



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING November 1, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Benson Wong called the Executive Session to order at 5:00 pm from a remote location to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i) and for planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the City Council during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for approximately 60 minutes.

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using the teleconferencing platform Microsoft Teams.

City Manager Jessi Bon, City Attorney Bio Park and other staff members participated in the executive session from a remote location using Microsoft Teams.

Mayor Wong adjourned the executive session at 5:55 pm

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Wong called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Jessi Bon, City Manager, participated remotely from City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington. The City Attorney and Mercer Island City Leadership Team participated from remote locations.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Mayor Weiker delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve the agenda.

Passed 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Bon reported on the following items:

- Update on upcoming City Council, Boards and Commission meetings
- City Services updates: storm response – be prepared, storm clean-up, beautifying the Island,
- Healthy youth form, Monday November 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Bike skills area survey open through November 4. Public meeting on bike skills area on November 14 at 4:00 pm
- PROS Plan progress
- Prairie of Possibilities at Mercerdale park

- Illuminate MI 2021
- MICEC finding a new normal
- Thrift shop expanding hours, now open 10-5pm Monday – Saturday. Also adding a new donation day starting 11/8, Sundays and Mondays from 10-2pm
- Hallo-weekend Fun on MI
- Honoring Veterans

APPEARANCES

Callie Rudolphi, Mercer Island. She thanked the Council for their leadership and considering climate in the work plan. She spoke on behalf of League of Women Voters Seattle/ King County in support of the Sustainability and Climate action plan. She spoke to the importance of community engagement during this process for engagement and education.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 5960: October 22, 2021 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$802,995.44

Recommended Action:

Approve the October 22, 2021 Payroll Certification (Exhibit 1) in the amount of \$802,995.44 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

Approval of Certification of Claims for the periods ending:

A) October 15, 2021, in the amount of \$740,679.28

B) October 22, 2021, in the amount of \$371,978.41

Recommended Action: Certify that the City Council has reviewed the documentation supporting claims paid and approved all checks or warrants issued in payment of claims.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Nice to:

Approve the Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5965: Sustainability/Climate Action Plan Scoping

Ross Freeman, Sustainability Program Analyst, gave a brief overview of the proposed timeline and scope of work for the development of a Climate Action Plan and about authorizing funding for this work.

Council received the report and held discussion and provided feedback on this topic.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Nice to:

Approve the suggested Scope of Work and direct staff to include the appropriation request in the mid-biennial budget proposal for consideration at the November 16, 2021, City Council meeting, and to approve the release of an RFP and to identify a consultant to assist with the Climate Action Plan (CAP) process.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

Council took a break from 7:30 pm to 7:40 pm.

AB 5953: Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 Revenue Forecast

Matt Mornick, Finance Director, gave a presentation to Council on the November Revenue Forecast. The November revenue forecast projects revenues in the General Fund will exceed revenue estimates in fiscal year (FY) 2021 by \$2.0 M, and \$1.1 M in FY 2022. This is largely due to higher-than-expected Sales Tax performance, B&O tax revenues, Licensing, Permitting, and Zoning fees.

During the 2021-2022 mid-biennial budget process, the City Council will consider the funding needed to continue the recovery of the Recreation Division and the Thrift Shop, in addition to other strategic investments. The November revenue forecast serves as a basis for this deliberative effort.

Council received the November Revenue Forecast and held discussion on this topic.

AB 5954: 2021-2022 Mid-Biennial Budget Proposals

Matt Mornick, Finance Director, gave a presentation to Council the 2021 – 2022 mid-biennial budget proposals that includes organization-wide one-time funding requests resulting from updates to collective bargaining agreements, cost of living adjustments, regional partnerships, adjustments to department work plans, and new bodies of work. In addition to the one-time funding requests, the fiscal year 2022 recommended budget proposes funding to support continued restoration of the Recreation Division and the Thrift Shop.

Council discussed the proposals and provided feedback to staff.

Council gave a thumbs up to the projects to be included in the mid-biennial budget proposals.
Council gave a thumbs up to move Summer Celebration to the mid-biennial budget proposals.
Council gave a thumbs up to moving the Chamber funding to the mid-biennial budget proposals.
Council gave a thumbs up to move the bond funding to the mid-biennial budget proposals.
Council pulled Thrift shop funding and directed staff to come back with more information on the proposal.

Moved by Jacobson; seconded by Weiker to:

9:16 ish Direct staff to prepare 2021-22 mid-biennium budget amendment to return on December 7, 2021 to include all of the items on exhibit 1 except the Thrift Store; to fund recreation programs using ARPA funds; to also include funding for Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce, the Climate Action Plan, Bond Counsel Professional services and, 2022 Summer Celebration event.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

City Manager Bon reported that there is a special meeting on 11/9 and briefly discussed the potential agenda items. City Manager Bon also discussed the agenda items that will be on the November 16, and December 7 City Council agendas.

Councilmember Absences

There were no absences reported.

Deputy Mayor Weiker:

- Thanked City Manager Bon for acknowledging veterans and thanked veterans for their service.

Mayor Wong:

- Reported that there was an Oct 22, workshop #5 for elected officials, and that the King County clean water plan is now scheduled for the end of 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Benson Wong, Mayor

Attest:

Andrea Larson, City Clerk