



Minutes of the Arlington City Council Zoom Workshop

March 22, 2021

Councilmembers Present: Mike Hopson, Marilyn Oertle, Debora Nelson, Don Vanney, Jan Schuette, Jesica Stickles and Michele Blythe.

Council Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Mayor Barb Tolbert, Paul Ellis, Sarah Lopez, Bryan Terry, Tony Orr, Kristin Garcia, Marc Hayes, Jim Kelly, Mike Wolanek, City Attorney Steve Peiffle, and Wendy Van Der Meersche.

Also Known to be Present: Jason Biermann and 34 YouTube viewers.

Mayor Barb Tolbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call followed.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Marilyn Oertle seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Jason Biermann, Snohomish County DEM Director, provided an overview of the Airport vaccine site. He recognized Arlington Fire Chief Dave Kraski, Community Resource Paramedic Darin Reid, and North County Fire Chief John Cermak. Including all partners, 299,055 vaccine doses have been administered since opening January 5. There are five sites regularly operating. The Arlington vaccine site has provided 49,500 vaccinations.

WORKSHOP ITEMS – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

Resolution Appointing Elected Officials to the Regional Fire Authority Transition Board

City Administrator Paul Ellis reviewed a resolution appointing elected officials to the Regional Fire Authority Transition Board.

The Service Plan calls for the appointment, by the City Council, of three elected officials to serve on the Transitional Board of the North County Regional Fire Authority (NCRFA) as Positions 7, 8 & 9, until commissioner districts are selected and elections can be held.

The City Council is asked to appoint, pursuant to RCW 52.26.080 and the NCRFA Service Plan, the following officials to the NCRFA Transition Board:

Mayor Barbara Tolbert to Position #7, to serve until December 31, 2023;
City Councilmember Debora Nelson to Position #8, to serve until December 31, 2023; and
City Councilmember Marilyn Oertle to Position #9, to serve until December 31, 2023.

The voters of the City approved by election the annexation by the City to the North County Regional Fire Authority (NCRFA), pursuant to a Service Plan jointly adopted by the NCRFA and the City of Arlington. Discussion followed with Mr. Ellis answering Council questions.

Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission Appointment

Community Revitalization Manager Sarah Lopez reviewed the reappointment of Jennifer Harrington to Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission (PARC).

The City advertised for the open position (April 1, 2021 to April 1, 2025) for the Park, Arts and Recreation Commission/Tree Board. Staff contacted two new applicants and conducted one interview. The interview committee recommends reappointing Jennifer Harrington to PARC. Although Jennifer has served less than a year on PARC, during that time she has become very involved in community events and volunteer activities, and has shown immense interest in the parks. Ms. Harrington filled an unexpired term beginning May 18, 2020, that will expire April 1, 2021.

Budget Amendment Request for a Network Assessment from Right Systems, Inc.

IT Director Bryan Terry reviewed the budget amendment for a Network Assessment on the City of Arlington's network.

The IT department has encountered some network anomalies that are causing bottlenecks and poor network performance. The team has exhausted all available options, and is requesting outside engineering assistance. Right Systems, Inc. has strong network engineers on staff that will diagnose and recommend changes to improve the overall health of the network. A brief discussion followed with Mr. Terry answering Council questions.

Resolution to Adopt the Housing Action Plan

Community and Economic Development Director Marc Hayes reviewed the adoption of the Housing Action Plan (HAP).

The Housing Action Plan is a document that identifies both current and future housing inventory in Arlington, by market demand, community needs, income level/affordability, housing type, functionality and location. This was accomplished by first creating a Housing Needs Assessment (an appendix to the HAP) which collected and then evaluated if our current housing strategies are in alignment or if we need to create new housing strategies to correct any insufficiencies or irregularities related to current development trends. These strategies are identified in Strategic Objectives 1-3, and then incorporated into an Implementation Plan that will be monitored on an ongoing basis, to evaluate their individual outcomes. This document also defines what the appropriate percentages of housing affordability are, based on actual community needs in Arlington. Discussion followed with Mr. Hayes answering Council questions.

Sole Source Resolution for the Procurement and Servicing of Cla-Val Pressure Reducing Valves

Public Works Director Jim Kelly reviewed a sole source resolution recognizing GC Systems as the authorized maintenance service provider for Cla-Val products and systems.

The City of Arlington has nine Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) stations that control and regulate pressure across Arlington's water distribution system. All nine stations are equipped with Cla-Val PRVs and require regular scheduled maintenance.

GC-Systems is the Washington state authorized agent for servicing Cla-Val product and systems. As such, staff is requesting a sole source resolution allowing the City to waive Washington Public Works bid requirements and contract directly with GC Systems for repair and maintenance to all Cla-Val products.

Resolution to Support the WRIA 7 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan February Financial Report

Water Resources Planner Mike Wolanek, reviewed by PowerPoint, the WRIA 7 *draft* Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan.

In January 2018, the legislature passed the streamflow restoration law (RCW 90.94) to restore stream flows to levels necessary to support robust, healthy, and sustainable salmon populations while providing water for homes in rural Washington; this law was in response to the 2016 Hirst decision. This law directs the Department of Ecology to convene committees in eight watersheds surrounding Puget Sound to develop watershed plans that will offset impacts from new domestic permit-exempt wells and achieve a net ecological benefit within the watershed.

The City of Arlington's southern boundary is within the Water Resource Inventory Area 7 watershed and staff has been part of the WRIA 7 regional planning process since October 2018. The draft Plan is comprehensive and will meet the intent of the streamflow restoration law. Discussion followed with Mr. Wolanek answering Council questions.

February Financial Report

Finance Director Kristin Garcia reviewed the February 2021 Financial Report. A brief discussion followed with Ms. Garcia answering Council questions.

Community and Economic Development (CED) Monthly Report

Community and Economic Development Director Marc Hayes reviewed the February 2021 monthly CED Report. Discussion followed with Mr. Hayes answering Council questions.

ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Paul Ellis stated that next Monday, March 29, is the fifth Monday of the month, and will be the Joint Meeting with the City of Arlington, Arlington Public Schools, Skagit Regional Health, and Stilly Valley Health Connections. The meeting will be conducted in Zoom format. The following Monday, April 5, will be the Council meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

None.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmembers had nothing to report this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Council discussed and agreed to place the following items on the consent agenda for the April 5, 2021 Council meeting:

3. Budget Amendment Request for a Network Assessment from Right Systems, Inc.
5. Sole Source Resolution for the Procurement and Servicing of Cla-Val Pressure Reducing Valves
6. Resolution to Support the WRIA 7 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.



Barbara Tolbert, Mayor