

# City of SeaTac

## Council Study Session Minutes Synopsis

October 11, 2016  
5:00 PM

City Hall  
Council Chambers

**CALL TO ORDER:** The SeaTac City Council Study Session (CSS) was called to order by Mayor Michael Siefkes at 5:00 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Michael J. Siefkes, Deputy Mayor (DM) Pam Fernald, Councilmembers (CMs) CM Rick Forschler, Kathryn Campbell (*participated by phone*), Peter Kwon, Tony Anderson, and Erin Sitterley.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Acting City Manager Joe Scorcio, Senior Assistant City Attorney Mark Johnsen, City Clerk Kristina Gregg, Recreation Supervisor Nicole Jones, Public Works Inspector Chris Anderson, Plans Examiner/Inspector 2 Bill Buterbaugh, Parks & Recreation (P&R) Director Lawrence Ellis, Facilities Manager Brian Ruda, Public Works (PW) Director Will Appleton, Police Chief Lisa Mulligan, Acting Community & Economic Development (CED) Director/Economic Development (ED) Manager Jeff Robinson, Planning Manager Steve Pilcher, Assistant City Attorney Julia Yoon, Acting Finance Director Gwen Pilo

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (related to the agenda items listed below):** There were no public comments.

### **PRESENTATIONS - INFORMATION ONLY:**

**Introduction of New/Promoted City Employees: Recreation Supervisor Nicole Jones, Public Works Inspector Chris Anderson, and Plans Examiner/Inspector 2 Bill Buterbaugh**

Acting City Manager Scorcio introduced the new/promoted employees.

### **AGENDA BILLS:**

**Agenda Bill #4442; A Motion authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract for governmental affairs and State lobbying services with Gordon, Thomas, Honeywell.**

**Summary:** Gordon Thomas Honeywell (GTH) has provided assistance to the City with all State legislative matters since 2013. During this time GTH has worked with the City to conduct research, draft legislation, develop its annual legislative agendas, conducted meetings with legislators, lobbied the City's position on proposed legislation and organized meetings with public sector and business representatives. These services occur throughout the year both during the legislative session and the interim. During this period GTH has assisted with securing funding from the State for local projects and was instrumental in moving forward the State Transportation Bill which included the completion of the Puget Sound Gateway Project and the 509 extension. GTH provides daily communication with City staff regarding relevant emerging issues during the session and assists with drafting statements of position and facilitating testimony by Council members, staff and other local interested parties. The monthly contract amount is \$2,800 which is an increase of \$300 over the 2016 contract. The agreement includes an option for a two-year extension and a mutual 30-day termination clause.

The annual cost of this service is \$33,600 and is budgeted in the City Manager's budget.

Mr. Robinson detailed the benefits of having a lobbyist.

Discussion ensued regarding Association of Washington (AWC) benefits and how they differ from the City hiring a lobbyist as well as the budget for this agreement.

Acting CED Director Robinson reviewed the agenda bill summary.

**Council consensus:** Refer to the 10/25/16 RCM Consent Agenda

**AGENDA BILLS (continued):**

**Agenda Bill #4429; A Resolution amending the City Council Administrative Procedures.**

**Summary:** This Resolution amends Sections 3 and 4 of the City Council Administrative Procedures in order to set regular meeting times for the Council Committees, and provide that the Standing Committees be recorded. If this Resolution is passed, the Council Committees will meet at the following regularly scheduled times:

Administration & Finance (A&F)	First Thursday	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Public Safety & Justice (PS&J)	First Thursday	5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Code Compliance	Second Thursday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Transportation & Public Works (T&PW)	Third Thursday	4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Sidewalk	Third Thursday	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Land Use & Parks (LUP)	Fourth Thursday	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
SeaTac Airport	Third Monday	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Second, the Resolution provides that the standing committee meetings (A&F, LUP, T&PW, and PS&J) will be audio recorded. Lastly, the Resolution makes other formatting changes.

The additional staff time needed to audio record the meetings of the standing committees will be absorbed using existing resources.

Senior Assistant City Attorney Johnsen reviewed the agenda bill summary.

Council discussion ensued regarding the flexibility of the end times and recording of committee meetings (costs and whether they should be recorded).

Mr. Johnsen stated the end time is a guideline only. The start time is the important piece for meeting the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

Mayor Siefkes requested the committee times and recording of committee meetings be considered separately at the next Regular Council Meeting (RCM) as action items.

**Council consensus:** Refer to the 10/25/16 RCM Action Item with two Agenda Bills

**Agenda Bill #4450; An Ordinance adding a new chapter 7.50 to the SeaTac Municipal Code (SMC) related to Chronic Nuisance Properties; and, amending Section 5.05.180 of the SMC to include business license suspension or revocation for chronic nuisance properties.**

**Summary:** Despite repeated and continued police efforts, some property owners and/or persons in charge of the property continue to allow their properties to be a nuisance to the community. They fail to take any affirmative actions to stop or prevent the repeated criminal activities occurring on their property. In a nutshell, this Ordinance provides the City with administrative and judicial remedies to abate chronic nuisance properties. This Ordinance:

- defines chronic nuisance activity and states when the Police Chief may declare a property a chronic nuisance;
- sets forth consistent procedure for Police Chief to declare a property a chronic nuisance;
- sets monetary penalties at \$500 per day for persons in charge;
- sets monetary penalty up to \$25,000 for owner if he/she fails to take all reasonable steps requested in writing by Police Chief to abate nuisance;
- upon referral from Police Chief, City Attorney may file action in Superior Court to abate nuisance property, enforcement of monetary penalties, and any other remedies allowed by law;
- amends business existing license ordinance to add chronic nuisance declaration as a basis to suspend or revoke license

If this Ordinance is adopted, existing staff resources from the Police Department and the City Attorney's Office would be impacted when the ordinance is utilized.

