

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 19, 2019

Senior Center, 411 Main Ave. S., North Bend, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:

Mayor Hearing called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Elwood, Garcia, Gothelf, Kostanich, Loudenback, Rosen and Volken.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – City Council Meetings of March 5, 2019

Payroll – March 5, 2019 – 27894 through **27900**, in the amount of **\$272,580.57**

Checks – March 19, 2019 – 67370 through **67443**, in the amount of **\$634,825.35**

AB19-035 – Ordinance 1674-A Amending Ordinance 1674 RE Alley Vacation

AB19-036 – Resolution 1874 Accepting EJ Roberts Playground Equipment Project

AB19-037 – Motion Authorizing Contract with Nursery at Mt Si

AB19-038 – Motion Authorizing Work Order with G&O for Water System Plan

AB19-039 – Resolution 1875 Granting Final Plat Approval for West Grove

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Loudenback to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Liz Davis, 225 Taylor Ave. S, invited everyone to visit the Friends of the Library book sale fundraising event on March 21 – 24th at the North Bend Library.

Dave Olson, 440 Main Ave. S, reported on Kiwanis activities and mentioned the Breath of Aire concert at the Cascade Covenant Church on Sunday, March 24, 2019.

Paula Lodahl, 435 SE Maple Drive, noted the drop off locations for donations to the Mt Si Food Bank Backpack Program had been relocated to the Life Community Church in downtown Snoqualmie, the drive-through Starbucks on Snoqualmie Ridge and the Trail Youth Coffee House in North Bend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:

AB19-040 – Appointment to Economic Development Commission

Audio: 6:23

Mayor Hearing recommended the appointment of Coreen Wilson to Position No. 4 on the Economic Development Commission.

Councilmember Kostanich **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve AB19-040, confirming the appointment of Coreen Wilson to Position #4 on the Business & Economic Development Commission, term expiring December 31, 2020. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

State of the City Address – Mayor Hearing

Audio: 10:15

Mayor Hearing delivered the following State of the City of North Bend 2019 Address:

“City Council Members, Citizens, Property Owners, Staff and Friends; it is my great honor to present to you the North Bend State of the City Address for 2019. My comments to you tonight are focused on our 2018 accomplishments and 2019 goals with the overarching objective of improving the quality of life for citizens of North Bend. This is accomplished by City Council and City staff working together toward common goals.

Some of our 2018 key accomplishments include:

Reconstruction of NE 12th Street with wider shoulders, larger culverts, replacement of nearly 1 mile of watermain, and of course new pavement.

Significant reduction of the impact of high ground water table inflow and infiltration was achieved by resealing 9 sewer manholes. The effect is to measurably reduce peak inflows to our Wastewater Treatment Plant, thereby increasing capacity.

The design of the long awaited upgrades to the City’s WWTP Phase 1 was completed. Phase 1 will add redundancy and dependability in our current plant but adds no new capacity. These upgrades include a new UV building, an additional clarifier, and rehabilitation of the existing clarifier.

Council adopted amendments to the city’s concurrency ordinance in response to citizens desiring additional restaurants and other commercial services. The effect of this ordinance was to reserve the majority of remaining sewer capacity for such commercial uses. Council remains concerned about the rapid residential growth without corresponding commercial to service the residents.

We began an alley re-investment program which will pave over our potholed gravel alleys which are quite labor intensive to maintain. Funding for this will come from City Council’s decision to take the 1% property tax increase but only for 2018. Two alleys have already been designed and are scheduled for construction in 2019.

In May, 2018, we broke ground on a new City Hall. I had personally allowed this to fall off my Mayoral Bucket List but thanks to Ms. Lindell the project was re-invigorated and has become a reality. This was envisioned and planned more

than 20 years ago as our current City Hall was past its prime even at that time. The new City Hall will improve efficiency of City employees, residents and customers by adding one stop shopping. Although it is a modest priced facility, it will be of durable construction and should be serviceable for 50 years or more.

Our residents have been requesting increased distribution of information. We have met that goal by providing a wider breadth of messaging such as Open Houses, Town Hall meetings, and an improved website. Additionally, we increased the depth of information available to the public through our monthly newsletters, social media posts and press releases. So far, I am hearing only positive responses.

We continue to move in a positive financial direction, and in 2018 we experienced another year of growth in revenues. We prioritize a 10% reserve to our general fund to guard against unexpected financial situations. This 10% reserve policy also gives added security and lower interest rates during bonding exercises.

The Council and I have identified many goals for 2019 and the following have been identified as the highest priority projects.

Tonight, Council will vote on the contract to build WWTP Phase 1 improvements then, if passed, we will begin construction immediately. There were no grants available for this project, but we will continue searching for grant funding for the next phase of improvements which will add capacity.

We are working on a water conservation program that will extend our current mitigation source needs out for 20 years. In addition to pushing the timeline for new mitigation sources, it leaves more water in the river for fish, orcas and recreation. Although it may seem extreme, this proactive measure is the right thing to do for future generations of our citizens, too. Centennial Well, through our water right, has the capacity to provide drinking water well past this time, but there may need to be other mitigation sources identified and planned for, further into the future.

City staff members are working hard to improve our transportation system to mitigate impacts from increased traffic due to development. In early 2018 we completed the long awaited Downtown Corridor and Plaza Main Street Project which resulted in functional ADA access from Bendigo Blvd. to Cedar Falls Way. Each year, the City plans to construct a significant transportation capital project. The next project on the priority list is the Park Street - North Bend Way roundabout. In 2018, the City was a successful recipient of a \$1 million grant toward this project and we anticipate breaking ground in late spring 2019. This roundabout improves public safety, reduces transportation congestion, and improves downtown walkability.

Several years ago, Council formed a new Economic Development Commission which began by studying and modifying our adopted brand to state "We are a highly livable,

small town that is the premier outdoor recreation destination in the Puget Sound region". In 2018, the commission presented a Brand Book to the Council, consisting of a set of brand filter questions to assist the City in implementing the brand and along with the City's Vision and Mission Statements will ensure that City actions are consistent with both Council policy and citizen direction. That vision has been realized by Council implementing Brand Guidelines into each significant City decision. These are now memorialized into our Agenda Bills.

One item we are working on is creation of affordable and workforce and senior housing. We know that 85% of our working population heads west every morning to work. We also know that 60% of our jobs are filled with people who drive here from south King County which has resulted in added congestion on SR-18. While we are promoting and attracting new businesses that pay living wages, we have to realize that our current tourism based businesses generally do not. And as we grow, more businesses of all kind will pop up through our city, and with that more workforce housing will be needed. As for our elders, they want to age in the community and with the friends they grew old with, and deserve the respect and accommodation to have that happen. I have taken a personal interest in these topics and intend to continue this work after I leave office.

So, what are we doing? We are now evaluating two sites in downtown North Bend for potential affordable and workforce and/or senior housing. One of these the council has seen and has given the green light to pursue it further. The other is still in the pre-concept stage and will come to a council workstudy later in the spring.

Sometimes Mother Nature interferes with our ability to perform basic government functions, and this happened at the start of 2019. City Hall was closed for 3 and a half days but the City's Emergency Operations Center was activated on February 11 and was buzzing with activity. It was the first time the City opened its EOC in 8 years. The City experienced a storm that produced several feet of snow which was preceded by 3 snow storms during the prior week. During the final storm, the City declared a State of Emergency and was assisted through the event by the regional community. After several days, the City was able clear the snow on Priority 1 roads, allowing residents to navigate main arterials. Slowly over the next couple of days, with the help of some private companies, other public agencies and many volunteers we were able to move the snow from all the city streets. So many people helped out, I can't possibly thank them all tonight. But a big Thank You goes out to all of you that helped. It truly was Snowmageddon 2019.

One of my greatest pleasures as Mayor has been to choose the recipient for the citizen of the year award. The 2018 award winner Burt Mann shared his incredible life story during a "standing room only" City Council meeting. There was not a dry eye in the house when he stood to receive his truly well deserved award. So many people enjoy seeing Walking Burt on North Bend Way and listening to his positive outlook on life. Burt is an inspiration to me, and to us all.

It has been my deepest pleasure and privilege to serve this community as your Mayor for nearly 16 years. As many of you know, this will be my last year serving you. It has been a wild ride with many ups and downs (mostly ups) and I look forward to passing the torch to the next lucky person who accepts this responsibility.

I have tremendously enjoyed collaborating with this City Council and each of the prior Councils. Much was accomplished, but more good work awaits. I am proud to work with City staff. Each and every one is extremely dedicated to their work and their profession, committed to the public, and focused on making North Bend a place that is “Easy to Reach... Hard to Leave.”

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Commission

A report of the February 28th and March 14th meeting was provided.

Parks Commission

A report of the February 28th meeting was provided.

Economic Development Commission – Councilmember Kostanich, Chair

No report. The next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2019.

Community & Economic Development Committee – Councilmember Rosen, Chair

A report of the March 19th meeting was provided.

Finance & Administration Committee – Councilmember Elwood, Chair

A report of the February 5th meeting was provided.

Public Health & Safety Committee – Councilmember Gothelf, Chair

No report. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2019.

Transportation & Public Works Committee – Councilmember Garcia, Chair

A report of the February 26th meeting was provided.

