

**CITY OF NORTH BEND
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORKSTUDY NOTES**

March 1, 2022

Virtual Meeting

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

Acting Mayor Pro Tem Elwood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Brenden Elwood, Mark Joselyn, Heather Koellen, Ross Loudenback and Mary Miller were present. Councilmembers Alan Gothelf and Jonathan Rosen were excused.

Staff Present: Mayor Rob McFarland, City Administrator David Miller, City Attorney Lisa Marshall, Deputy City Administrator/Finance Director Dawn Masko, Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Mark Rigos, Community & Economic Development Director Rebecca Deming, City Engineer Don DeBerg, Interim Communications Manager Bre Keveren, Human Resources Assistant/Emergency Management Coordinator Erin Mitchell and City Clerk Susie Oppedal.

Snow Response

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos discussed the following elements the City could modify in the future related to level of service during a snow event:

- Staffing (adding more staff, utilizing WWTP staff, ILAs with Si View MPD or other municipalities)
- Equipment (increase replacement schedule)
- Snowplow Blades (uses and types – steel, rubber, ceramic)
- Pavement Management (various snow removal techniques and longevity)
- Sand, Salt, Chemicals (Anti-Icers and De-Icers), Storage, Environment, Safe Drinking Water (increase salt to sand ratio, safer deicers and associated storage, issues with chemical deicers)
- Desired Level of Service for Snow Response (10, 20 or 50 year snow event)

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos recommended utilizing ceramic blades for future snow events and noted that the City of Kirkland currently uses ceramic blades with great success. Additionally, he recommended a more frequent snowplow replacement schedule of twenty years as opposed to the current frequency of every twenty-five to thirty years.

Council comments were as follows: Use/longevity of ceramic blades and other types of blades, ILAs and contracts for snow removal assistance, chemical deicers' effects on snow, use of metal snowplow blades on streets and roundabouts, WSDOT snow removal

techniques, increases in staffing and limiting factors of using WWTP staff for plowing, effects of increased salt ratio, Snoqualmie vs. North Bend snow response, Equipment Replacement Fund, implementation and associated cost of safe deicer (Calcium Magnesium Acetate), changes to snow removal techniques and/or policy as a result of the recent snowstorm, staff training techniques/opportunities, 10-20 year snow event vs. 50 year event, and updated mapping of snow plow routes to include new City streets.

Council expressed support for Mr. Rigos's suggestion regarding the addition of ceramic blades and, if financially possible, to increase the frequency of snowplow replacement.

Adjournment

The workstudy closed at 6:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

Brenden Elwood, Councilmember

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk