

**CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP**

**April 20, 2010
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES



"Where Dreams Can Soar"

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

Audio Time
Stamp ↓

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 19306 Bonney Lake Blvd., Bonney Lake.

I. Call to Order: Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. called the workshop to order at 5:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call: [A13]

Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Laurie Carter, Councilmember Dan Decker, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember Randy McKibbin and Councilmember James Rackley.

[Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Community Development Director John Vodopich, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Police Chief Mike Mitchell, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Community Services Director Gary Leaf, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, City Attorney Jim Dionne and Records & Information Specialist Susan Duis.]

III. Agenda Items:

5:33:02

A. Council Open Discussion:

City Property: Councilmember Hamilton asked about the status of city-owned property on 192nd at Sumner-Buckley Hwy. He said the City purchased the property about 6 years previous with plans for a City Hall, but never used it. Mayor Johnson said the City is currently negotiating with D & S properties to purchase the Kelly Farm, including the thumb-shaped area that is currently not part of the City. The proposal may include the sale of the City's property on 192nd St E as part of the agreement. Mayor Johnson said that based on the original purchase and sale agreement, the previous owners can purchase the property back at this point, but the City is working on a possible agreement that would include transferring this land as part of an agreement for the City to purchase Kelly Farm. Councilmember Carter said she has seen evidence that people are dumping yard waste and other items on the city-owned property. Mayor Johnson said he would have staff clean up the site.

Community Groups: Councilmember Carter attended the Bonney Lake Lions Club's 'Death by Chocolate' fundraising event on April 17th. She said the Lions Club thanked the City for its support. She said the White River School District Families First Coalition has also thanked the Council for its support. The next Families First Coalition Community Summit is scheduled for May 24th at 4:00 p.m.

Glass Art Panels: Councilmember Carter asked if Councilmembers had a chance to see the panels that staff recently picked up. Councilmembers selected several panels and asked that the others be returned to the South Hill Community Council.

Councilmember Carter said the designs are available at no cost, and the City could pay to have new panels etched to replace those that are damaged or unavailable.

Historical Art Print: Councilmember Carter showed the Council the art print available from local artist Hulan Fleming, which depicts the intersection at Sumner-Buckley Hwy and Main St E facing the site of the new Interim Justice Center. She said the painting was made in 1950 and would cost about \$400. She displayed photographs supplied by Historical Society members Fred and Winona Jacobsen, which show how the area looked in those years. Mayor Johnson said he has directed the City Administrator to purchase the painting.

Parks Appreciation Day & Arbor Day: Councilmember Carter said the yearly event is on Saturday, April 24th. Volunteers will work to clean up the WSU Forest area.

Water Supply to Auburn: Mayor Johnson confirmed that the City is no longer providing water to Auburn. Director Grigsby said Auburn is again using their own water supply, though they have projects planned later in the year and may need to purchase water from Bonney Lake again later on. Mayor Johnson said the cities agreed on a water purchase price and Auburn has made payment.

Park Board: Councilmember Carter attended the April 12th Park Board Meeting. Members discussed options to have a citizen survey on park services, identifying a site for a veteran's memorial, and the Heritage Tree application process. She said the Park Board would like to get direction from the Council on these and other issues. She noted that board agendas, minutes and audio are available online.

Sewer Fees: Councilmember Rackley said the Finance Committee has discussed a proposed increase to grinder pump fees, and members were in favor of moving a fee increase forward.

Reed Property: Councilmember Hamilton suggested the Council set up a visit to the recently purchased Reed property. City Administrator Morrison said under the agreement, the Reed family can continue living at the house through June 3, 2010 and suggested waiting to set up a tour until after that date. Councilmembers agreed that a tour should be set up some time after that date.

Pierce Transit: Deputy Mayor Swatman noted that Mayor Johnson participated in a recent meeting between city leaders about transit issues. He said it seems some cities are interested and the City should pursue the option for a conference. Mayor Johnson said City Attorney Kathleen Haggard has done some preliminary research and provided information to Councilmembers. City Attorney Dionne said the intent would be to change the boundaries of the RTA benefit district, and then to create some other public transportation district for Bonney Lake. Swatman asked how cities could gather funds, since State law allows only one transit agency in a county.

Mayor Johnson said he plans to gather more information from staff and the City Attorney on how to move forward with options. Deputy Mayor Swatman said Pierce Transit is focused on service for the greater Tacoma area, not outlying communities. Councilmember Carter said Pierce Transit's various proposals for cutting service are not viable. Councilmember Hamilton said setting up a transit system is very complicated. Mayor Johnson said many options are available, such as on-call and/or

private contractor services, etc. City Administrator Morrison said Pierce Transit sent an invitation to the City earlier in the day to discuss proposed system cuts and changes on May 5, 2010.

5:53:25

B. **Review of Draft Council Minutes:** April 6, 2010 Workshop and April 13, 2010 Meeting.

Councilmember Carter corrected p. 2 of the April 6, 2010 minutes to reflect that the increase in Food Bank visits has gone up 60%, not 66%. On the April 13, 2010 minutes, she noted that the Public Safety Committee reviewed the municipal code related to animal control. Councilmember Lewis noted typographical errors on these minutes as well. The corrected minutes were forwarded to the April 27, 2010 Council Meeting for action.

5:55:34

C. **Discussion:** AB10-74 – Ordinance D10-74 – Ordinance Updating the Sign Code to Allow for Civic and Non-profit Signs in the Right of Way.

Mayor Johnson said the proposed ordinance is based on input from the public and local businesses, and offers an option for non-profit and civic groups to post signs in the right-of-way short-term. He said he wanted to provide an option for civic and non-profit groups to post signs in the near future, but recognizes that further amendments to the sign code will need to be reviewed by the Planning Commission and Council in more depth. Director Vodopich noted that the proposed ordinance limits the total number and size of signs, requires written notification to the City 10 days prior to posting, and allows signs to be posted for up to 30 days before the event and 5 days after the event.

Councilmembers discussed the proposed limit on the number of signs allowed the length of posting. Council consensus was to amend the proposed ordinance to allow civic and non-profit signs to be posted for two weeks prior to the event and to be removed within 48 hours after the event.

Councilmember Carter said the sign code should have different criteria for different parts of the City, where traffic speeds and access affect the type of signs that are effective. Councilmember Hamilton noted that the City does not control the right-of-way on SR 410 and signs cannot be placed there regardless of what the City's code states. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he feels the signs should be allowed only in specific areas of the City, and that it will be difficult to enforce an ordinance that requires a certain number of signs.

Director Vodopich said the current code allows civic institutions to post signs on their own property only, not on private citizens' properties. Mayor Johnson said the code could be revised to allow private citizens to post signs on their property to support non-profit and civic groups, rather than in the right-of-way.

City Attorney Dionne confirmed that the proposed ordinance does not need to be reviewed by the Planning Commission and can be acted on by Council at the next meeting. He said if the Council chooses to review the entire sign code, the changes must to go through the Planning Commission and County review processes first.

Mayor Johnson said the full sign code will be an item for discussion at a future workshop. He asked Councilmembers to review the Chamber of Commerce meeting minutes that were provided via email. The proposed ordinance was forwarded to the April 27th Council Meeting for action.

6:17:25

D. **Discussion:** AB10-76 – CUGA Annexation Process, Alternatives and Timing.

City Administrator Morrison said various groups and Homeowner's Associations have asked the City to consider annexing them into the City. The City has completed an annexation study to inventory the area and get data required for the application. He explained several options to move forward with annexation. A new option is available if the City, Fire District and County agree on annexation and sign an interlocal agreement, which would bypass the Boundary Review Board and special election process if all parties can agree. He said the County has had issues with the latter plan and does not support the City's plans to annex the area.

City Administrator Morrison described other options, such as the petition method or setting a special election by Council Resolution. He said the process includes public hearings, review by the Boundary Review Board, and setting a special election in February 2011 or later. He said it is better to have the election certified by May so the newly annexed area can be placed on the tax rolls for the next year. He noted that residential areas cost more for the County to provide services than they bring in from tax revenues.

The City Administrator said residents in the proposed annexation area will receive more services after annexation than they currently get from the County, but it will take a few years to bring some services up to the same level that current City residents have. He said the City can coordinate a pre-annexation agreement with the County regarding the process, but must get County support.

Deputy Mayor Swatman said the annexation process is very complex, but he feels it is vitally important for the City to move forward and to provide services to these residents. He said it is a very good time for annexation, since future development on Plateau 465 will provide revenue for future infrastructure needs. He and Councilmember Rackley spoke in favor of moving forward and placing the annexation issue on a future special election ballot. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he is in favor of annexing areas 1, 2, and 3 in the annexation study, but not Cascadia.

Councilmember Hamilton expressed concern about considering annexation currently, especially if the City will have to phase in services such as public safety for annexed areas. He said one reason people usually want to annex into the City is for police service, noting that the City has 1.7 officers per 1,000 people and the County only has 0.6 per 1,000. He stressed that the City needs to provide full police protection on the first day of annexation. He also expressed concern about the cost to add new staff and about the additional space in facilities needed for expansion. Councilmember Hamilton said he also wants to ensure that existing City services are not degraded or reduced because of annexation.

City Administrator Morrison said while emergency dispatch services would be set at the same level as other parts of the City, some other public safety services such as traffic patrols, community events, code enforcement, and officer-initiated activities

can be phased in over time. He said available building space is an issue, but automation and modern technology helps reduce the amount of space needed somewhat. He said the City needs to carefully review Police staffing levels, service request data, and other criteria to ensure the City can provide adequate public safety services in the annexed area.

Councilmember Rackley said he feels confident that the economy is improving and the City will be able to meet the needs of annexed areas. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he is comfortable with the timeline and ability of staff to provide information and prepare the City for the transition. He noted that increasing the number of Police Officers should actually improve service for the City as a whole.

Councilmembers Carter, Decker and Lewis expressed concerns about pursuing annexation at this time. Councilmember Carter said she is concerned about the economy, County issues, and potential negative impacts to staff including public safety, court, and code enforcement staff. She also said it will require expenses for infrastructure, parks upgrades, etc.

Councilmember Hamilton said there are positive aspects to annexation, including the possibility for a new MBR sewer treatment plant, gaining an 80-acre county park, and new revenue sources. Deputy Mayor Swatman said annexation requires a two to three-year timeline, giving the City plenty of time to consider the issues and decide whether to hold an election. He said the County will be even less likely to favor the City's annexation plans when the economy recovers and the plateau area is being actively developed.

Councilmember Hamilton said the Council should review the master plan for Plateau 465 and hold formal talks with the County. Councilmembers Hamilton and Carter asked for additional information on how annexation will affect Police and Court staffing and services, as well as MBR plant options, and continuing discussions.

City Administrator Morrison said he recently viewed the Bonney Lake area from an airplane, and from above the potential annexation areas look as if they are part of a single community. He said these areas share the same schools, sewer and water services, and shopping, and he feels they should become part of the City. Mayor Johnson said discussions will continue at a future workshop.

At 7:21 p.m., Mayor Johnson recessed the workshop for a five-minute break. The workshop reconvened at 7:28 p.m.

7:28:55

- E. **Discussion:** AB10-75 – Ordinance D10-75 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Bonney Lake, Pierce County, Washington, Amending Chapter 2.20 of the Bonney Lake and Section 2 of Ordinance No. 1213 Relating to the Park Board.

Mayor Johnson said he initiated the proposed ordinance and wanted Council input. The Park Board has two current vacancies, and it is often difficult for the City to fill vacant positions. He said the Park Board has also expressed a desire for more Council input. He said the proposed ordinance changes the Park Board membership to five members, reduces terms to two years, and includes a Councilmember to serve as a non-voting member, and the Mayor to serve as a non-voting chair.

Deputy Mayor Swatman agreed that the board needs more direct contact with the Council and supported having the Mayor chair meetings. He suggested the Councilmember serving on the Park Board be regularly rotated. City Attorney Dionne said he has not fully reviewed the ordinance but advised that the Mayor could participate but should not serve as a voting member. He said if a Councilmember serves on the Park Board it could blur the distinction between boards and council committees. Councilmembers stressed that the Mayor and Councilmember on the Board should be non-voting members. Mayor Johnson confirmed that he did not intend the Mayor and Councilmember to have voting positions on the Board.

Councilmember Carter, who previously served on the Park Board, said she feels three-year terms are appropriate. She cited MRSC guidance that all advisory boards and commissions should have a work plan and rules for coordination with staff and Council. She said board and commission members may become future councilmembers or mayors and it is important to give them support and guidance. She said the Council should set up uniform standards for all boards and commissions, not just the Park Board.

Councilmembers expressed support for a five-member Park Board. Councilmember Hamilton questioned whether both the Mayor and a Councilmember should attend all meetings, and cautioned that they could have undue influence on the board discussions and actions. Deputy Mayor Swatman said it is important for the Board to have a better understanding of how the Council works, as well.

Mayor Johnson suggested that the Park Board have a work plan (similar to the Planning Commission work plan) that is regularly reviewed and updated by the Council. Councilmembers spoke in favor of creating a Park Board work plan.

Deputy Mayor Swatman suggested that the code does not need to be revised, and the Board could simply continue with five members and the Board could invite the Mayor to chair meetings. City Attorney Dionne confirmed that the Park Board rules are not formal and they can manage their meetings as they see fit. Mayor Johnson said he will attend the next Park Board meeting and discuss options with the current members, and report to the Council on the results.

7:52:51

- F. **Discussion:** AB10-60 – Resolution 2023 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Bonney Lake, Pierce County, Washington authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Interlocal Agreement with Pierce County for Certain Amendments to the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies as Recommended by the Pierce County Regional Council.

Director Vodopich said the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) asks cities to consider their recommended amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies. Deputy Mayor Swatman noted the City has not approved past amendments, and smaller Cities like Bonney Lake have little say in the PCRC policies since the County and Tacoma generally have the majority vote. The proposed ordinance was forwarded to the April 27, 2010 Meeting for action.

7:55:53

- G. **Discussion:** AB10-63 – Resolution 2025 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Bonney Lake, Pierce County, Washington, Authorizing an Agreement with

Bonney Lake Community Resources (Bonney Lake Food Bank) to Operate a Community Garden on City Property from May 2010 Until April 2011.

Director Leaf said he has been working with the Food Bank for nearly a year on an agreement for a community garden. The proposed trial garden is located at 18424 89th St E, next to the Lions 4 Kids house. Under the proposed agreement, the Food Bank will manage the garden and use up to 50% of the space. The remaining space will be available to citizens for free use, and the Food Bank will manage the entire garden. He said this is a one-year trial project, and after a year, the City can consider options for a permanent site. Director Leaf said in the agreement, the City will provide water but the Food Bank and other users will prepare, manage and monitor the garden. He said the City has a very good history working with the Food Bank, who has managed the Snack Shack at Allen Yorke Park in past years.

Director Leaf said citizens can submit a garden plot request form to the City. City Administrator Morrison said the plot application form includes a liability waiver. He said the City has moved quickly to get the agreement signed since the growing season has started. He noted that information on the garden will be in the current issue of the Bonney Lake Reporter, which is printed in the Courier-Herald newspaper.

Deputy Mayor Swatman said he is excited to see the project move forward.

Food Bank Director Stew Bowen was invited to speak. He said he is concerned that people will be confused since garden plot applications come to the City, but the Food Bank manages the garden. Mayor Johnson said the intent was for the City to collect applications and select plot recipients at random. He said the City will direct citizens to work with the Food Bank after that point. City Administrator Morrison said the City form will help defer complaints during plot selection, since there may be more applicants than available plots. He said the City will assign plots at random. Mr. Bowen said he plans to set up 6' wide by 12' wide garden plots to make the most efficient use of space in the raised beds. Mr. Bowen asked the Council whether they would be willing to take action the proposed Resolution at the current workshop so his group can start working on the garden immediately.

Councilmember Rackley moved to suspend the Council rules and to consider Resolution 2025. Councilmember Lewis seconded the motion.

Motion to suspend the rules approved 7 – 0.

Councilmember Rackley moved to approve Resolution 2025. Councilmember Decker seconded the motion.

Resolution 2025 approved 7 – 0.

IV. **Executive Session:** None.

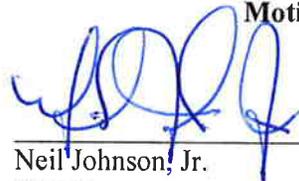
8:12:14

V. **Adjournment:**

At 8:12 p.m., Councilmember Rackley moved to adjourn the workshop. Councilmember Decker seconded the motion.



Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk

Motion approved 7 – 0.


Neil Johnson, Jr.
Mayor

Items submitted to the Council Workshop of April 20, 2010:

- City of Bonney Lake – *Starting Your Own Community Garden* – Community Services Director Gary Leaf.
- City of Bonney Lake – *Lease Agreement for a Community Garden on Downtown Property* – Community Services Director Gary Leaf.
- City of Bonney Lake – *Email re: GSA Pea Patch Garden from Kim Phillips* – Community Services Director Gary Leaf.
- City of Bonney Lake – *Garden Plot Request Form* – Community Services Director Gary Leaf.