

City Council



501 Delta Ave
Marysville, WA 98270

**Work Session
July 3, 2023**

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Nehring called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present

Mayor: Jon Nehring

Council: Councilmember Peter Condyles, Councilmember Mark James, Councilmember Tom King, Councilmember Kelly Richards, Councilmember Michael Stevens, Council President Kamille Norton

Staff: Deputy City Attorney Burton Eggertsen; Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director Tara Mizell; Police Chief Erik Scairpon; Community Development Director Haylie Miller; Asst. PW Director Max Phan; Community Information Officer (CIO) Connie Mennie (via Zoom); Public Works Services Manager Skip Knutsen (via Zoom); IT Services Supervisor Jeremiah Nyman (via Zoom); IT Director Stephen Doherty; and Network Systems Administrator Chris Brown

Absent: Councilmember Steve Muller (excused)

Motion to excuse Councilmember Muller moved by Councilmember Richards, seconded by Councilmember James.

AYES: ALL

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to waive normal rules and allow voting on item 9 tonight moved by Councilmember Richards, seconded by Councilmember Stevens.

AYES: ALL

Motion to approve the agenda as amended above moved by Councilmember James, seconded by Council President Norton.

AYES: ALL

Approval of Minutes

1. June 26, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

Consent

2. June 23, 2023 Payroll in the Amount of \$1,978,080.40 Paid by EFT Transactions and Check Numbers 34647 through 34671
3. June 28, 2023 Claims in the Amount of \$732,804.68 Paid by EFT Transactions and Check Numbers 163744 through 163877 with Check Numbers 153936 and 162692 Voided

Review Bids

Public Hearings

New Business

4. Inter-local Agreement Between the City of Marysville and the Marysville School District for School Resource Officer Services

Chief Scairpon reviewed this item. This contract is a return back to a standard contract with the school district with the school district paying 75% of the salary of each employee for an entire year. The school district asked for three SRO's but police are only able to offer two.

Councilmember James pointed out some typos in the agenda bill.

5. Utility Easement Acceptance - 21 Degrees (G21-0071)

Director Miller reviewed this utility easement that will be established for Soper Hill Townhomes.

6. Project Acceptance – LID Improvements for Cedar Avenue

Asst. PW Director Phan reviewed this project which came slightly under budget.

Councilmember King noted this is a nice project. He asked if there are any plans to remove the old section of fence between the railroad tracks and Cedar which is falling down. Mr. Phan indicated he would follow up on that.

7. Landowner Agreement for Jones Creek Restoration

Asst. PW Director Phan explained this would allow the Adopt-a-Stream Foundation to perform restoration on Jones Creek on a parcel that the City owns. The proposed work would relocate the stream away from the homes and improve the habitat for salmon and stream flows. This is all funded by a grant from Ecology.

Councilmember Richards asked if this would impact the 5th graders' annual field trip to that stream. Mr. Phan replied that it might if it is under construction. That would need to be coordinated.

Councilmember Condyles referred to the bridge construction and asked if there is a bridge already out there. Mr. Phan thought this was a new bridge. Councilmember Condyles asked if the public would be able to access this bridge. Mr. Phan thought it would be available for use by pedestrians and light-weight vehicles.

Council President Norton asked if the City has any obligations related to this project. Mr. Phan explained that it just requires permission by the City.

8. Water Quality Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Agreement with Department of Ecology

Mr. Phan reviewed this grant agreement to assist in planning, implementation, and management of wastewater treatment plant nutrient discharge reduction activities. The goal of the grant is to improve water quality in the State of Washington by reducing nutrients discharged to the Puget Sound.

Councilmember James asked what nutrients this refers to. Mr. Phan was not sure but said he would follow up on that.

9. Contract Agreement with Rae Boyd APRN, BC, PLLC for Jail Medical Services

Chief Scairpon reviewed this extension for jail medical services to allow continuation of services by Rae Boyd.

Council President Norton asked if other cities pay for the medical services if the inmate comes from another city. Chief Scairpon said they are working on a new jail contract with Finance and the City Attorney's office so they have an agreement in place to cover costs such as that, but it is not in use yet.

Councilmember King asked if the jail provides emergency dental services. Chief Scairpon thought that the county jail does, but not Marysville. He indicated he would follow up.

Motion to approve the Contract Agreement with Rae Boyd APRN, BC, PLLC for Jail Medical Services moved by Councilmember King, seconded by Council President Norton.

AYES: ALL

10. Acceptance of Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) Officer Wellness Grant Funds

Chief Scairpon explained this was a competitive grant that the Police Department was awarded.

11. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Marysville, Washington, Amending Chapter 2.35 of the Municipal Code in Regard to the Finance Director and City Clerk Duties

Deputy City Attorney Eggertsen reviewed this item and item 12 which remove references to the City Clerk since that is not part of that department anymore.

12. An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Marysville, Washington, Amending Chapter 2.30 of the Municipal Code in Regard to the City Clerk

See above.

13. An Ordinance Relating to Land Use, Engineering, Construction, and Building Fee Updates

Director Miller explained that this relates to a development fee study. As part of a recent audit, the City was required to look at its fees which have not been updated in 15 years. The proposed fees would cover 100% of costs as opposed to the current 57% recovery amount. She asked for direction about when this should be implemented. January 1, 2024 is an option but as early as October 1 would also be possible. Applicants have requested some advance notice about fee increases. Staff is also proposing to do an automatic inflation rate of 2% each year and regular monitoring so this doesn't happen again.

Council President Norton asked if the fees are based on staff time. Director Miller confirmed they are mostly based on direct services and some indirect overhead costs.

Council President Norton recommended a 3% annual increase rather than 2% because it is more in line with staff wage increases. Director Miller explained that one committee recommended 2%; staff had recommended 3%. The consultant initially recommended tying the percentage increase to the union increases because most of these fees are generated from staff wages and benefits. Staff thought it would be more straightforward to do a simple increase. There was some discussion about options.

Councilmember James asked where the money has been coming from if they haven't been covering costs for 15 years. Director Miller explained it had been coming from other sources. Councilmember James was in support of keeping the increase at 2% since they have been making it work somehow and it doesn't seem to be hurting the City. He wondered about lowering the rates to 5-10% less than surrounding communities rather than bringing up the fees to match other communities.

Council President Norton asked why it was flagged in the audit. Director Miller explained it was flagged because they were supposed to show their work and show that it has been updated regularly to make sure cities aren't charging too much for one permit. They also don't want other areas to subsidize community development permit fees. Council President Norton agreed that if they aren't recovering the full cost of staff time in fees, they are essentially asking every other taxpayer in the city to subsidize those rather than having the person getting the permit pay for what they are using.

Councilmember Richards agreed that they have made it work for 15 years, but it is also money that could have gone to parks, law enforcement, public safety, etc. rather than subsidizing the developer who is making money off this deal. Staff explained that during the pandemic there was an unexpected increase in sales tax because of everybody ordering from Amazon. There was also an annexation credit from 2010 to 2019. A lot of that filled in the gaps so it wasn't so obvious that they were underfunded. Those things have gone away recently.

Council President Norton referred to the question about timing and spoke in favor of an earlier effective date, such as October, rather than later. Director Miller thought this would be fine. Master Builders has had significant notice as it is.

Councilmember Condyles was also supportive of an October 1 effective date.

Councilmember James clarified that he was supportive of the increases so that private development wasn't being subsidized by the city government. He was only suggesting that the difference between 2% and 3% annual increase might be something that could give the City a competitive edge over other jurisdictions. He stated he was also supportive of having an October 1 effective date.

Councilmember Stevens thought that as long as they could still point to the fact that the City has one of the lowest rates it will be fine. He also thinks that being able to expedite review times means more to the development community than these dollars will.

14. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Marysville, Washington,
Appointing the Risk Manager as the Agent to Receive Claims for Damages
Pursuant to RCW 4.96.020

Deputy Director Eggertsen explained this clarifies that the risk manager is the designated agent to receive claims for damages. It will also update the new address for City Hall.

15. Ziplly Fiber Northwest Franchise Amendment

Deputy Director Eggertsen explained this would extend the contract until the end of 2024 at the request of Ziplly.

Legal

Mayor's Business

- Mayor Nehring reported that the Senior Lunch last week was incredible.
- The LINC Northwest grand opening ribbon cutting was extremely well attended and a great event.
- The coffee klatch last week in Lakewood went really well. He reviewed some of the topics of concern that were raised.
- The Strawberry Fields ribbon cutting was enjoyable.
- The July 4 event will be held tomorrow night.
- Sandy Langdon has re-retired. John Nield will be the interim Finance Director for the next month. Jennifer Ferrar-Santa Ines from the City of Yakima has been hired as Finance Director and will be starting July 31.
- He updated Council on some other staff movement/changes.

Staff Business

Director Miller explained staff is planning a joint meeting between the City Council and Planning Commission. September 12 at 6:30 p.m. is a tentative date. They are planning on running through some different growth scenarios to consider for the next 20 years.

Director Mizell:

- She reported that cameras at Comeford Park have all been installed and will be up and running by the end of the week.
- The first Tasty Tuesday food truck event will be held in the plaza at lunchtime on Tuesday this week. Every Tuesday will be different vendors.
- On Saturday there will be park cleanup at 9:00 at Jennings Park.
- Junk in the Trunk will be at Parks from 10-2.
- The back-to-school barrels will start throughout the community on July 10.

Chief Scairpon reported there will be extra staffing on the 4th of July. He looks forward to giving an update on July 10.

Call on Councilmembers and Committee Reports

Councilmember Richards:

- Strawberry Fields opening was a great time.
- He sadly reported that respected Planning Commissioner Roger Hoen had passed away recently.

- He asked about the meeting with the County Council. Mayor Nehring explained that the County Council will be meeting here on Wednesday for a very short meeting.
- He wished everyone Happy Independence Day.

Councilmember James:

- He attended the Snohomish County Law and Justice Council on Tuesday. The main topic of discussion was electronic home monitoring. He asked if Marysville uses that. Chief Scairpon replied that they have the infrastructure for it but there is no active program at this time.
- He reported that the Snohomish County Planning Commission recently discussed the urban tree canopy. They are considering having that as a sub element in the County Comprehensive Plan.
- He attended the LINC Northwest ribbon cutting. Strawberry Fields is a really beautiful facility.

Councilmember King:

- The red, white, and blue lights on the outside of the building and over at the restroom look great.
- The remodel at Station 61 is coming along nicely.
- He attended the LINC Northwest ribbon cutting. The building looks great.
- He also attended the Strawberry Fields ribbon cutting. This is a great complex.
- He reported that he has done his part with fireworks signs.

Councilmember Stevens agreed that the fields are beautiful. It is nice to have a facility like that in the community. He is looking forward to the food trucks. He recommended scheduling a crepe truck.

Council President Norton agreed that Strawberry Fields look great. She knows a soccer team that is very excited to practice there. She also thinks the red, white, and blue lights look great on the buildings. Happy 4th of July to everyone.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Approved this 12th day of September, 2023.

Mayor
Jon Nehring