

**City of St. Helens**  
*Consent Agenda for Approval*

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Presented for approval on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021 are the following Council minutes:

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2021

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- Work Session, Executive Session, Special Session, and Regular Session Minutes dated March 3, 2021

**After Approval of Council Minutes:**

- Scan as PDF Searchable
- Make one double-sided, hole-punched copy and send to Library Reference
- Minutes related to hearings and deliberations get copied to working file
- Save PDF in Minutes folder
- Update file name & signature block on Word document & copy Word document into Council minutes folder in Shared Drive
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- Email minutes link to distribution list
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# COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Wednesday, March 03, 2021

## DRAFT MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl  
Council President Doug Morten  
Councilor Patrick Birkle  
Councilor Stephen R. Topaz  
Councilor Jessica Chilton

### STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator	Mouhamad Zaher, Public Works Director
Matt Brown, Assistant City Administrator	Bill Monahan, City Attorney
Kathy Payne, City Recorder	Mike De Roia, Building Official
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder	Sue Nelson, City Engineer
Brian Greenway, Policy Chief	Jenny Dimsho, Associate Planner
Jacob Graichen, City Planner	Crystal King, Communications Officer
Rachael Barry, Government Affairs & Project Support Specialist	April Messenger, Municipal Court Clerk
	Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

### OTHERS

Jeff Auxier	Greg Pettit	Paul Vogel
Lorelei Juntunen	Lynne Pettit	Keith Buisman
Betsy Penziol	Amber	Nancy
Robert Salisbury	Mike Peebles	Matt Q.

### CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER – 1:00 p.m.

### VISITOR COMMENTS - Limited to five (5) minutes per speaker

- ◆ Jeff Auxier, Columbia County District Attorney. He is in support of the proposed Public Safety Facility. He also supports the Ad-hoc Committee's recommendation to enact an administrative fee to fund it. They are at a crossroads with the criminal justice system and law enforcement. St. Helens has an excellent police chief and a lot of young, homegrown talent. Portland metro-area officers are looking for new places to work. Chief Greenway is turning St. Helens into a destination police force. Officers want the satisfaction of playing a meaningful role in making a police agency better and be able to work on major cases right away. The only thing he sees standing in the way of St. Helens Police becoming that kind of agency on a State level is the current headquarters. The experienced and highly trained officers from other agencies like the command staff, like the work St. Helens is doing, and are interested until they see the building. It creates barriers. There are currently no female officers, which really limits the justice system. Men and women share a locker room at the current facility. There are only two offices for the command staff to share. That is not appealing when trying to recruit from larger jurisdictions. The lack of interview rooms is very unprofessional. Making good cases and having solid, thorough investigations with quick plea deals that do not go to trial saves a lot of money for taxpayers. It would save the community

money to have a modern public safety facility. The momentum will hit a wall if they do not modernize the facility.

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **1. Employee Length of Service Recognition**

1:09 p.m.

Two employees have reached milestones in their employment with the City of St. Helens. The following individuals will receive a certificate and pin.

#### 5 Years

Ethan Stirling started working for the City's Public Works Department in February of 2016 as a Utility Worker I. In May of 2019, he was promoted to Water Systems Operator where he currently serves today.

Initially, April Messenger began working for the City way back in 2007 as a part-time Deputy Court Clerk. However, due to budget cuts, her position was eliminated in 2009 and she was laid off. She was hired back on March 1, 2016, as an Office Assistant, eventually becoming a Utility, Banking, and Court Specialist in 2017 and a Court Clerk in 2020 where she currently is serving.

Congratulations, Ethan and April, and thank you for your service!

### **2. Columbia County Economic Team (CCET) Semi-Annual Report - *Executive Director Paul Vogel***

1:10 p.m.

Paul Vogel reviewed his presentation. A copy is included in the archive packet for this meeting. Some of the highlights were:

- Managed three rounds of grants
  - \$1,644,506 to businesses and non-profits
  - 700 hours spent
  - \$384,653 was issued to St. Helens
- CRF Grant \$15,000
- PPE Grant \$50,000
- More familiar with local businesses and their challenges
- Improved collaboration
- Directly assisted businesses
- Cascades is expanding and adding 21 jobs
- Control Solutions will be coming to St. Helens with a proposal
- Five projects looking to invest and site in the County. Two are interested in the Armstrong site.
- Reviewed prospects looking to relocate or expand in the area
- Collaborating with the Port of Columbia County
- Business Oregon and Greater Portland Inc. both have a new director and CEO
- Reviewed communication and outreach
- Encouraged people to be safe to avoid moving back to the Extreme level
- Thanked the Council for their support and partnership
- Explained Enterprise Zone
- Have some Opportunity Zones in place now

Mayor Scholl thanked Paul for his report.

**4. Millard Road Property Developer Solicitation - *Jacob/ECONorthwest***

1:51 p.m.

City Planner Graichen reviewed the Millard Road property. Copies of maps and information is included in the archive packet for this meeting.

- The property is zoned Mixed Use (MU) and is surrounded by mostly residential uses
- Water and sewer service are available
- There are wetlands on the property

Lorelei Juntunen, EcoNorthwest, reviewed the RFP process and timeline.

- Draft RFP March 2021
- Release RFP April 2021
- Pre-Bid Meetings and Q&A May 2021
- Review Proposals/Conduct Interviews June 2021
- Multi-family housing is performing well in St. Helens. That is an incentive for developers.
- Goals
  - Redevelop the property with a mix of residential and commercial uses that meet market needs
  - Generate revenue for the City
  - Balance development objectives with neighborhood goals, including connectivity and open space

Lorelei asked for feedback on goals, amenities, and uses to consider and not consider.

Councilor Topaz dislikes that it is following the rest of the road. He would like to see a specialty area with high-end homes and corporate businesses. This is a time to make this an upscale community.

Graichen explained that the Housing Needs Analysis was addressed when they re-zoned the property. The developer is entitled to develop the property according to the zoning. Councilor Topaz worries about the high-density cost to the City. Lorelei said the RFP allows the market to define the size and the Council can select among the submittals.

Council President Morten talked about the issue of balance. He was pleased to see open space and connectivity as goals. He hopes that is kept in mind with development.

Councilor Chilton visited the property on Sunday. It is in a great area. She would love to see multi-family use and a small nature park. Where does the Council come in for the RFP process? Lorelei explained that there will be a panel of people reviewing the submittals. Graichen added that Council's feedback will be included before selection is made. Councilor Chilton expressed interested in serving on the review panel.

Councilor Birkle agreed that it is important to participate in the process. He was on the School Board when the School District owned that property. They were anticipating a lot of growth at that end of town when the property was purchased. He agreed with Councilor Chilton and Council President Morten's desire to have public access. He asked what the difference is between significant and not-significant wetlands. Graichen explained that significant is a designation by the City and requires a City permit. If it is not significant than the City may not have as much involvement, but you still have Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL) and Army Corp of Engineers. Significant wetlands do include upland protection zones. Councilor Birkle expressed that wetlands are significant and should be preserved. He does not want to see a lot of commercial development. He does like the idea of the County's recommendation for cottage community concept. He is in support of mixed use, multi-family, medium density, preservation of wetlands, and connectivity to Maple Street.

Mayor Scholl talked about housing needs. Demands are not being met and rent is very high. He supports connectivity and a pathway, cottage clusters around the wetlands, and larger lots near the back. He

wants to keep the wetlands condensed to have less of an impact on properties in the City and within the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

City Administrator Walsh pointed out that this will come to the Council again before it is released.

Graichen added that the City currently does not have cottage cluster rules. It is a matter of balancing projects and time to work on adding it to the Code.

Councilor Topaz talked about the need for industrial development to increase tax revenue. The tax system is terrible.

Mayor Scholl pointed out that there needs to be CC&R's for the property owner to maintain park space. The City does not have money to maintain more parks.

### **3. Police Department Semi-Annual Report - *Police Chief Brian Greenway***

2:28 p.m.

Chief Greenway reviewed his report. A copy is included in the archive packet for this meeting.

- Hired two full-time Police Records Specialists. One is Spanish speaking.
- Created a second detective position to address increasing complex criminal case investigations.
- Conducted reality-based Use of Force De-Escalation training.
- Created training curriculum for Spanish.
- Working on retaining training for an Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC).
- Conducted training and policy changes addressing the new Oregon Measure 110 Law for possession of drugs.
- Communication and public outreach continues for the proposed Public Safety Facility.
- Held tours of the current police station. The public is seeing the need for a new facility.
- Proactively policing in the community.
- Created quarterly meetings between St. Helens Police Department, Columbia Community Mental Health (CCMH), and Communication Action Team (CAT) to discuss long-term solutions for homelessness within the City.
- Body Warn Camera Tagging Program allows them to retain camera footage for five years.
- Wants this to be the safest play to work, play, and live in Oregon.

Councilor Birkle thanked Greenway and Brown for addressing homelessness. Council President Morten asked if the County is involved with homeless solutions. Greenway responded that they do plan to include the County in long-term visions. There are many agencies addressing it, but they are not communicating with each other. Council President Morten suggested using the fairgrounds.

Councilor Chilton understands this issue. She is glad to hear that CAT is on board. Transitional Housing is extremely helpful.

Councilor Topaz likes to see organizations working together. Are there programs to help homeless individuals obtain a job? Greenway will ask that at the next meeting.

Mayor Scholl talked about Salem being the problem with homelessness.

### **5. Discussion on Fireworks**

2:53 p.m.

Walsh distributed an email to the Council with the survey results.

Councilor Chilton noticed that fireworks is listed in the Tourism contract. Mayor Scholl confirmed that it was originally on there. He talked about the history of the fireworks. Years ago, 13 Nights on the River and fireworks was coordinated by St. Helens Community Foundation. They were funded with street dances, beer sales, and business donations. When the Foundation dissolved, the City took over it to help

save it. It was dumped on Tourism because the City knew Tina could do it and bring the events back in in the black. Walsh agreed that it is in the contract for Tourism to work with a community partner on fireworks. It has been difficult to find a community partner willing to take it on.

Councilor Topaz mentioned that the mill contributed to fireworks. Mayor Scholl clarified that they were not a major contributor.

Mayor Scholl talked about how his Uncle Ed Lokken ran the fireworks from 1980 to 2012 or 2013. When he passed away, his body was donated for medical use and was worked on for three years. They just go his ashes back this year. Diane Dillard, who has been a big supporter of fireworks, and his Aunt Judy Lokken both really want to see a show this year. The main revenue for fireworks came from business donations. He does not want to do that to businesses this year. They have to have the money by April 1.

Discussion of the survey. Councilor Chilton pointed out that the survey shows people do not want to pay for it. The City is going to have to pay for it or let the citizens down. Mayor Scholl talked about former fireworks organizers and the work they put into it. It was not fair to move it to Tourism and he wants to see that changed. Council President Morten agreed that it needs to go back to another agency to organize. It does not belong in a governing capacity. The City received very bad reviews in the survey. Fireworks needs a long-range plan. He would like to see this as the City's last year putting it on.

Mayor Scholl pointed out the overwhelming response of 81% to have the fireworks if it could be done safely. He would like to hear creative fundraising ideas. His Aunt Judy and Diane are willing to donate money to move it to Sand Island. The City has always helped with the transportation of fireworks over to Sand Island by barge.

Councilor Birkle suggested working through the Chamber and St. Helens Main Street for the future. He agreed with the City needing to do it this year, and then passing it off in the future. If it can be done safely and with a good plan, it should be done.

Tina Curry spoke with Western Fireworks yesterday. The Blues Festival, Vancouver Waterfront, and Longview fireworks shows are cancelled. The cities in our community who are doing fireworks this year is Clatskanie and Rainier. Tina asked about permits being obtaining for gathering and was told that people are encouraged to watch from their cars, and some are shooting higher to encourage people to watch from home. Most of the money raised for fireworks comes from knocking on doors and asking for donations. It is difficult for volunteers to raise that amount of money. Western Fireworks is encouraging people to not come and watch and not gather.

Mayor Scholl said if they do it on Sand Island, they can use bigger shells and go higher.

Tina encouraged asking the adjacent jurisdictions to help financially. Mayor Scholl agreed. Councilor Topaz suggested asking Washington too. Tina confirmed that she has asked them in the past.

Mayor Scholl said his Aunt Judy is willing to donate \$500 if they can write a story about the years of service his Uncle Ed contributed to fireworks and donating his body to medical use. He suggested more people may be willing to donate after reading the story.

Discussion of donations going to a designated fireworks account. Funds can be held there for a future show if the Governor does not allow fireworks again this year. All donations are a tax write-off.

Council President Morten talked about it needing to be turned over to another entity in the future. This could be the last time the City does it.

Mayor Scholl requested permission to talk to Communications Officer Crystal King about a press release, based on what was discussed. He would like to dedicate what is left in the Council funds. It will be on tonight's agenda for a vote.

**6. St. Helens Riverwalk Agreement - *John/Jenny***

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**7. S. 1st and Strand Streets Road and Utility Extensions Agreement - *Mouhamad/Sue***

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**8. Review Communications Support Specialist Job Description - *John***

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**9. Set Date for Tourism Workshop**

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**10. Strategic Action Plan Updates**

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**11. City Administrator Report**

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Continued to tonight's meeting.

**ADJOURN – 3:22 p.m.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

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Kathy Payne, City Recorder

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Rick Scholl, Mayor

**City of St. Helens**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

**Executive Session Summary**

**March 3, 2021**

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*This meeting was held electronically via Zoom.*

**Members Present:** Rick Scholl, Mayor  
Doug Morten, Council President  
Patrick Birkle, Councilor  
Stephen R. Topaz, Councilor  
Jessica Chilton, Councilor

**Staff Present:** John Walsh, City Administrator  
Matt Brown, Assistant City Administrator  
Kathy Payne, City Recorder  
Bill Monahan, City Attorney with Jordan Ramis PC  
David Rabbino, City Attorney with Jordan Ramis PC

**Others:** Tim Goodman, Comcast (*attended Comcast discussion only*)  
Matt Quantz, Comcast (*attended Comcast discussion only*)



At 3:34 p.m., Mayor Scholl opened the Executive Session pursuant to the ORS numbers listed below and then gave Council roll call.

- **Consult with Counsel/Potential Litigation**, under **ORS 192.660(2)(h)**
  - Update on Comcast franchise agreement negotiations.
  - Update on the Cascades Tissue litigation.
  - Update on civil claim against the City.
  
- **Real Property Transactions**, under **ORS 192.660(2)(e)**
  - Update on the transaction with the Gable Road property.
  - Update on the potential purchase of the Dalton Lake property.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.



ATTEST:

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Kathy Payne, City Recorder

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Rick Scholl, Mayor



# COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

Wednesday, March 03, 2021

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## DRAFT MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl  
Council President Doug Morten  
Councilor Stephen R. Topaz (arrived at 6:25 p.m.)  
Councilor Patrick Birkle  
Councilor Jessica Chilton

### STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator  
Matt Brown, Assistant City Administrator  
Kathy Payne, City Recorder  
Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

### OTHERS

Mark Gunderson  
Virginia Carlson  
Jeff Grundy  
Trina McKinney

**CALL SPECIAL SESSION TO ORDER** – 6:18 p.m.

### DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### 1. Interview Budget Committee Candidates:

- 6:15 PM – 6:25 PM > M. Gundersen
- 6:25 PM – 6:35 PM > V. Carlson
- 6:35 PM – 6:45 PM > J. Grundy
- 6:45 PM – 6:55 PM > T. McKinney

Each candidate was asked two questions:

1. Introduce yourself and explain why you want to join the Budget Committee.
2. What are your goals as a Budget Committee member?

Interview with Mark Gundersen:

1. He enjoys working with the public and in collaborative teams. He would like to be part of the process and solution.
2. He wants to join the Budget Committee to work collaboratively with the Council and Committee members. He does not have an agenda. He just wants to be a part of the process. He is a good team player.

Councilor Topaz arrived at 6:25 p.m.

Interview with Virginia Carlson:

1. She has served on City Council, other Boards and Commissions, and leadership roles in the community since 2008. She has helped with projects in the parks and projects that benefit kids.

