

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Regular Session

March 2, 2020
8:00 p.m.

Council Chamber
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Robinson, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis, and Councilmembers Barksdale, Lee, Robertson, Stokes, and Zahn

ABSENT: None.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call, Flag Salute

All Councilmembers were present. Councilmember Stokes led the flag salute.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Robinson noted a change to the agenda to add Item 6(b), Update on Coronavirus.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

4. Oral Communications

(a) Don Marsh said that he and his neighbors were attending the meeting to protest the removal of trees on 148th Avenue for the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) transmission line project. He said that PSE is beholden to its investors and shareholders, and the City has the responsibility to inform and educate the public. He said that PSE's business model reflects old technologies from the last century. He urged the City to work with PSE to consider undergrounding the transmission line.

(b) Randy Grein opined that an error has occurred with what he considers a redundant transmission line project between 148th Avenue and 164th Avenue. He acknowledged that the City cannot change the decision allowing the project to move forward. However, he

suggested modifications to the process in the future, including enhanced public notification and longer time periods for filing appeals. Mr. Grein encouraged the development of quality improvement measures throughout the City to generate better decisions and improved efficiency.

- (c) Lorraine Stewart, a cyclist, thanked the Council for supporting the Vision Zero Safe Systems approach, which was discussed during the earlier Study Session. She shared her story of being struck by a vehicle in 2016, noting that she has ongoing health issues since that time.
- (d) Ralph Guditz referred to his written submittal to the Council. He said his property in the West Lake Sammamish area was damaged by the City's failure to maintain the I-90 surface runoff infrastructure it acquired as part of the annexation of the area. He said he submitted a claim to the City and was told that staff would get back to him in a month or so. He said the City needs to fix the damage to his property.
- (e) Alex Zimmerman expressed concerns regarding what he calls Seattle Democrat fascism.
- (f) David Allen, a Kirkland resident, said he was formerly Mayor Robinson's neighbor in the Woodridge area. He thanked the Council for approving the Vision Zero Safe Systems approach. He encouraged the City to continue to build safe bicycling infrastructure. He noted the need for safe bike routes into Downtown Bellevue.
- (g) Mike Manes, said he has worked in the construction industry for 40 years and he formerly lived by Lake Sammamish. He expressed concern regarding Puget Sound Energy's electrical transmission line projects and encouraged the City to underground the lines.
- (h) Olivia Sun, a senior at Interlake High School, described the "Tune In, Not Out" campaign to address teen distracted driving. The project is a partnership of the City, Bellevue School District, Washington DECA, and Interlake High School. She encouraged the City to engage youth in discussions related to the Vision Zero Safe Systems approach. Ms. Sun submitted copies of the distracted driving campaign report and noted that she plans to go to Stanford University to major in urban studies. She said she is currently a transportation planning intern in the Transportation Department, and she thanked Franz Loewenherz for his mentoring and support.

Mayor Robinson paused the meeting for photos with Ms. Sun and others in attendance in support of the Vision Zero program.

- 5. Reports of Community Council, Boards and Commissions: None.
- 6. Report of the City Manager
 - (a) Technology to Improve Communications and Customer Service
[Item moved to earlier Study Session.]

(b) Update regarding Coronavirus

Nathan McCommon, Deputy City Manager, expressed the City's condolences to the friends and families of the individuals who have passed away due to the coronavirus. He noted that City departments are working with the King County Public Health Department and neighboring jurisdictions to address the outbreak of the disease in this area.

Deputy Fire Chief Andy Adolfson said there have been six deaths in King County to date, and all of the individuals were elderly and/or had underlying medical issues. He said the criteria to qualify for testing for the coronavirus has been expanded, and King County is establishing a quarantine location. He noted that the head of the King County Public Health Department is a well-known infectious disease doctor.

