

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
March 12, 2019

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

Council Present: Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar, Mia Bretz, Elmer Larsen, Sharon Waters, and Jason Lundgren.

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

Mayor Farivar stated that Councilmembers Carolyn Wilson, Margaret Neighbors, and Clint Strand were excused from the meeting.

1. Chamber Report

None.

2. Chelan County PUD Service Center Location Update

Mr. Dan Frazier, Shared Services Manager at Chelan County PUD began with a PowerPoint presentation and addressed the planning process and current progress of the proposed PUD Service Center, which will be located in Wenatchee at Old's Station. He said that reinvestment in facilities has become a major priority with the PUD, along with providing the best financial value to the customer/owners. He displayed the site plan, parking plan, and the site flow within the campus, and noted that the campus is being designed for efficiency; for workflow, customer access, and energy savings. He noted that the designers are trying to interpret the Chelan County region with the architecture, and to provide a welcoming space. He addressed the landscaping, interior and exterior amenities, public outreach plan, and Open House schedule. He said that if the project moves forward as planned, the timeline for completion will be in late 2022. There was a brief discussion for redeveloping the current downtown location; they are currently working on identifying uses for the space. Chelan County Commissioner Steve McKenna shared his positive thoughts on the new facilities. Ms. Suzanne Harman briefly addressed the public outreach, Open House schedule, and customer survey.

3. Holiday on Ice Presentation

Holiday on Ice Owner Mr. Rich Yakkey and Project Coordinator Mr. Jason Guthrie provided a presentation to the Council on a temporary ice rink that can be built on site and used through the winter months in Leavenworth. They addressed various locations and confirmed that the best location would be Lions Club Park. They addressed construction of the rink, equipment and materials that will be used, noise levels of the chiller, admission prices, and jobs provided to local residents. Mr. Yakkey explained that the setup is typically \$135,000, although his company will install the rink at no charge to the City. Holiday on Ice will keep the first \$200,000 of ticket sales; of the remaining ticket sales, the City will receive 25%. There was discussion of the rink size, numbers of visitors, hours of operation, noise generated from the equipment, maintenance of the ice and surroundings, snow removal, and various operational suggestions and comments. It was suggested that the City use Lodging Tax Funds to pay for garbage removal, water, and power charges that will be billed to the City.

4. Review Lodging Tax Group Funding Requests

Interim City Administrator Chantell Steiner stated that there are nine requests for Lodging Tax Group Funding, although many of the applicants do not satisfy the necessary requirements for the use of Group Funding. The Council discussed the individual applicants and chose not to fund applicants that had already been provided three and four years of previous funding that has not been allowed in previous years. Council choose not to fund Village Voices, as their request was for a professional video, Wenatchee River Institute, as their request was for signage, and Trout Unlimited, as their event was better suited for the use of Youth Funding; each of these requests did not meet the criteria for advertising in support of the state law for generating overnight stays. There was discussion regarding Cascade Farmlands, as their event was being held in Cashmere, although they would provide maps of Leavenworth for an additional tour. The Council would like to further define the rules for granting Group Funding in future years; this will be discussed further at the Council Retreat. Council agreed to send the list of requests to the Economic Development Committee for final consideration. On a final note, Councilmembers suggested adopting rules for established festivals and/or events that can be funded through the City's budget.

5. Public Hearing Process Overview

Development Services Manager Lilith Vespier addressed the hearing process for code amendments and noted that there will be two public hearings at the evening meeting; zero lot line code amendment and Comprehensive Plan map amendment. She said that the City has the opportunity to have one public hearing on any code amendment; if the item is straight forward and non-controversial, the Council may simply adopt the Planning Commission recommendation. It is not always necessary to have an additional public hearing process. It was noted that the Council may determine that a public hearing is necessary based on public feedback. Regarding rezoning, she noted that those amendments are heard by the Hearing Examiner, who makes a recommendation, which then comes before the City Council as a closed record hearing; there is no public testimony or new evidence provided during a closed record hearing; the Council will then approve the rezone based on the recommendation by the Hearing Examiner. There was a brief discussion on upcoming hearing items with the Hearing Examiner.

6. Wenatchee Valley Animal Care & Control – Ms. Dawn Davies

Wenatchee Valley Animal Care & Control Director Dawn Davies provided a brief explanation of how Wenatchee Valley Animal Care & Control (WVACC) came to be. She explained how the Humane Society, Wenatchee Valley Animal Care & Control, Club Pet, and a proposed Vet Clinic are all separate entities within the organization; Animal Care & Control is funded through the Cities within Chelan County and the public from fees and licensing. She noted that Veterinarian Services are coming soon and that will include income based no cost services. She went on to address the draft contract that will be in effect through December 31, 2021; 2019 is calculated for the nine month period of April 1 – December 31, 2019. She noted that the overall contract has an increase of approximately 3% in 2019 and 2% each in 2020/2021. There was a brief discussion regarding the City's collection of license fees for Leavenworth residents, which are mailed to WVACC on a monthly basis; that language will be included in the new contract.

7. Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

Due to time constraints this item was not discussed.

8. Council Open Discussion

None.

Study Session adjourned at 11:45 AM.

APPROVED



Cheryl K. Farivar
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Interim City Administrator