Assistant City Attorney Yoon reviewed the agenda bill summary.

Discussion ensued regarding the code language, nuisance definitions, abatements, and penalties

**AGENDA BILLS (continued):**

**Agenda Bill #4450 (continued):** DM Fernald stated the Administration & Finance (A&F) Committee recommended this for approval.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Police Department or Code Compliance Division are the best fit to be in charge of the process. Police Chief Mulligan stated this is a function police is already doing and should be retained in the Police Department. This code change is a tool to address serious ongoing crime that is already a drain on resources.

**Council consensus:** Refer to the 10/25/16 RCM Consent Agenda

Acting City Manager Scorcio announced that Acting City Attorney Julia Yoon has resigned effective October 28.

**Agenda Bill #4449; An Ordinance amending Title 15 of the SeaTac Municipal Code (SMC) relating to the keeping of domestic animal and eliminating the Equestrian Overlay Zone.**

**Summary:** The Planning Commission (PC) discussed this issue at three meetings during the summer and conducted a public hearing (PH) on the matter on October 4, 2016. The PC voted to recommend approval of the Ordinance, except they did not recommend prohibiting roosters, peacocks and goats.

Alternatively, the PC recommends amending the nuisance noise provisions of SMC 8.05.360 to address excessive noise from outside domestic animals, rather than a prohibition of certain animals, plus a few other associated amendments. This would require separate Council actions on a future agenda.

Should the City Council adopt this Ordinance as originally proposed (prohibition), existing roosters, peacocks, and goats would continue to be allowed as legal non-conforming uses, but could not be replaced or increased.

Planning Manager Pilcher reviewed the agenda bill summary. He detailed the PC recommendation.

Discussion ensued regarding horse regulations (current code), PC suggestion, enforceability of the code, roosters, and whether roosters and other animals are the issue or if noise is the true issue. Council determined that additional review, specifically by a Council committee, was required.

**Council consensus:** Refer to future LUP Committee

**Agenda Bill #4451; An Ordinance establishing a Neighborhood Sidewalk Committee as an advisory committee to the City Council.**

**Summary:** The Committee shall consist of nine members, of which three are CMs and six are citizens, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. The Committee will be responsible to ensure that the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program meets the needs and goals of the community through its recommendations. The term for a citizen member of the committee is two years, which will be staggered for the first two years. The Council reserves the right to review the conduct, acts, and decisions made by this Committee. City staff will provide adequate support to help the Committee carry out its duties and responsibilities.

In the past, an ad hoc committee has been created/disbanded to advise the Council on sidewalk issues, but there was a lack of continuity and consistency in the process. An ongoing advisory committee will allow for more thoroughly reviewed and balanced recommendations.

There are no direct expenses anticipated related to establishing the Committee. Existing staff resources will be necessary to support the Committee function. Depending on the policies recommended by the Committee and approved by the Council, future funding and expenditures for Neighborhood Sidewalk Program projects would be budgeted accordingly.

PW Director Appleton reviewed the agenda bill summary.

Council discussion ensued regarding the committee structure.

**Council consensus:** Refer to the 10/25/16 RCM Consent Agenda

**PRESENTATIONS - INFORMATION ONLY:**

**Quarterly Public Safety Statistics**

Police Chief Mulligan presented the third quarter 2016 statistics and highlighted area L4 which has the highest crime rate in every crime category except for robberies.

She also stated that auto thefts usually spike during winter time. SeaTac police have an anti-theft device program where residents meeting the right criteria can receive a “club” to help secure their car.

Discussion ensued regarding mail theft, and North SeaTac Park (NSTP) with the lowest crime rate.

Chief Mulligan provided the following: dispatched calls since 2011, roughly 700 more calls per year each year; 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Off the Street – 10 guns, 37 DUIs, 60 warrants, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Emphasis Recap – parking enforcement pilot program, light rail crime and traffic, park patrol 384 total hours, funded overtime, target zero traffic enforcement (DUI, speed, distracted driving, Click it or ticket), Community Engagement – National Night Out (NNO), Back to school fair, Seattle Storm at Tyee, Civilian response to active shooter (CRASE), July 4<sup>th</sup> at Angle Lake, Touch a Truck, and Walk Along, and Adopted SeaTac Sharks Junior Football.

She stated that the Hope of the City Church hosted a Police Appreciation Dinner.

The SeaTac Sharks are hosting a spaghetti feed at Tyee on October 15 between 3 and 5 p.m.

Discussion also ensued regarding Angle Lake Station crime; no numbers yet but information is being tracked.

**ADJOURNED:** Mayor Siefkes adjourned the CSS at 6:52 p.m.