

**Mount Vernon
Finance Committee
Parks & Enrichment Services Committee
Minutes
July 28, 2021**

Councilmember Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Boudreau, Councilmembers Beaton, Carías, Hudson, Molenaar, and Morales

1. Meeting minutes from June 23, 2021, were approved.

2. County Discussion

Mayor Boudreau introduced Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki and George Kosovich from the County Health Department who presented information on House Bill 1590, the Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax – Councilmanic Authority.

The tax is 1/10 of 1% sales tax to be used for constructing affordable housing or mental and behavioral health-related facilities including operations and maintenance (60%), and for the operation, delivery, or evaluation of mental and behavioral health treatment programs and services or housing-related services (40%).

Commissioner Janicki and Mr. Kosovich explained the importance of collaboration between the cities and county and talked about strategies of meeting overall goals and the options for the County or City to implement the new tax.

3. Finance Update

Finance Director Doug Volesky gave an update on the following:

- a. ARPA Planning Update and Budget Amendment – Doug presented Council with the American Rescue Plan Act spending plan and a 2021 Budget Amendment. City was awarded over \$9M to be used thru 2024 and a Budget Amendment is needed for the 2021 portion of the spending plan.
 - o The spending plan includes funding for:
 - Staff salary devoted to COVID-19 pandemic effects
 - Revenue Replacement
 - Information Services and Technology
 - Fiber Optic System
 - TV10
 - General Facilities improvements
 - Support for the Court System
 - Human Resources
 - Communications to our residents, and
 - Service level restoration

- b. The 2022 Budget Calendar was presented. City staff have begun the 2022 budget process.
- c. 2021 Revenue Update on a few of the City's main revenue sources – collected thru July
 - o Sales Tax – \$4,979,518 or 67% of the budgeted annual amount.
 - o Traffic Benefit District (TBD) – \$1,169,817 or 73% of the budgeted annual amount.
 - o Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) - \$1,205,310 or 86% of the budgeted annual amount.

4. Parks and Enrichment Services Update

Parks and Enrichment Services Director Jennifer Berner gave an update on the following:

- a. Pickleball Court Dedication
 - i. Sunday, August 8th the dedication ceremony for the new Pickleball Courts at Hillcrest Park will be on Sunday, August 8th
 - ii. The ceremony will be at 11am and Exhibition Games will begin at Noon
- b. 25th Street Playground Installation
 - i. The project is nearing completion and hope to open to the community by the middle of August.
- c. Special Event Applications
 - i. City has received 18 applications to host special events
 - ii. Of the 18 received, 13 of those came to the City after June 30th and two of the previously approved applications needed modifications due to the new guidelines.
 - iii. New regulations for vendors are going into effect this year, staff is working with the Fire Marshal to inform and work with vendors and applicants
- d. Arts Commission Update
 - i. Public Art Brochure is being updated
 - ii. New Plaques installed for 10 art pieces
 - iii. Researching a possible Banner Pole Project for 2022
 - iv. Developing an Art Piece Data Base
- e. Staffing Update
 - i. New Recreation Coordinator, Kim LaMay, will be joining the staff starting August 9th.

5. Miscellaneous, for the good of the order

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Submitted by:

Doug Volesky

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