

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 5, 2021

Virtual Meeting

City Hall, 920 SE Cedar Falls Way, North Bend, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:

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

Councilmembers Present: Elwood, Garcia, Gothelf, Koellen, Loudenback, Miller and Rosen.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – Council Meeting of November 17, 2020, Council Workstudy of November 24, 2020 & Council Meeting of December 1, 2020

Payroll – December 4, 2020 – 28234 through 28241, in the amount of **\$275,113.84**

December 18, 2020 – 28242 through 28248, in the amount of **\$230,855.90**

Checks – December 15, 2020 – 70035 through 70095, in the amount of **\$568,036.43**

December 31, 2020 – 70096 through 70154, in the amount of **\$283,739.40**

January 5, 2021 – 70155 through 70162, in the amount of **\$479,086.22**

AB21-001 – Motion Authorizing Amendment to City Attorney Contract

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS:

Proclamation – National Mentoring Month

Audio: 2:23

Mayor McFarland read a proclamation declaring January 2021 as National Mentoring Month in the City of North Bend. Kathy Hyland from Snoqualmie Valley Community Network was on hand to accept the proclamation.

AB21-002 – 2021 Council Standing Committee Appointments

Audio: 9:48

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia proposed the following 2021 Council Committee appointments for Council's consideration:

Community & Economic Development Committee:

Chair – Councilmember Miller

Members – Councilmember Elwood, Councilmember Rosen

Budget, Finance & Administration Committee:

Chair – Councilmember Gothelf

Members – Councilmember Elwood, Councilmember Rosen

Public Health & Safety Committee:

Chair – Councilmember Koellen

Members – Councilmember Gothelf, Councilmember Loudenback

Transportation & Public Works Committee:

Chair – Councilmember Loudenback

Members – Councilmember Koellen, Councilmember Miller

Councilmember Garcia **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB21-002 confirming the 2021 appointments to the Council’s Standing Committees. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

INTRODUCTIONS:

AB21-003 – Motion Authorizing Collective Bargaining Agreement for Public Works Employees

Audio: 11:22

City Attorney Lindell provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB21-003, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Teamsters covering Public Works employees. The motion **PASSED** 5-2 (Gothelf, Rosen).

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:

Councilmember Loudenback mentioned Governor Inslee’s news conference earlier in the day related to the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked the community for their continued compliance of public health guidelines regarding the pandemic and encouraged all to continue supporting first responders. He concluded by wishing everyone a happy new year.

Councilmember Miller commented she was hopeful, positive and looking forward to a productive new year and encouraged all to continue taking care of themselves and each other during the pandemic.

Councilmember Gothelf noted the number of people contracting COVID-19 continues to rise in the Snoqualmie Valley and that currently vaccine efforts were underway for first responders and health care workers. He commented on the slow and problematic distribution of the vaccine and expressed a desire to see a quicker and more convenient immunization effort for Washington State.

Councilmember Koellen thanked residents for their continued efforts to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and commented that according to the CDC Washington State has one of the lowest rates of COVID-19 cases in the country. She noted that the University of Washington’s vaccination program for health care workers was running smoothly and encouraged all to get vaccinated as soon as they could.

Councilmember Elwood commented on the recent news out of Los Angeles relating to hospitals having to turn patients away because they were overburdened with COVID-19 patients and stressed the need for all to remain strong, stay safe and not succumb to COVID-19 fatigue.

Councilmember Rosen reiterated fellow Councilmember’s comments regarding the pandemic and wished everyone a happy new year.

Councilmember Garcia thanked City Attorney Lindell for her service to the City and commented on the excellent legal service provided by Kenyon Disend. He noted COVID-19 cases were high in North Bend and encouraged continued diligence in adhering to public health guidelines. Additionally, he noted a City Council Retreat would be held via Zoom online of Tuesday, January 26th and wished all a safe and happy new year.

City Administrator Miller reported the Executive Team was working on a list of priorities for the year and they looked forward to Council input and a subsequent work plan. Additionally, he commented on the proposed hotel project and Army National Guard Readiness Center project.

Mayor McFarland spoke regarding the following items:

- Governor Inslee’s Healthy Washington – Road to Recovery Program
- Increase of COVID-19 cases in North Bend
- Free COVID-19 Testing at Bellevue College Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- WA Notify Smartphone Application – COVID-19 exposure notification tool
- Downtown Holiday Lights to remain through February 28, 2021

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Loudenback **MOVED** to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Elwood. The motion **PASSED** 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

Rob McFarland, Mayor

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk