

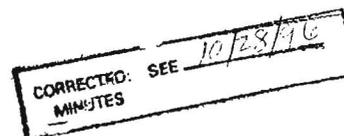
Marysville City Council

October 5, 1996

Council Retreat

Marysville Library

Present: Mayor Dave Weiser
Councilmembers: Donna Wright, Mayor Pro Tem
Shirley Bartholomew - excused
Ken Baxter
Otto Herman
Mike Leighan
John Myers
Donna Pedersen



Others: Dave Zabell, City Administrator
Mary Swenson, Assistant to City Administrator/City Clerk
Bob Williams - Evergreen Freedom Foundation
Lillie Lein, Recording Secretary

Mayor Weiser called the Marysville City Council October 5, 1996 Retreat to order at 9:08 a.m. and introduced the keynote speaker, Bob Williams, from the Evergreen Freedom Foundation.

After a quick background of the Foundation, Mr. Williams distributed booklet entitled "Reducing the Size and Cost of Government". He explained the two basic theories behind "Reinventing Government" and importance of determining which of these two "core principals" government wants to take - (1) make government more efficient and use savings to do something else; or (2) want government to do less with less. He gave several examples of what other cities and countries such as New Zealand have done and discussed such things as performance based budgets, competitive bidding vs. privatization, accountability, etc. After several questions and answers on this subject, Mr. Williams completed his presentation at 10:35 a.m.; at which time, the Council took a short break.

At 10:55 a.m. the Council resumed their retreat with short reports from the Mayor and each Councilmember reporting what committees they have or are currently serving on:

Mayor Weiser:

Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee - The Mayor has served on this committee comprised primarily of elected officials for five years. First as co-chair and currently as a member of the committee. The committee is comprised of a representative from all cities in Snohomish County, Tulalip Tribes,

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Snohomish County, and five citizens who have a major role but cannot vote. Some cities do not take an active role. The biggest focus of this committee is implementation of the GMA. Also, this committee has discussed park, transportation and school mitigation.

Washington Community Economics Revitalization Team- This is an economic revitalization team whose focus is communities and towns hit hard by legislation of the timber industry, primarily providing funding for infrastructure, rather than jobs, to enable counties and communities to attract new business. All of these communities were under sewer moratoriums when this committee was started. They have now begun focusing on economic development.

National League of Cities - Mayor Weiser noted that this group previously had focused on inner cities but have now begun a more broader focus.

Youth Gangs Task Force - This group meets quarterly. There has been some discussion of their effectiveness with many cities dropping out. There is some question as to whether Marysville will participate in this program in 1997.

Puget Sound Growth Management Act - This is a subcommittee that makes recommendations to the board on growth management issues.

Mayor Weiser is currently serving as a liason between the Historical Society and the Afternoon Rotary who are meeting regarding the building of an historical museum.

Donna Wright, Mayor Pro Tem:

Traffic Advisory Committee - meets once a month.

Human Services Committee - meets once a year.

Navy Affairs Committee - This committee was more active but has become mainly a welcoming committee preparing for and meeting ships coming in. They meet bi-monthly.

Community Housing Resource Board - meets bi-monthly.

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AWC Legislative Committee - meets for 3 all-day sessions each year. They have broken into sub-committees and may meet more often.

Cities & Towns - Chairman of programs. This term ends in January.

Regional Services - This group has not met yet but their focus will be on interlocal agreements between cities and between cities and the county.

Councilmember Ken Baxter:

RUSA (Rural Utility Service Area) - This committee deals with utility issues, and because this is where Councilmember Baxter feels most of the money is spent, he spends a fair amount of time bird-dogging utility projects.

WUCC (Water Utility Coordinating Committee) - This committee is related to RUSA but is for the north Snohomish County area (everything north of the Snohomish River). They discuss how to serve water to all of north county. City Administrator Zabell noted that this committee is becoming more important as the County is not requiring a public hearing for amendments to the CWSP (Coordinated Water Service Plan). The county drafts the plan amendments and this committee approves them. Councilmember Baxter noted that this committee is comprised of all purveyors with over 50 connections; however, not all attend. He added that P.U.D. picks up all rural customers and is getting bigger.

Ground Water Advisory Committee - This committee makes recommendations regarding water that comes out of wells: How it is done; where it is done; how to prevent or control contamination of ground water, etc.

Golf Course Committee - This committee is overseeing the golf course project and with the bulk of this project to be finished soon.

Snohomish County Regional Services - This is mostly a program by cities and the state to regionalize services. They have only a few meetings left.

New City Hall - This committee is just coming to an end.

Old City Hall - This committee has just started.

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Assistant to City Administrator/City Clerk Mary Swenson interjected that she and City Administrator Zabell have been discussing the possible need for a building/facilities committee to make decisions when other buildings need something, i.e., new carpeting. This committee would meet on an as needed basis. This idea was favorably received by Council.

Fire Board - The Fire Board meets once a month. Council's presence is there to protect the City's interests. Mayor Weiser asked about the change in voting policies of the Fire Board and asked if the change has been a problem? The general consensus of the three councilmembers that sit on the Fire Board is that the new policy is better.

Councilmember Baxter mentioned a new program being proposed by fire marshalls requiring a sprinkling system in every dwelling. He has been fighting the proposal because of practicality and affordability. He emphasized the importance of attending meetings because there is no public hearing process.

Sanitation Committee - This is a committee which Councilmember Baxter has participated in.

John Myers:

Television Advisory Committee: Meets once a month.

City Hall Building Committee: This committee is coming to completion.

Library Board: This committee meets once a month.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee: This committee discusses tipping fees and sites for transfer stations.

In addition to the above, Councilmember Myers said he attends, but has not been officially appointed to the following:

Snohomish County Federation Network: This is a committee of volunteers that makes recommendations to the State on who should get funding for services regarding domestic violence and teen services.

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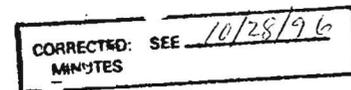
Department of Corrections: Meets once a month. Discusses implementation of programs.

Housing Hope: This group helps people get into housing they can afford.

Y-Zone: Councilmember Myers volunteers almost every week.

Regional Services: This committee ^{has not met recently} ~~is almost ended.~~

Councilmember Donna Pedersen:



RUSA - This committee meets once a month to discuss utility issues.

Fire District: Councilmember Pedersen says she sits on three sub-committees for the Fire District -

- (1) E.M.S. which looks at costs of this program;
- (2) Customer Service Committee - This committee looks at things the Fire District does for customers and how they can do it better. They are currently working on developing a survey card.
- (3) Personnel - Councilmember Pedersen says that on this committee she has the privilege of doing hiring for the Fire District and choosing candidates for paramedic training. She explained the intense training involved in the paramedic program.

Hotel/Motel Grant Committee: This committee is similar to the Human Services Committee and will be meeting twice a year.

Health District: This is an elected position from cities within Marysville's group. Councilmember Pedersen sits on several sub-committees here:

- (1) Chair of Finance which also includes a seat on the Executive Committee;
- (2) Community Health Committee which looks at the needs of community health;
- (3) Facilities Planning Committee which meets as needed. They are currently meeting to look at expansion of the Rucker Building.

Councilmember Pedersen noted that the needle exchange program contract is coming up for renewal, and that she will be asking Council for their opinions as

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to what Marysville's position should be. She will also be asking the other cities which she represents.

CORRECTED: SEE <u>10/28/96</u>
MINUTES

Councilmember Otto Herman:

Stillaguamish Senior Center - Councilmember Herman ^{is} ~~serves on this committee~~ as an Associate Boardmember. He noted that this is quite a nice facility with good resources and low income housing. He also sits on two sub-committees: (1) Elderscreen and (2) Personnel.

Community Transit - ^{that has received a lot of media attention} Member Herman explained that ^{one area} ~~the focus of~~ Community Transit ~~is~~ Paratransit and further explained the complexities of this issue. He shared statistics from last year and explained the make-up of the board; noting that this is a federated board of nine members. He noted that he is in his second term as ^{Chair} ~~Executive~~ Director of the Board, and stated that he does not intend to seek a term ^{as chair} ~~again~~. He also sits on three sub-committees: (1) Finance & Administration; (2) Planning and Marketing; and (3) Capital Facilities.

Snohomish County Cities and Towns - Councilmember Herman noted that he sits on the ~~Transportation Policy~~ Board for this group.
Puget Sound Planning Committee representing

Councilmember Mike Leighan:

Television Advisory Board - Councilmember Leighan noted that some Viacom funding has been put into the Community Information budget, and that he would be requesting this money be made a specific line item. Also, he felt the community channel is under-used, and noted that the committee has talked about turning this over to the Junior High School.

State Work Release - Councilmember Leighan noted that they are still meeting, and particularly noted that this is not the same issue as siting of a correctional facility.

Old City Hall Building - Councilmember Leighan noted that the building part is easy but the programs could get costly.

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Parks Board - This committee meets once a month.

Project Self-Sufficiency - This committee is comprised of representatives from HASCO, Snohomish County Housing Authority, and other human service providers.

Fire Board - Councilmember Leighan noted that they are working on improving public relations; going out into the community; and positive press.

Executive's
Law & Justice Council - This committee of the County Executive has been involved with issues such as the Denney Youth Center levy and 800 megahertz.

New City Hall Building - This committee is drawing to a close.

Hotel/Motel Committee - As noted before, this committee will be meeting twice a year.

At this point, it was decided to work through lunch. A break was taken at 1:30 p.m. and the retreat resumed at 1:37 p.m.

Councilmember Wright suggested there might be a need for more input from law enforcement to keep Council informed of their activities.

A discussion of serving on committees followed along with suggestions that there may be a need to change committees for some Councilmembers. Following are some of the suggestions made:

- (1) Two year limit;
- (2) Review committee appointments every two years, after elections;
- (3) Council should be allowed to stay on committees as interested;
- (4) A list should be made of committees and their need and/or importance should be decided upon.

Mayor Weiser said he had a pretty good list of committees the Council serves on; noting that Councilmember Bartholomew serves on RUSA, the Golf Committee, and HUD Block Grant Committee. He then polled the Council to find out which committees they would like to change:

Councilmember Leighan - Television Advisory and Parks.

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Councilmember Herman - Noted that, if anyone was interested in committees he serves on, to let him know and he will keep them posted on when appointments come up.

Councilmember Wright - She noted that she did not find the Traffic Advisory committee very interesting but would be interested in serving on the Parks Board, and she thought the Television Advisory Committee might be interesting.

Councilmember Baxter - He noted that he was happy with the committees he is on.

Councilmember Pedersen - She stated that she has a lot of interest in the Health District; the others are optional. She noted that she is interested in building committees and economic development, and would be interested if a committee on police were formed. She said she has more time than some other councilmembers and would take what was left.

Councilmember Myers - He noted that the Television Advisory Committee is the hardest for him because of his work schedule. He would also like to be removed from the Library Board and Solid Waste Committee which he has served on during his entire term of office. He said he would be interested in the Police committee if one was formed and the Fire Board and/or Parks Board. He also would be interested in RUSA although that would present the same schedule problem he has with the Television Advisory Committee.

There was a short discussion of the Fire Board which stated two City Councilmembers plus one citizen. The pros and cons of this and the option to replace one person per year but requiring appointee to be on the Council for a certain amount of time before being appointed was discussed.

Mayor Weiser noted that he will talk with Councilmember Bartholomew to see if there are any committee appointments she would like to change.

A discussion of an Economic Development Committee followed with it noted that maybe a couple of councilmembers should sit on the committee. Councilmember Pedersen felt that there needed to be a lot of citizen input but added that Council representation in an advisory capacity would be important. City Administrator Zabell noted that the City had an Economic Development

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Committee which included Councilmembers Leighan and Bartholomew, Downtown Merchants, the Chamber of Commerce, etc. He said there has been some recent discussion to restart this committee and meet again.

Mayor Weiser asked, for those who can, would they like to serve on committees on a two year cycle? There was discussion that RUSA and the Fire Board was on a six year cycle, and consensus was that change should be optional, not mandatory. Administrator Zabell suggested a yearly review of committees noting that it is hard to set terms on committees that are not codified. Ms. Swenson added that Council had discussed having two retreats a year, one in April and one in October, and suggested scheduling review of committees at each October retreat.

There was a short discussion of a Police Advisory Committee and what its make-up and purpose would be with suggestions that law and justice issues could be discussed. It was also noted that the Police Department has talked about starting a Police Academy for the last two years. It was noted that communication is an important issue. It was suggested that this be started with three Councilmembers and expanded as needed. Their first job would be to look at other cities to see what they are doing and how their committees are comprised.

Mayor's Duties:

Councilmember Pedersen felt it important to look at the duties required to determine how they can be done more efficiently or if they can be delegated or deleted.

Mayor Weiser said that basically he felt his work week started on Tuesday after the City Council meeting. He said that he takes notes at the Council meetings on concerns of Council and discusses these with staff with an effort to get back to Council addressing their concerns. He said he would like to change staff reports to a written report from each department feeling that this would:

- (1) Be given to Council ahead of time;
- (2) Allow time for Council to ask questions, and staff to get information and submit this in writing to Council;
- (3) Allow Council to get right to an issue to decide if it needs to be an agenda item.

CORRECTED: SEE 10/28/96
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Mayor Weiser added that a lot of time is spent getting information out to Council. In addition, he noted that some days he has a multitude of telephone calls and some days only a few. Right now, he is experimenting with spending all day each Friday at City Hall. There is mail in the morning and mail in the afternoon. Also, there are always issues that come up which prevent the City from being proactive.

Councilmember Myers was concerned that with written reports, citizens would not have the opportunity to hear information they now hear by attending Council meetings.

Councilmember Pedersen felt telephone calls could be minimized by just knowing the Mayor will be at City Hall on Friday. Mayor Weiser responded that telephone calls were not a problem. Outside meetings are more time consuming.

Councilmember Pedersen felt that, maybe some things needed only the Mayor's direction, not his personal involvement. Mayor Weiser agreed but felt it was his responsibility to start the process and ensure policies are followed.

Councilmember Baxter did not feel it was the staff's responsibility to run the City. He felt that citizens and businesses expected the Mayor to be a hands-on Mayor. Councilmember Pedersen felt successful CEO's she has seen delegate and nag noting that she felt hands-on work was a style of doing a job.

Councilmember Leighan noted that the City code does not specify whether the City should have a full or part-time Mayor. Right now, he saw the Mayor as CEO of the City and assumed he delegates a lot to the City Administrator. He felt this issue got down to dollars and cents and how much they want to pay for a full time Mayor. Councilmember Herman felt that the dollar amount should be based on what the job is worth. Councilmember Myers felt that, if the Mayor had the time to visit the different departments, it would be a morale booster, and you can't put a dollar amount on that.

Councilmember Wright said she thought the issue of full time Mayor was settled at the workshop, and that today's conversation was to set goals and objectives Council wanted the Mayor to accomplish. Councilmember Herman noted the range of extremes is full time Mayor in the year 2000 or October, 1996.

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Mayor Weiser noted that, when this issue came up last October, it had to do with increasing the Mayor's salary. He stated then, and still believes, the problem is not enough time to do things that should get done. He agreed that the Mayor's job was not to micro-manage, but noted that there are a lot of issues that come from the Mayor and get direction from the Mayor. He emphasized the need to expand relations with surrounding communities - the more contact, the better relations will be. Also, he noted important legislative issues coming up.

Mayor Weiser felt that the direction of policy needs to come by resolution or voice from Council, but then it is the Mayor's job to carry out those policies. He said the key things always get done but it pushes more on the back burner or they just get forgotten.

Councilmember Myers asked Mayor Weiser, if the Council decided to have a full time Mayor if he would have the time? Mayor Weiser said, "Yes." Councilmember Leighan asked if it would mean he would walk away from Weiser Cedar Sales? Mayor Weiser said he has discussed this with them and he would take a leave of absence. Councilmember Leighan asked if he could ^{leave} leave three days ^{from} from now? Mayor Weiser answered that it would be difficult.

Councilmember Herman expressed concern over the timing of this change and how the change would affect the position of City Administrator. He suggested there may be merit in a trial period of full time Mayor for about one year with a review just before the next election to see if it is working. Councilmember Pedersen felt review would have to be well before the filing period of the next election because many start running well in advance. Councilmember Myers felt that, if the City went with a full time Mayor, it would stay that way.

Councilmember Myers asked if staff had any questions or comments from citizens since the workshop? City Administrator Zabell, Assistant to City Administrator/City Clerk Swenson, and Confidential Secretary to City Administrator Lein all said they received no calls or comments. Councilmember Baxter noted that the only comment he received was that they thought we already had a full time Mayor.

Councilmember Pedersen felt it was important to wait until the year 2000 to give the public a chance to understand the need for a full time Mayor and to give Council time to discuss duties more thoroughly.

CORRECTED: SEE 10/23/96 MINUTES

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Councilmember Leighan felt it was a compensation issue. What is the job worth?

Councilmember Baxter felt they were getting away from the issue of what a full time Mayor's position could do for the City. He said, "If you don't need the position, you don't need discussion." He felt that the position is needed and the time is now.

Councilmember Pedersen said she could not see the economic benefit returned. Councilmember Baxter asked why it would be any different in the year 2000? Councilmember Pedersen replied that maybe it wouldn't but the people elected a part time Mayor not a full time Mayor. Councilmember Baxter said that the people elected seven people to make decisions, reminding her that Council has had to make far more important decisions than whether or not to have a full time Mayor.

The general consensus was that there was a need for a full time Mayor, but the question was when? Mayor Weiser asked if Council wanted to bring this up again on the October 14 agenda? They agreed they did. Councilmember Herman said there were two issues to decide: (1) part time, half time, or full time Mayor? and (2) what should the remuneration be? He also felt Council needed to decide what the job is. Mayor Weiser reiterated that it is important for the Mayor to follow the policy of the Council.

Ms. Swenson then distributed information received from the Mason's Crystal Lodge requesting dedication of City buildings.

Mayor Weiser adjourned the October 5, 1996 City Council retreat at 3:28 p.m.



Lillie Lein, Recording Secretary