

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL
MEETING**

**February 1, 2008 - 5:30 P.M.
February 2, 2008 - 8:00 A.M.**

RETREAT MINUTES

City of



The City of Bonney Lake's Mission is to protect the community's livable identity and scenic beauty through responsible growth planning and by providing accountable, accessible and efficient local government services.
Website: www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us

"Where Dreams Can Soar"

Friday, February 1, 2008 – At Cedar Ridge Retirement Center, 9515 198th Ave. E. Bonney Lake (3rd Floor TV Lounge)

I. CALL TO ORDER — Mayor Neil Johnson

Mayor Johnson called the Council retreat to order at 5:30 p.m. In attendance were the following elected officials: Mayor Neil Johnson, Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember David Bowen, Councilmember Laurie Carter, Councilmember Dan Decker, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember David King and Councilmember James Rackley.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison and Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson.

II. DISCUSSION TOPICS

A. Statement of Councilmember Interests.

Councilmember Hamilton spoke first and identified his interests as transportation issues on the Plateau and the pending development of the South Plateau; the development of recreational parks and the completion of the Fennel Creek Trail; completion of the development of the Allen York Park Annex property; enhanced security for schools; pursuit of the downtown plan with the development of clear direction and a timeline, enlisting the help of a specific facilitator or project manager to lead this complex project.

Councilmember King suggested the Council needs to focus on projects that will be successful within the next few years. He added the importance of maintaining a healthy and competitive work environment for the City's employees.

Deputy Mayor Swatman said he looks forward to a conclusion on the WSU and Fennel Creek Trail properties. He said the City needs to define itself, and not be just the leftover of what Cascadia may become. He urged the Council and administration to increase the public buy-in on proposed projects. Deputy Mayor Swatman also identified the annexation of the Comprehensive Urban Growth Area (CUGA) as a key interest.

Councilmember Rackley said the City has developed a number of plans to take care of the ongoing maintenance of the City's infrastructure, but now needs to fund those plans. He also favors the annexation of the CUGA in the near future. He encouraged the City to keep up with the development of smaller parks within the neighborhoods. Councilmember Rackley urged the City to find a permanent solution to the water quality of Lake Bonney. He also expressed interest in the resolution of the WSU Forest and Fennel Creek Corridor issues.

Councilmember Decker said his interests include increasing the height of the condos being constructed next to Allan Yorke Park to include parking in the lower levels that might be used as paid parking for users of Allan Yorke Park. He also advocated the City's incorporation of some of the area's private parks into the City park system. Councilmember Decker advocated

abandoning the “big box” mentality of commercial development in favor of smaller businesses. He suggested the City adjust its impact fees, believing the current level of impact fees hinder small entrepreneurs from locating in the City. He felt the City could do more projects at less expense by using its own workforce rather than contracting out so frequently.

Councilmember Bowen spoke in favor of more long-term planning to define the City’s future. He addressed concerns about continued expansion and development of Highway 410 and its continued roadblock to north-south connectivity. He spoke in favor of studying the possibility of using membrane wastewater treatment plants and water reuse programs in the CUGA. He also felt more studies should be conducted using City staff. Councilmember Bowen suggested the relocation of West Tapps Highway and the expansion of the dike at Allen Yorke Park for recreation purposes. He also felt the City should look at property foreclosures to develop more pocket parks in neighborhoods without nearby park facilities.

Councilmember Carter said she would like to see either a water park or an amphitheatre developed on the Moriarty property at Allan Yorke Park. She is also interested in the acquisition and planning for more parks in the south CUGA area. She noted the need to protect Lake Bonney and the implementation of special storm water facilities for streets in some area. She articulated the need for development of the Rhodes Lake Road transportation corridor and greater use of mass transit. Councilmember Carter urged the Council to stay the course with the development of the Downtown Plan. She urged the development of sewer plans for Cascadia and the CUGA, and the study of impacts to Fennel Creek and other creeks on the Plateau. She spoke of the need for a YMCA or other youth center for the City, the development of the Fennel Creek Trail, and the possible implementation of a youth citizen academy for the Police Department. She also spoke in support of more employee and citizen recognition and team building opportunities and programs. Councilmember Carter also expressed interest in more public art and the addition of an Arts Commission to the City’s Boards and Commissions.

B. Discussion Topics

Review and Confirm the Council Vision. Councilmembers felt comfortable with the Overall Vision as written. Councilmember Rackley felt the wording of the Growth Vision should be reworked. Councilmember Hamilton said relative to the Community Outreach Vision that he would like to see the City move toward a webcast of the Council meetings.

Ongoing Council Goals. City Administrator Morrison invited the Council to participate in an exercise of “tabbing” components of the Ongoing Council Goals from 2007 to see if there is a consensus to focus on individual issues. At the conclusion of the exercise where Councilmembers placed up to five dots next to the individual goals, the three elements receiving the most consensus votes were... 1) increased funding to implement the non-motorized transportation plan...2) study the implications of CUGA annexation...3) build a small piece of the Fennel Creek Trail and increase recreational programming in the south of the City. The Council also discussed the status of the salary commission and possible salary changes for the Mayor and Council. At the City Administrator’s suggestion, the Council chose to defer further discussion until the listed agenda topic on Saturday.

C. Dinner Meeting

At approximately 7:45 p.m., the Council reconvened at Al Lago Ristorante, 3110 Sumner Tapps Hwy E., Lake Tapps, WA, and continued informal discussion of the retreat topics.

Saturday, February 2, 2008 – At Tacoma Courtyard Marriott – 1515 Commerce St., Tacoma, WA – Mt. Tahoma Room.

III. CALL TO ORDER

At the conclusion of an informal breakfast, Mayor Johnson called the Council retreat to order at 8:35 a.m. In attendance were the following elected officials: Mayor Neil Johnson, Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember David Bowen, Councilmember Laurie Carter, Councilmember Dan Decker, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember David King. Councilmember James Rackley was absent due to illness.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Planning and Community Development Director John Vodopich, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Judge Doug Haake, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, Court Administrator Kathy Seymour and Assistant Police Chief Dana Hubbard.

IV. COUNCIL STRATEGY SESSIONS

- A. Growth Strategy Sessions. Pursuant to the previous evening's discussion about the salary commission, City Administrator Morrison reported the actions of the salary commission are subject to referendum if the public feels they have acted improperly. After further Council discussion on whether or not salary commission members should be appointed, there was a consensus to ask the City Attorney to look at whether the Council can impact elected officials salaries independent of a salary commission. They asked that the issue be brought back to a future workshop for report and discussion.
1. CUGA Annexation – The Council discussed some of the anticipated impacts of a large annexation to the south of the City. The question was raised whether the timeframe for the sales tax credit program on annexations over 10,000 in population was for a period of 10 years from the time the program was authorized by the state, or ten years from the time of an annexation? City Administrator Morrison said the issue will be researched for an answer. He noted that the proposal to do a joint annexation study with the County has not received a response. A consensus majority of the Council supported moving forward with an annexation study of the south CUGA area to better understand the impacts of such an action. The Council also briefly discussed the northern CUGA area. Mayor Johnson mentioned a recent meeting with Sumner and Auburn at which possible expansion of all cities into parts of the CUGA was discussed.
 2. CUGA Sewer Service Strategy – The City Council discussed the impact of Cascadia on sewer development in the City's southern sewer service area and in the southern CUGA. Staff noted that a sewer service study is under discussion with the County. A majority of Councilmembers reiterated their desire to have the City of Bonney Lake be the sewer service provider for the south plateau area.
 3. Transportation Funding Options and Strategies – City Administrator Morrison discussed a chart describing additional revenue sources to pay for transportation needs in the City based on the possible development of a Transportation Benefit District. He added that without additional revenue sources, some major road projects will be put on hold. He acknowledged that impact fees will allow some roadway

development to occur. Councilmembers felt this would be a good topic for citizen input at the upcoming town hall meetings in the individual Council wards. The Council requested a list or map of projects by ward be made available for the town hall meetings.

4. Downtown Plan Implementation Strategy and Guideline – after a break for lunch, the City Council discussed the proposed Interim Justice Center and options for development of the facility. Municipal Court Judge Haake discussed some of the needs of the Court to improve their operations. City Administrator Morrison also discussed scenarios for the repayment of the current civic center bonds.

The City Council discussed their feelings regarding the use of eminent domain for the acquisition of remaining parcels needed for the civic center development. There was a majority consensus that eminent domain should be a tool to acquire needed properties when negotiated purchase efforts have been exhausted.

5. Emergency Dispatch and 800 MHz Communications – The Council next discussed the current state of a proposal to enter into agreement with the City of Puyallup for public safety dispatch services. City Administrator Morrison noted the City had received proposals from Puyallup and the Law Enforcement Support Agency (LESA). He said the proposal from Puyallup seemed to best match the City’s needs and had the potential of making the City of Bonney Lake a partner rather than just a contract agency. The impacts to Sumner, the current provider, were discussed. After further discussion, there was a majority consensus to support the administration’s continued discussions with Puyallup for the change in dispatch services.
6. WSU Forest and Fennel Creek – The City Council inquired about the current state of affairs with WSU Forest and Fennel Creek properties. Mayor Johnson assured Council that negotiations continue and may be at a point where they can be discussed with the Council in about 6 weeks. City Administrator Morrison reported staff continues to pursue all available grants for purchase of parcels for the Fennel Creek trail and other projects within the City.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION

- A. Joint Meetings with Other Councils. Councilmembers expressed the desire for more meetings with other local Councils to discuss topics of mutual interest. Mayor Johnson took note that the first, second and fourth Thursdays seemed to be the best dates in the month for such a meeting. He said he will pursue the topic with the mayors of other local cities.
- B. Webcast of Council Meetings. Councilmember Hamilton raised the issue of streaming live Council meeting video. There was a consensus to ask those participating in the town hall meetings if providing streaming video or televising Council meetings would be of benefit to them.
- C. Citizen Recognition. Councilmember Carter asked about the possibility of reinstating citizen-of-the-month recognitions. Mayor Johnson said he would like to get more community members involved in city government through recognition, but does not want such recognitions to become commonplace. He said he will work on additional programs of recognition for residents in the community.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

By common consent, the City Council adjourned their special meeting at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk

Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr.