

# LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

## April 11, 2023

Mayor Carl Florea called the April 11, 2023 Study Session to order at 5:30 PM.

Council Present: Mayor Carl Florea, Sharon Waters, Clint Strand, Jason Lundgren, Anne Hessburg, Zeke Reister, Marco Aurilio and Tibor Lak.

Staff Present: Matthew "Selby", Chantell Steiner, Lilith Vespier, Tom Wachholder and Andrea Fischer.

### **1. Chamber Report**

Executive Director Troy Campbell from the Chamber of Commerce reported the Maifest calendar is up on the Chamber website. He encourages everyone to look at it as there are many activities happening every weekend in May. He stated appreciation for all of the City staff and Councilmembers who attended the banquet in March. The applications for the Recreation Ambassadors are online for this year. They have already had three applicants who would like several weekends over the summer. He feels that the Recreation Ambassadors at the river have a vital role to play in safety, security and providing information so everyone can have a fun time. The Chamber is going to add to their free map, details of floating on the river and where to take out safely. The Chamber has also created a document that was funded completely by the Chamber and created with T.R.E.A.D. (Trails Recreation Education Advocacy and Development) and 45 local partners. It is developed for the Upper Wenatchee Valley sustainable trails project and lists all the projects based on these six strategies: improving conservation and stewardship, enhancing and expanding outdoor recreational infrastructure, improving education and advocacy, outdoor education and cultural awareness, increasing representation of underrepresented groups in outdoor recreation, strengthening community marketing and travel, mobilizing and coordinating volunteers and collaborating to identify and fix some of the biggest issues in recreation. This document will be made available on the Chamber website after the regular Chamber meeting.

### **2. Banner Policy Discussion**

Community Development Director Lilith Vespier stated that last year with a non-profit wanted to place banners through the downtown core, but there was no policy in place to regulate what kind of banners should be allowed, so approval of banners was put on hold until a banner policy could be approved by the Council. This draft policy was reviewed by the city attorney and the Downtown Steering Committee and there are still some questions, such as eligible banner locations (downtown core, extended core or on Highway 2). There were also questions as to allowable content on banners and the cost associated with putting the banners up and taking them down. Director Campbell from the Chamber stated that we struggle to change the banners we do have in a timely fashion, and the Chamber spends a lot of money advertising our Bavarian theme and he would hate to negate all that effort. It is expensive to put these banners up along Highway 2 and the non-profits wouldn't be able to make any money, and putting logos on the banners would conflict with our Old-World Bavarian Theme code and the Design Review Board wouldn't allow it. The Council discussed the banner policy and concluded the City can put banners on their own buildings until and whether a policy is finalized and adopted. Mayor Florea stated he is going to bring the subject of banners on City buildings to the Council for approval.

### **3. Draft Resolution XX-2023 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)**

Public Works Director Tom Wachholder stated that he invited the Council to review revisions of the Draft Six-Year TIP for the years 2024-2029. This is required by State law and how we get funding from the State for our projects. The first three years of the TIP are projects that are happening and are in the budget with funding sources. The second three years of the TIP are the projects that are not funded at this time. The additions to the TIP are the Ski Hill Drive sidewalk project, the gateway feature of the Icicle Road roundabout, asphalt overlay for the roads of Leavenworth, the Glacier (P6) parking lot and the US Highway 2 pedestrian underpass. The Council asked questions regarding the striping at the intersection of Ward Strasse and Riverbend Road, Parking Garage, North Road at Chumstick Highway roundabout, and the road connecting Titus Road to the Chumstick Highway. Councilmember Waters asked about the road overlays and how we determine the roads that get prioritized, as the roads that need the most repair are not on the list. Director Wachholder stated these were prioritized before he started working at the City, and the roads she is asking about require a full infrastructure rebuild under the roadway. The projects on the TIP are to re-surface the roadway only. Councilmember Aurilio asked why the pothole and small street repairs are not on the TIP. Director Wachholder stated that general maintenance of our roadways is not on the TIP due to being in the budget and a continual project.

### **4. 2023 Project Tracker / 2023 Future Council Agenda Items**

Mayor Florea asked the Council if they have any questions on the project updates provided. Staff responded to questions on Docket items related to the status of the biennial budget calendar, replacing pictures of the Councilmembers on the website, parks seasonal positions filled, Bed & Breakfast density discussion with the Planning Commission, security fencing around the well field, space needs assessment, audit of new water meters for accurate reading and billing, parking improvements to update the 2018 parking study, Chumstick Highway to Titus Road, City Hall and Festhalle key card access, Osborn Demolition, Ski Hill sidewalk improvements, wastewater treatment plant capacity analysis and future growth to separate stormwater and sewer and the water source feasibility study.

### **5. Resolution XX-2023 – Rate & Fee Schedule Draft**

The Council ran out of time to discuss this topic at the Study Session. The discussion took place at the end of the evening Council meeting.

### **6. Council Updates/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

The Council went through topics that were presented by individual Councilmembers to the Mayor and City Administrator. The Mayor was seeking support from fellow Councilmembers to make sure the topics have interest among several of the Councilmembers for discussion.

Study Session adjourned at 7:00 PM.

**APPROVED**



**Carl Florea**  
**Mayor**

**ATTEST**



**Andrea Fischer**  
**City Clerk**