



Committee of the Whole Minutes
August 30, 2023
Police Court Campus, 1805 Continental Place

Councilmember Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present

Mayor Boudreau

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

Staff Present: Special Projects Manager Donovan, City Attorney Rogerson
City Clerk Jensen, and Development Services Director Pratschner

Citizens: 5

1. Housing City Council goals discussion: Mayor Boudreau provided an overview of documents provided to Council to consider available options for planning for a sufficient variety of housing and services through sales and use tax. Council discussed a variety of topics including target population groups, timelines, costs, funding, partnerships, project types and sizes, and a City Housing office. Conversations will continue during future Development Services Committee meetings.
2. North Star Update: North Star is a group comprised of Skagit County Commissioners and the Mayors of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley working together to coordinate and share dollars, services, and people to create effective care and expand housing options for those experiencing chronic homelessness. Mayor Boudreau shared with Council how and why the group was formed and the progress realized so far.
3. Opioid Funding: Opioid lawsuit settlement payments were reviewed; each jurisdiction receives a proportionate share of the settlement. The City's Integrated Outreach Services (IOS) Program is eligible for funding. Mayor Boudreau suggests utilizing the settlement funding for the IOS program and eliminating HB 1590 funding. The City could then use HB1590 funds for housing.

4. Budget 2024 Discussion
 - a. ARPA funding allocations – Mayor Boudreau reviewed ARPA fund allocations, budgets from 2021-2023 and suggestions for 2024-2025. She reminded Council that funds must be committed by 2024 and spent by 2026.

2024 Budget items to consider:

- Fire Station 1 design
- Bond strategy conversation
- Police/Fire Incident Command vehicle
- Technology tools for Police
- Lateral recruiting bonus
- Staffing requests
- Comprehensive plan
- Library Commons funding

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by: Becky Jensen
City Clerk