold weather.

Before the freeze:

- Know where your water shut-off valve is located and how to turn it off.
- Insulate unheated areas (e.g. basement, attic, garage) and wrap exposed pipes in those areas.



- Close gaps, cracks, and openings in walls and foundations
- Empty and store water hoses.
- Open cabinet doors to allow warm air to circulate around plumbing.
- Let warm water drip overnight from a faucet (preferably on an outside wall).

During & after a freeze:

- Apply heat to thaw pipes carefully but never use an open flame or torch.
- Open faucets to allow water flow as ice melts.
- Inspect pipes for damage once thawed.
- If you have a burst pipe, turn off water at the main shut off.

When to contact the City

- If you don't have a main water shut off valve and you need the City to shut off water.
- If your water meter is frozen.
- If there is a water main break.

To contact the City during regular business hours (Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.), please call 360-794-7400. To contact the city after regular business hours, please call 425-239-0189.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE JAYME BIENDL MEMORIAL 5K



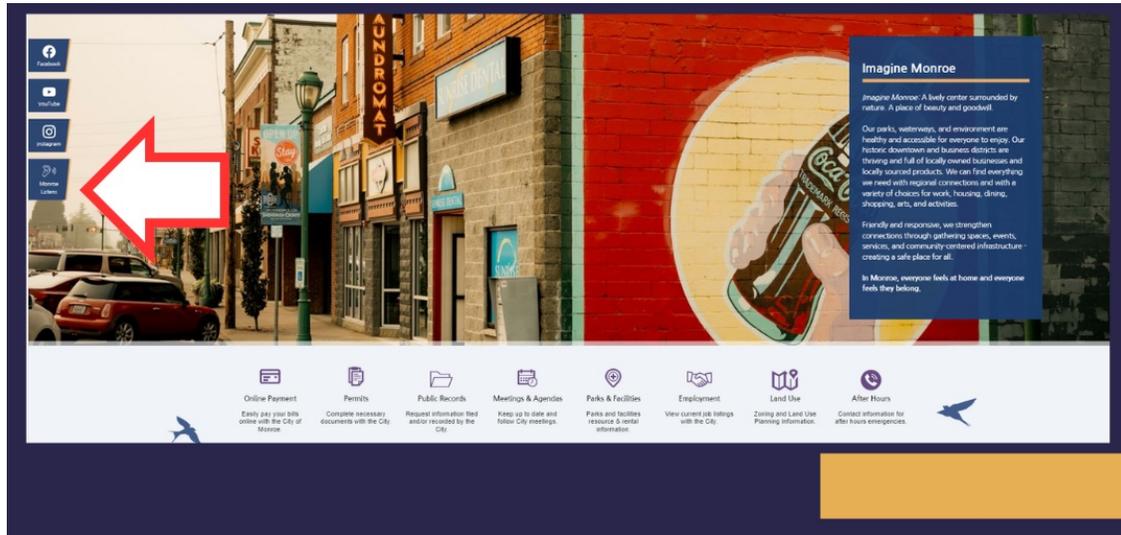
Want to start the year off right and support a great cause? Sign up for the Jayme Biendl Memorial 5k on Sunday, Jan. 26, 10 a.m. at Sky River Park. Not only is this a great start to your year, it's an opportunity to honor and remember Officer Jayme Biendl whose End of Watch was January 29, 2011. Learn more [about Jayme here](#). This event is pet and family-friendly.

[Pre-register here](#). You can also register on the day-of. Registration opens at 9 a.m. and the race begins at 10 a.m. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to participate, you can select 'shipping' during registration and your race shirt and bib will be shipped to you.

ONLINE SERVICE REQUEST: MONROE LISTENS

If you'd like to submit a service request, share a concern or compliment, or ask a question about a city program or code, it's as easy as one click to activate our "Monroe Listens" online service request system. From the homepage of our website – MonroeWA.gov – click on the "listening ear" icon displayed on the left side of the page. Enter your contact information or

submit your request anonymously, select the type of request, and provide some details so we can thoroughly follow up. By creating an account, you can check the status of your request.



ONLINE SERVICE REQUEST



MONROE LISTENS

Look for the ear icon at
MonroeWA.gov

WAYS TO TAP INTO MONROE CITY INFORMATION

City staff and departments strive to provide accurate, timely, and digestible information to the community for all city news, happenings, events, and projects. The city uses a variety of platforms to distribute information in an effort to engage community members of all ages and abilities. These platforms have included news flashes, digital newsletters, social media, city mailers and more.

To view all the ways you can sign-up for and receive routine outreach and communication information from the City of Monroe, please visit MonroeWa.gov/cityinfo.

connect with
your city.

Scan QR to
sign up
today!



MonroeWa.gov/cityinfo

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2024 at 7 p.m. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the [City's YouTube Channel \(@MonroeWA\)](#). To learn how to provide public comment to the Mayor and City Council, click [here](#).

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)



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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