

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

May 15, 2018  
6:00 P.M.



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### DRAFT MINUTES

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**Location:** Bonney Lake Justice & Municipal Center, 9002 Main Street East, Bonney Lake, Washington.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. called the workshop to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Randy McKibbin, Councilmember Terry Carter, Councilmember Justin Evans, Councilmember Michelle Surdez, Councilmember Dan Swatman, and Councilmember Tom Watson. Councilmember James Rackley was absent.

**Councilmember Swatman moved to excuse Councilmember Rackley’s absence. Councilmember Watson seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved 6 – 0.**

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Municipal Court Judge Ron Heslop, Municipal Court Administrator Kathy Seymour, Public Services Director John Vodopich, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, Police Chief Dana Powers, Facilities and Special Projects Manager Gary Leaf and City Attorney Kathleen Haggard.

### III. AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Presentation:** Passport Workloads and Court Update – Judge Heslop.

Judge Ron Heslop addressed the Council regarding department workloads and constraints. He spoke specifically regarding passports, jury trials and jurors, public records requests and the Court’s expanded services to other jurisdictions. He discussed the financial implications of the State’s recent adoption of legislation limiting the financial liability of those claiming indigent or homeless status. Judge Heslop also addressed the impact of heroin on the Court and the community. He said that parental education is a key to helping society cope with the impact of this drug.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed some options for resolving the most pressing issues. They asked the City administration to look at available and potential resources to work with the Court to propose solutions to the issues raised in the Judge’s report.

- B. Presentation:** Solid Waste Rates – DM Disposal – Josh Metcalf, District Manager.

Mr. Metcalf gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Council and audience regarding the DM Disposal request for a rate increase. He described the current state of affairs in the recycling markets. He noted that DM Disposal's cost to recycle has reversed from a marginally positive position to a negative position over the past year. He explained that his company has absorbed the increases while waiting to see if the market for recyclables would reverse and stabilize. He said it has become apparent that this will not be the case and new solutions to recycling markets and processes must be developed. In the meantime, DM Disposal is asking for an 8.3% increase in the service rates to cover these unforeseen costs to their business.

The City Council discussed the issue with Mr. Metcalf. He noted that customer efforts to produce a cleaner recycling stream would help the situation. He said that even small percentages of contaminants render the recycle stream unacceptable to the biggest and most cost effective market, which is China. There was Council consensus that further consumer education is a starting place to address the current extreme impacts of the recycling market. Mr. Metcalf described to the City Council a new app which his company has developed to help customers know the pickup days for recycling, what items can be recycled and the condition of the material to be acceptable. The Council asked Mr. Metcalf about the disparity of rates between County residents and City residents. He said the County areas are covered under the Utilities and Transportation Commission and rate increases lag behind the City, but eventually catch up. The Council asked Mr. Metcalf for more financial information on the proposed increase and asked Mayor Johnson to schedule this topic again on the next workshop agenda—June 5, 2018.

**C. Council Open Discussion:**

Historical Society and Winona Jacobsen. Mayor Johnson reported that he met with Historical Society representatives and is still looking at alternatives to the Society closing its doors. He also noted that Commissioner Winona Jacobsen has resigned from the Planning Commission. He noted her long-term service of 13 years. Councilmembers expressed their appreciation for her service.

Senior Center and Community For Families Coalition. Councilmember Watson said he attended the Bonney Lake Senior Center's volunteer recognition event and was very impressed with the Center's efforts. He encouraged other Councilmembers to attend Senior Center events in the future to better understand the services provided to area seniors. He also reported on his participation in Communities for Families Coalition meeting in Sumner earlier in the month. He said there are a lot of activities currently centered on preparing families for back-to-school. He noted that David Wells will be a presenter at their next meeting. He also noted the Coalition had lost its grant funding for drug education for the coming year.

Cancellation of PCRC meeting. Councilmember Evans noted the Pierce County Regional Council will not hold its meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

- D. **Review of Council Minutes:** May 1, 2018 Workshop and May 8, 2018 Council Meeting.

Utility Rates: Councilmember Watson said he wants to understand the costs and impacts of utility rate increases to respond to citizen questions and determine the appropriate increase to keep the City utilities on track. Director Vodopich outlined the proposed rate increases that FCS Group has previously proposed. He pointed out that those recommendations were made nearly a year ago and may need to be updated. Councilmember Swatman said he wanted to review the models FCS Group used in making their recommendations.

Department Updates: Councilmember Watson said it would be helpful if Department Directors provided Councilmembers, particularly new Councilmembers, with an overview every couple of years to describe what their department does and what their staff are working on.

Citizen's Academy: Councilmember Watson said he and Councilmember Evans just completed the Citizen's Academy. He thanked the Police Department for a great program and learning experience, and said it gave him a broader perspective on what the Police Department does.

Sewer Rates: Councilmember Surdez said sewer rates have a big impact on customer utility bills. She said the Council needs to make a decision, and spoke in favor of revising all the rates at the same time and moving forward.

- E. **Review of Council Minutes:** Councilmember Watson said he reviewed the minutes of the April 3, 2018 Workshop and April 10, 2018 Council Meeting. He said he submitted some minor corrections to the City Clerk. The draft minutes were forwarded to the May 22, 2018 Meeting for action.
- F. **Discussion:** AB18-58 – Proposed Change in the Alignment for the Fennel Creek Trail.

Mayor Johnson noted that today is Facilities and Special Projects Manager Gary Leaf's birthday. The Council wished him well.

Manager Leaf explained the purpose for the proposed alignment of the trail. He said it was largely due to citizen concern for the trail being located in their neighborhood. He explained that State Senator Phil Fortunato became involved and offered to include a grant in the State budget to assist with the cost to realign the trail. He said that all the pieces with the various State agencies have fallen into place to allow the work to be done. He said the change has resulted in approximately one year's delay, but removes the conflict with the residents.

**IV. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION: None.**

**V. ADJOURNMENT:**

**At 7:31 p.m. Mayor Johnson adjourned the Council Workshop by common consent of the Council.**

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Harwood Edvalson, City Clerk

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Neil Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Items presented to Council at the May 15, 2018 Workshop:

- Bonney Lake Municipal Court Presentation – Judge Ron Heslop, Bonney Lake Municipal Court.
- Refuse Expenditure Impact Calculations – Josh Metcalf, Murreys Disposal.

*Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all documents submitted at City Council meetings and workshops are on file with the City Clerk. For detailed information on agenda items, please view the corresponding Agenda Packets, which are posted on the city website and on file with the City Clerk.*