2. She wants to join the Budget Committee because she thinks the City can do a better job with citizen transparency and accountability showing where funds go, where money comes from, and what it is spent on. There are a lot of funding streams that people do not understand. People need to know that the City is accountable and good stewards of our money. Her goal is to further the City goals of equity and inclusion to make sure no one is left behind. She talked about the importance of organizations working together.

Interview with Jeff Grundy:

1. He recently moved to St. Helens and wants to help in his local community. He has lived in the Portland metro area since 2000. He wants to show his civic pride and do his part in a positive way. He recently served with a K-9 foundation to help fund the Hillsboro Police Department K-9 program.
2. He does not have a specific goal for the Budget Committee. He will show up prepared and do all that he can. He is just a regular guy who works full-time in Hillsboro.

Interview with Trina McKinney:

1. She is a wife, mother, union carpenter, and Pack 250 Committee Chair. For the union, she builds schools within the Portland metro area. She has lived in St. Helens for 28 years. Both of her kids attend school here and have been involved in community sports and activities. She is interested in serving on the Budget Committee because she is fiscally responsible, and the financial health of the City is important to her.
2. Her goals are to share ideas, discuss alternatives, and promote economic efficiency within the public funds.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURN** – 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

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Kathy Payne, City Recorder

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Rick Scholl, Mayor



# COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, March 03, 2021

## DRAFT MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl  
Council President Doug Morten  
Councilor Patrick Birkle  
Councilor Stephen R. Topaz  
Councilor Jessica Chilton

### STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator	Brian Greenway, Police Chief
Matt Brown, Assistant City Administrator	Sue Nelson, City Engineer
Kathy Payne, City Recorder	Jenny Dimsho, Associate Planner
Mouhamad Zaher, Public Works Director	Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

### OTHERS

Brady Preheim	Kelly Merritt
Natasha Parvey	Ginny Carlson
Mike Peebles	

### CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Scholl recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to five (5) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Ginny Carlson.
  - The sidewalks in front of the high school and N. Vernonia Road are looking really good.
  - The Habitat for Humanity House was broken into three times before she moved in.
  - There have been multiple car prowls in the neighborhood.
  - Plymouth Street is a connector street on the Corridor Plan. She asked Council to consider more lighting in the area.
  - Last spring, the Council signed an equity and inclusion statement. She wants the Council to keep that in mind for funding and programs. There are a lot of at-risk community members who do not come to meetings and are being left out.
  - Businesses are struggling. She found out today that Columbia County is rated at a higher risk than Multnomah County. People are hurting.
  
- ◆ Brady Preheim. He commented that it is important to know the City's history when joining the Council. Councilor Chilton acted like she did not know who E2C was last week. He and others had an extensive conversation with her on her political Facebook page, before she was elected, explaining who E2C was and what they do. A lot of misinformation was clarified. Brady said the same thing for Councilor Birkle when a SHEDCO member came to a meeting and lied. "Those

who don't know their history are bound to repeat it." Council is obligated to know and understand the history that is involved.

He finds it disturbing that members of the Public Safety Facility Ad-hoc Committee and staff leaders do not even live in the community. Regardless of what the Council does, the police station needs to be voted on. City Council should not make this decision without input.

### **APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### 1. Deliberate and Appoint Budget Committee Member

Mayor Scholl acknowledged that all four applicants are worthy of the appointment. Jeff Grundy stood out the most to him. It says a lot that he has already served on another committee, is new to the area, and ready to get involved. He welcomed Jeff to the community.

Councilor Chilton is in support of appointing Mark Gunderson. He has been in the area for a long time. He has been through the school system, sports, and understands the culture. He brings fresh views.

Councilor Birkle expressed that it is good to have people interested and stepping up to serve. He was impressed by Jeff Grundy and Trina McKinney. He was also impressed with Jeff being new to the community and wanting to get involved. Trina has a longer history in the community. She was very articulate and to the point with her goals. Do they want new eyes or someone who is fresh to the community?

Councilor Topaz was in favor of Mark Gunderson because of his connection with kids in the community.

Council President Morten is hearing the desire to give new individuals the opportunity to get involved in the political process. If they wanted someone who really understood City operations and the political ramifications of the Budget Committee, that would be Ginny Carlson. However, are those the qualifications they are looking for? He feels strongly about getting new people involved in committees. He is in support of appointing Mark Gunderson.

**Motion:** Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to appoint Mark Gunderson to the Budget Committee. **Voting:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz, Councilor Chilton

Mayor Scholl encouraged the other applicants to stay involved by attending meetings to provide input.

#### **St. Helens Riverwalk Agreement - John/Jenny (held over from the Work Session)**

7:35 p.m.

City Administrator Walsh reviewed the agreement. A copy is included in the archive packet for this meeting. The project involves about 330 feet of Riverwalk and full phase design and construction, and the rest of the Waterfront at a 30% design. It also makes improvements to the existing Columbia View Park and stage. He and Associate Planner Dimsho reviewed the work order schedule and cost summary. There will be opportunities for public input.

#### **S. 1st and Strand Streets Road and Utility Extensions Agreement - Mouhamad/Sue (held over from the Work Session)**

City Engineer Sue Nelson reviewed the agreement. A copy is included in the archive packet for this meeting. This project overlaps the Riverwalk project. This is for roads and utilities on the Waterfront property. They are ready to begin work immediately. The Council will be presented with options for roadway alignment. The design work will take the rest of this year and they hope to select a contractor to do the work by this time next year.

Council President Morten asked about the S. 1<sup>st</sup> and St. Helens Street intersection. Nelson responded that the design work was done under a separate contract. That work will likely happen around the same time as the Waterfront road construction.

Councilor Chilton asked if the proposal includes parking. Nelson responded that it does include on-street parking. It is based on the Riverfront Connector Plan that the Council adopted last year.

**Set Date for Tourism Workshop** (held over from the Work Session)

Council discussed holding the meeting on Thursday, April 8 or 15. Staff will send an email to confirm that date works for everyone.

**Strategic Action Plan** (held over from the Work Session)

Assistant City Administrator Brown reviewed the following update:

- Cities are starting to allow park and field reservations for local organizations. He is requesting in-city organizations be allowed to make reservations with a written agreement signed. He suggests allowing a one-strike rule to follow all rules.

Council concurred with the request. Discussion ensued about the one-strike rule. Councilor Chilton would prefer a two-strike warning before taking it away from kids. Brown clarified that the one-strike rule is if they refuse to comply with the rules. They will have an opportunity to comply before taking it away. Council was in agreement after the clarification.

**City Administrator Report** (held over from the Work Session)

- Tonight's agenda includes a declaration of surplus property, which is for the McCormick Park playground equipment. Nelson and Duggan reached out to the community and found someone interested in the equipment. There is an issue of timeliness to get it moved out. Site preparation for the new equipment begins soon.

Nelson added that the new playground equipment begins arriving on March 15. The installation contractor would like to begin work that date as well. The school district was not interested in the equipment. Snoopeeland Child Development Center expressed interested and is ready to disassemble and remove it before the new equipment arrives. It is going to save staff a lot of time and resources.

- There is a lot of the growth right now with public and private projects.
- The Legislature is currently in session. The City submitted letters over the last couple days for supporting the following:
  - Re-capitalization of the State infrastructure funds for:
    - Brownfield Development
    - Special Public Works Fund
    - Regional Infrastructure Fund
  - Allow voter-approved increase for local marijuana tax rate.
- The Main Street Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed. They are working on a job description and have a request for the Budget Committee.
- He and Mayor Scholl are giving a tour to a developer for the Waterfront tomorrow.
- Meeting with the Police Department, Code Enforcement, and City Prosecutor tomorrow to discuss improvements to the dock enforcement process.

**APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE**

2. Agreement with Mayer/Reed, Inc. for Design, Construction, and Permits for the Riverwalk Project
3. Agreement with Otak for Design, Construction, and Permits for S. 1st and Strand Streets Road and Utility Extensions Project
4. Contract Payments

**Motion:** Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '2' through '4' above. **Voting:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz, Councilor Chilton

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR ACCEPTANCE**

5. Planning Commission Minutes dated January 12, 2021

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '5' above.

**Voting:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz, Councilor Chilton

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL**

6. Council Work Session, Executive Session, and Regular Session Minutes dated ~~March 3~~ February 17, 2021 [Secretary Note: The date was listed incorrectly on the agenda and the minutes cover sheet, but the minutes were correctly included in the packet as February 17, 2021.]
7. Animal Facility Licenses
8. OLCC Licenses
9. Communications Support Specialist Job Description
10. Declare Surplus Property - McCormick Park Playground Equipment
11. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

**Motion:** Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '6' through '11' above. **Voting:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz, Councilor Chilton

**WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS****Fireworks**

Brown summarized the discussion from the work session.

- Potentially the last year that the City will organize the event.
- Issue press release soliciting donations.

Mayor Scholl added the need for a motion to allow the use of Council funds, if needed. Brown suggested waiting for that.

**Motion:** Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to issue a press release requesting donations and for Mayor Scholl to work with Communications Officer Crystal King to include St. Helens history of fireworks and how the City plans to move forward. **Voting:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz, Councilor Chilton

**MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS**

- Felt like a spring day today. It was nice to be outside.
- There is a lot of building in the area.
- The Waterfront development is moving forward.
- He is hearing good things about Planning and Building and the plan review process. Kudos to those divisions.
- He heard about a 26.5-pound chinook caught at Coon Island today.

**COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

Council President Morten reported...

- He received a call from a fellow councilor asking him how to bring something up that they want to initiate or move forward, such as a proposal, project, resolution, or ordinance. He told the councilor that the appropriate time to bring it up is in the evening Council report, if it is not accepted by the Mayor or City Administrator and added to the agenda. He asked Mayor Scholl if that was the correct response.

Mayor Scholl explained that resolutions and ordinances typically come from discussion during a work session. He suggested bringing it up to City Recorder Payne to find out if there is an existing template that can be used. They should also present their idea to Walsh for feedback.

Discussion ensued. Council reports are only given at the regular session now. Mayor Scholl clarified that adding something to the agenda can be done by two councilors. Councilor Chilton and Councilor Birkle both requested a discussion about tourism be added to the agenda. It was decided to create a special meeting to just discuss tourism.

Councilor Topaz reported...

- He has a question about the registration for the payment system of the property sold to the grow facility. There is a registered bill of sale and a registered plot, but he has not been able to find the registered sales mechanism. If someone puts a lien on the grow facility and our payment schedule is not registered, they will get paid before we do. Have we registered the payment plan?

Mayor Scholl explained that it was all done through attorneys. Discussion continued between Mayor Scholl and Councilor Topaz. Walsh will look into the registration further.

- Wants information to be presented in a Council meeting so the public knows what is going on. The public is not aware when it is just an email being sent to or from staff.

Councilor Chilton reported...

- Visited the Millard Road property on Monday. It is a large piece of property, in a residential area, and is beautiful. She is excited about the property's potential for St. Helens.
- She is a visual learner and likes to be hands-on to envision ideas.
- Meeting with Walsh next week to visit the downtown and Waterfront area to view the proposed changes to S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Strand Street, and Plymouth Street to visualize what it will look like.
- Her daughter started softball this week. She was excited to watch her play at Campbell Park.
- Looked at the construction with the new Campbell Park sport courts being installed. She is excited about that benefit.

Councilor Birkle reported...

- Participated in the Connect St. Helens Retreat last week. There were 30-40 people in attendance, representing the School District, businesses, a former County Commissioner, and a newly elected County Commissioner. Five small workgroups were established as a result. He will participate in the "Free Range Kids Group." The idea behind that is having a community where children of all ages can roam free without parents being overly concerned about where they are and what they are doing. We want St. Helens to be a safe place for our children.
- About a year ago, a group of citizens presented to the Council about the Liberty Hill Camas Bluff. Weyerhaeuser owns the property and Knife River leases the mining and mineral development rights. Knife River just submitted a mining application to develop that bluff. Part of that bluff is within the City's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and would have an impact on the community. He encouraged people to check it out. If the mining is permitted, it will have an impact on residents and natural resources. The Friends of Liberty Hill Camas Bluff is working to preserve that area.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURN** – 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

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Kathy Payne, City Recorder

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Rick Scholl, Mayor