



City of Mount Vernon
City Council Study Session Minutes
February 17, 2021 6:00 p.m.
(Virtual Meeting)

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting order 6:01 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, Molenaar and Morales

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Finance Director Volesky, Development Services Director Phillips, Public Works Director Bell, Project Development Manager Donovan, Senior Planner Lowell, GIS Manager Milner, Capital Programs Manager Bullock

Citizens Present: 1

- A. Proposed Uses of CDBG-CV3 Funds (COVID Relief): Mr. Donovan provided an overview of all CDBG funds. Proposed uses of \$262,227 CDBG-CV3 CARES Act Funds provided through the Department of Housing and Urban Development are motel vouchers \$130,000 and purchase of pallet shelters \$130,000.
- B. Development Services Committee Update
- International Code Commission (ICC) Update: Ms. Lowell reviewed various Municipal Code Amendments including Chapters 15.04, 15.08, 14.05, 15.36, Title 16 and fees.
 - GIS Map Tools Demo: Ms. Lowell and Mr. Milner demonstrated and discussed the Mount Vernon Plat Finder application available on the City's website. Additional applications are being developed and will be available in the near future.
- C. For the Good of the Order
- Consent Agenda Discussion: Councilmember Brocksmith suggested placing items such as annual service contracts on the consent agenda. There was a discussion whether or not to move certain contract items from New Business section of the agenda and/or allow the Mayor to execute some contracts without bringing them before Council for approval. Mr. Volesky will prepare potential changes/updates to the purchasing policy and bring back to Council for further discussion.

- Railroad Quiet Zones: Mr. Bell reviewed the train routes, activity, horn protocols and Quiet Zone requirements within the City.
 - Equity Workshops: Yadira Rosales, Skagit Valley College spoke about inclusiveness, access and opportunity for the community. Skagit Valley College is proposing a partnership with the City to provide a series of a minimum of six workshops to discuss diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). The participants would be comprised of community organizations such as EDASC, Community Action of Skagit County, Skagit County, Tribes, Hospital Districts, area Cities, etc. The estimated cost to provide the workshops is \$2500 per session.
 - Mayor Boudreau stated that Skagit County is currently in Phase 2 of COVID198 Pandemic restrictions. This means Council could meet in person with precautions and restrictions. Staff will prepare a work plan to submit to L&I and Public Health approval, then discuss dates to resume in-person meetings with Council.
 - Councilmember Hulst requested a discussion regarding the Council Code.
- D. The meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for a period of twenty minutes to discuss with legal counsel matters relating to the selection of a site or acquisition of real estate for lease or purchase when public knowledge of the discussion is likely to result in increased price, and to discuss enforcement actions, litigation or potential litigation to which the City, the governing body or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an either adverse legal or financial consequence to the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Becky Jensen, Recording Clerk

ATTEST:

Doug Volesky, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Jill Boudreau, Mayor