Deputy Chief Adolfson said that 24 officers from the Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC) visited the Seattle area over the weekend to assist with the region's efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus. He referred the public to the King County Public Health Department website for updated information in multiple languages. The City's website provides links to that agency and to additional sources. Mr. Adolfson said that City employees are receiving regular briefings regarding the coronavirus, and department staff are reviewing their continuity of operations plans. He commended the ongoing planning of the City's Office of Emergency Management. He encouraged everyone to consider options, such as working from home and avoiding public gatherings, to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Police Chief Steve Mylett said the Police Department and the Fire Department began discussing the coronavirus immediately after it emerged in the news in early January. Both departments are working with regional partners and with their counterpart agencies in the state and around the country. Chief Mylett said the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs is preparing a best practices document to address how first responders around the state can perform their duties while protecting the public and City personnel. He said every patrol car is equipped with a personal protection kit that includes a high-quality face mask. The Police Department is updating its online reporting system to expand the types of incidents that can be reported online. Staff is also developing videos to provide public information. Chief Mylett said he feels confident that the City is prepared to deal with the coronavirus.

Deputy Chief Adolfson encouraged everyone to wash their hands often for at least 23 seconds and to stay home if they are sick. He advised that individuals should not go to an emergency room unless it is essential because they need to maintain the capacity to treat individuals who are seriously ill. He suggested that people first call their doctor.

Councilmember Zahn thanked staff for the update and acknowledged the challenge for first responders to protect themselves and the public. She concurred with the advice to check the King County Public Health Department website for updated information. She expressed support for staying home when sick. However, she noted that many people in the community do not receive sick pay if they miss work.

Councilmember Robertson said she feels confident that the City is prepared to deal with the coronavirus outbreak. She said she heard that the testing costs \$3,000, and many insurance plans will not cover the tests. She questioned whether the King County Public Health Department has a plan to cover the cost for those who are not able to pay. Deputy Chief Adolfson said he will research and follow up with the Council with more information. He noted plans to test approximately 100 people per day at the Shoreline facility. He said that many people who contract the virus will not have symptoms. Ms. Robertson said she would like to see the costs covered for individuals who are unable to pay for testing.

Ms. Robertson expressed concern that some people are avoiding individuals of Chinese descent because they are afraid of contracting the coronavirus. However, the virus does not target any specific race or ethnic group. Councilmember Robertson encouraged everyone to care for each other.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis thanked staff for the update and said he is confident that the City is prepared to manage the coronavirus impacts. He questioned whether there is a tipping point at which the City will cancel events, ask the public to stay home, and recommend other measures. Deputy Chief Adolfson said the City follows the guidance and legal authority of the King County Public Health Department.

Responding to Mr. Nieuwenhuis, Chief Mylett said the Police Department has not received any complaints regarding price gouging for supplies (e.g., Purell, face masks) or coronavirus-related scams.

Councilmember Barksdale asked how the City is approaching communications with individuals who do not use the internet. Chief Mylett said staff discussed the issue over the weekend and is exploring alternative ways to distribute information to the public in multiple languages, including through local libraries, businesses, and other venues. Mr. Barksdale encouraged the consideration of phone trees for organizing phone calls to certain individuals.

Councilmember Lee thanked first responders for taking the risks associated with ensuring public safety. He said the City has a responsibility to provide information to the public, in multiple languages where appropriate. Mr. Lee said he hopes that people are not charged for coronavirus testing and that individuals are not denied testing because they are unable to pay.

Councilmember Stokes referred to people stocking up on supplies and cautioned against overreacting. He acknowledged, however, that the coronavirus outbreak is a serious challenge. Mr. Stokes said this is an opportunity to remind ourselves of our commitment to unity, diversity, and public health. He said he is proud of the way that the City and the region are responding.

Mayor Robinson said she appreciated the meeting on Saturday with the emergency response team. She noted that some jurisdictions have declared an emergency in order to access federal funding. She questioned whether the City has considered that approach to be able to pay for testing and/or other measures needed to control the spread of the virus. City Manager Miyake said staff is researching that option.

7. Council Business and New Initiatives *[Item moved to earlier Study Session]*
8. Consent Calendar
 - Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.
 - The motion to approve the Consent Calendar carried by a vote of 7-0, and the following items were approved:
 - (a) Council Minutes
 - Minutes of February 3, 2020 Study Session
 - Minutes of February 3, 2020 Regular Session
 - Minutes of February 10, 2020 Extended Study Session
 - (b) Resolution No. 9732 authorizing execution of a purchase agreement with Cues, Inc. for the purchase of one replacement closed-circuit television inspection truck for the Utilities Department, in an amount not to exceed \$234,464, plus all applicable taxes.
 - (c) Ordinance No. 6504 amending Ordinance No. 3990 to modify the hours of the parking restrictions and extending the boundaries on an as needed basis along SE 47th Street east of 139th Avenue SE to the end of the cul-de-sac.
 - (d) Resolution No. 9733 authorizing the conveyance of an easement to Puget Sound Energy, Inc. for the installation of new underground electric facilities to serve City of Bellevue-owned property located at 1933 104th Avenue Southeast, known as Killarney Glenn Park.
 - (e) Resolution No. 9734 authorizing execution of a professional service agreement with David Evans and Associates, for Utilities Specialty On-Call Professional Services (2020-2022) for Water, Sewer and Stormwater - Survey, Mapping and GIS Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000, plus all applicable taxes.
 - (f) Resolution No. 9735 authorizing execution of a professional service agreement with David Evans and Associates, for Utilities Specialty On-Call Professional Services (2020-2022) for Water, Sewer and Stormwater - Environmental Analysis and Permitting in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, plus all applicable taxes.
 - (g) Resolution No. 9736 authorizing execution of a professional service agreement with Herrera, Inc for Utilities Specialty On-Call Professional Services (2020-2022) for Water, Sewer and Stormwater - Environmental Analysis and Permitting in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, plus all applicable taxes.
 - (h) Resolution No. 9737 authorizing execution of a professional service agreement with Parametrix, for Utilities Specialty On-Call Professional Services (2020-

2022) for Water, Sewer, Stormwater - Environmental Analysis and Permitting in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, plus all applicable taxes.

- (i) Ordinance No. 6505 approving the vacation of a portion of the alley between Downtown Park and 104th Avenue NE, south of NE 4th Street and authorizing conveyance of easements to Puget Sound Energy and Century Link within the vacation area.
- (j) Resolution No. 9738 authorizing the execution of documents necessary to release two existing slope easements on private property located on 120th Avenue NE between NE 12th Street and NE Spring Boulevard.
- (k) Resolution No. 9739 granting authority to the Finance & Asset Management Director or his/her designee to approve annual purchase orders for various vendors for small items not stocked by City departments, for an amount not to exceed the estimated values for the specified vendors set forth in Attachment A to this Resolution, plus applicable taxes.
- (l) Resolution No. 9740 authorizing amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Contract with Friemund Jackson & Tardif, PLLC, outside legal counsel for the City, in the amount of \$300,000 for legal services in the matter of Khaleghi v. City of Bellevue.

9. Public Hearings

- (a) Public Hearing and Action on Resolution No. 9741 authorizing the execution of documents necessary to release five utility easements and a portion of a sixth utility easement located at 139 106th Avenue NE and 10480, 10502 and 10510 Main Street, as well as 30 Bellevue Way NE, which have been declared surplus to the City's needs and are no longer required for providing continued public utility service; the granting and recording of such releases being deemed in the best interest of the public.

City Manager Brad Miyake recalled that on February 3, the Council declared the easements to be released as surplus and no longer required for providing continued public utility service. Staff is requesting Council action following the public hearing.

Ira McDaniel, Real Property Division Manager, described the proposal to release five utility easements and a portion of a sixth utility easement. The property is being redeveloped and the developer requested the release of the easements during the permit process. The Utilities Department has confirmed that the easements are no longer needed for public utility service. Mr. McDaniel said the utilities equipment located in the easements has been abandoned or is being relocated. He noted a correction to the address of one of the parcels described in the agenda memo and in Resolution No. 9741.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to open the public hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

No one came forward to comment.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to close the public hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

→ Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis moved to approve Resolution No. 9741, amended to remove the reference to 10510 Main Street. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

10. Land Use: None.

11. Other Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions: None.

12. Unfinished Business: None.

13. Continued Oral Communications: None.

14. New Business: None.

15. Executive Session: None.

16. Adjournment

At 9:02 p.m., Mayor Robinson declared the meeting adjourned.

Charmaine Arredondo, CMC
City Clerk

/kaw