Council Workstudy – Mayor Pro Tem Kostanich

A report of the February 26th Regular Workstudy and March 12th Special Workstudy was provided.

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board Meeting – Councilmember Gothelf

A report of the March 14th board meeting was provided.

INTRODUCTIONS:

**AB19-041 – Public Hearing, Resolution 1876 Adopting Brand
Implementation Guidelines**

Audio: 33:52

Economic Development Manager Hyde provided the staff report.

Mayor Hearing opened the Public Hearing on a Resolution Adopting Brand Implementation Guidelines at 7:36 p.m. There was no public comment and Mayor Hearing closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Councilmember Volken **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Rosen to approve AB19-041, a resolution adopting the North Bend Brand Implementation Guidelines.

Councilmember Rosen **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to amend page 10 of the Brand Implementation Guidelines by changing the terms “Mountain Culture” to “Outdoor Culture” and “Mountain Lifestyle” to “Outdoor Lifestyle”. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

The main motion then **PASSED AS AMENDED** 7-0.

AB19-042 – Resolution 1877 Adopting Tennant Trailhead Park Master Plan Audio: 47:47

Economic Development Manager Hyde provided the staff report.

Councilmember Rosen **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB19-042, a resolution adopting the Tennant Trailhead Master Plan. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB19-043 – Resolution Renaming Certain Streets Audio: 57:47

Long Range Planner Reynolds provided the staff report.

The following individual commented on the agenda item:

Steve Collins, 13407 432nd Ave. SE

Mayor Hearing announced the agenda item would be remanded back to the Community & Economic Development Council Committee for additional discussion.

AB19-044 – Resolution 1878 Awarding WWTP HPI Phase 1 Project Audio: 1:13:58

City Engineer DeBerg provided the staff report.

Councilmember Garcia **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Loudenback to approve AB19-044, a resolution accepting bids and awarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant High Priority Improvements project to McClure and Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$8,938,403.10. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

**AB19-045 – Motion Authorizing Contract with G&O for WWTP HPI
Project Construction Management**

Audio: 1:19:34

City Engineer DeBerg provided the staff report.

Councilmember Garcia **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to approve AB19-045, authorizing a contract with Gray and Osborne, Inc. to provide construction management services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant High Priority Improvements project, in a form and content acceptable to the City Attorney, in an amount not to exceed \$754,622.00. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

**AB19-046 – Motion Authorizing Contract with QCC for Programming
Services**

Audio: 1:25:06

City Engineer DeBerg provided the staff report.

Councilmember Garcia **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Gothelf to approve AB19-046, authorizing a contract with Quality Controls Corporation for programming services required for the Wastewater Treatment Plant High Priority Improvements project, in a form and content acceptable to the City Attorney, in the amount of \$68,890.00. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

AB19-047 – Motion Authorizing Contract with PSE for Relight Program

Audio: 1:28:37

Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Councilmember Garcia **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Loudenback to approve AB19-047, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with PSE for the Relight Washington Program Phase 1, in a form and content acceptable to the City Attorney. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:

Councilmember Garcia mentioned North Bend Elementary School was hosting a Bingo event on March 21st. He thanked audience members that attended the meeting tonight and requested all to exercise caution while driving in areas where children are present.

Councilmember Volken mentioned the multi-agency collaborative effort that helped to establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Site. He noted the 1.2-million-acre site was one of fifty-four sites in the Country to achieve such designation.

Councilmember Elwood encouraged all to attend Valley Center Stage's production of "The Seafarer" which is set to open on March 29th.

Councilmember Kostanich commented on the large agenda at tonight’s meeting and thanked staff for all of their hard work.

Acting City Administrator Rigos thanked Council for their support of the Wastewater Treatment Plant High Priority Improvement Project Phase 1 and acknowledged City Engineer DeBerg’s efforts on the project.

Mayor Hearing spoke regarding the following items:

- Sips, Suds & Si – Saturday, March 30th – 5 p.m. at the North Bend Depot
- Planning Commission Vacancies
- Yard Waste Recycling Program – Saturday, April 20th 8 a.m. to Noon @ PW
- Volunteer Opportunities at the Mt Si Senior Center
- Volunteer Opportunities with the Festival at Mt Si Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Hearing recessed the regular meeting for an Executive Session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss potential litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). No action was anticipated as a result of the Executive Session, which was expected to last thirty minutes and videotaping of the meeting ceased.

At 9:10 p.m. Deputy City Administrator/Finance Director Masko announced to audience members outside the Council Chambers that the Executive Session was expected to last an additional hour.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Volken **MOVED** to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Garcia. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kenneth G. Hearing, Mayor

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk