

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

February 12, 2019

Mayor Cheryl Kelley Farivar called the February 12, 2019 Study Session to order at 8:30 AM.

Council Present: Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar, Elmer Larsen, Margaret Neighbors, Sharon Waters, Clint Strand, and Jason Lundgren.

Staff Present: Chantell Steiner, Herb Amick, and Sue Cragun.

Mayor Farivar excused Councilmember's Carolyn Wilson and Mia Bretz from the meeting.

1. Chamber Report

Chamber of Commerce Director Nancy Smith reported on the recent Icefest Festival and asked for feedback from the Council. She reported on a recent meeting with Link Transit in regard to a 0.2% sales tax increase to provide additional services and routes for Link. She asked for feedback and noted that Link is looking for Chamber support at this point in time. There was a brief discussion regarding shuttle services that would benefit Leavenworth residents and employees. She addressed an upcoming bike event that is tentatively scheduled for June 8, 2019 and said that it will be completed by 8:00 AM in order to not disrupt weekend traffic. She reported on her recent trip to Olympia and provided a brief narrative on the proposed bills that are of interest to the Chamber and local businesses. She reported on a recent tourism conference in Wenatchee and shared her thoughts on the regulations regarding wild fires and burning.

2. Social Media Policy / Training

Ms. Emily Guildner, Attorney with Weed, Graafstra, and Associates began the Social Media Training with a PowerPoint presentation. She focused on social media used by elected officials and clarified the difference between official speech and private speech. She gave examples and cited case law regarding various topics and how they relate to the use of social media. She cautioned forming opinions prior to quasi-judicial decisions where a neutral opinion is necessary. She spoke to commenting on social media and how a "serial meeting" could occur by way of Councilmember comments; she cautioned the same with replying "all" to email. She addressed best practice considerations, the use of disclaimers, the public records act, open public meetings act, appearance of fairness, and the use of emoji's. Councilmembers asked specific questions and relayed various scenarios throughout the presentation; Ms. Guildner was able to answer those specific questions and provide examples from her experiences.

3. Hopkins Memorial Pool Capital Project Funding

Interim City Administrator Chantell Steiner stated that the Upper Valley Park & Recreation Service Area (PRSA) has requested a minimum amount of \$65,000 in funding for pool resurfacing and equipment repair costs. She confirmed that the total project cost came in at \$183,139.01, which is the bid that the Council will be asked to approve at the evening meeting. She addressed recent discussions of loaning the PRSA the funds to complete the project, providing funding from Lodging Tax, and providing funding from the PRSA. She reminded the Council of their previous discussion that included a recommendation of 1/3 of the funds to come from Lodging Tax, 1/3 from the City's General Fund, and 1/3 from the PRSA via a loan from the

City. The Council discussed this funding split and recommended moving forward for approval; Ms. Steiner noted that she will prepare the necessary documents for the April budget amendment and will utilize the lowest interest rate possible for the loan to the PRSA.

4. 2018 End of Year Update on Project Tracking / 2019 Project Tracker / 2019 Future Council Agenda Items

Interim City Administrator Chantell Steiner explained that the Project Tracker is a document that the staff puts together for Council to keep them updated on projects and goals and are often times included within the city budget. She noted that the packet includes the year end 2018 Project Tracker and the January 2019 Project Tracker. Councilmembers asked questions about some of the items, of which Ms. Steiner provided clarification.

5. Quarterly Newsletter Recommendations – Distribution in March


Mayor Farivar reviewed the topics to be included in the spring newsletter and asked if there were any other topics that should be included. Mayor Farivar will write an article on Christmas Lighting Traffic; Councilmember Waters asked that a reminder be included for the overnight rental complaint line, having dogs on leashes, and a brief article about the Adult Social Walking Program. There was a brief discussion of the City's leash law and it was decided to further discuss the topic at a later time.

6. Council Open Discussion

Councilmember Lundgren requested clarification on the Adventure Park SEPA Determination. Mayor Farivar reviewed the Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance for the Adventure Park, which was provided by Development Services Manager Lilith Vespier. Attorney Emily Guildner addressed the comment and appeal periods, final decision, and appeal process.

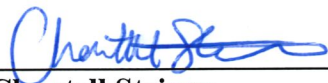
Study Session adjourned at 11:25 AM.

APPROVED



Cheryl K. Farivar
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Interim City Administrator