



# Minutes of the Arlington City Council Zoom Workshop

Council Chambers  
110 East Third Street  
September 28, 2020

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

**Council Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Mayor Barb Tolbert, Paul Ellis, James Trefry, Kristin Garcia, Marc Hayes, City Attorney Steve Peiffle, Tony Orr, and Ashleigh Scott.

**Also Known to be Present:** Eighty-Seven (87) YouTube viewers, Danette Klemens, Nathan Chabot, and Will Nelson.

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 Stickle moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Debora Nelson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

## **INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Danette Klemens from the Stillaguamish Senior Center gave a presentation on the programs and services the Senior Center offers to Arlington and the surrounding communities. They've been in operation for 50 years, and are considering a possible name change to Stilly Valley Senior Center. They are staffed with 21 full-time and part-time employees, along with a board of directors that are compiled of business professionals and seniors that hold monthly meetings. Volunteers have also completed around 18,000 hours and are a vital part of the team. Some programs and services they have available to seniors are insurance planning, music, aging mastery program to transition to retirement, wellness and exercise, hot and cold lunch on different days of the week, donation food programs along with counseling, and educational programs. This is a challenging time for seniors and the Center is trying to keep them connected and staying in touch with their families and the community. They have had no COVID-19 cases to date.

## **WORKSHOP ITEMS – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN**

### **Coronavirus Relief Funds for Local Governments – CARES ACT Budget**

City Administrator Paul Ellis, reviewed a Resolution of the City of Arlington amending the City's Utility Customer Support Program and Coronavirus Relief Fund Budget.

The City of Arlington has been awarded a second CARES ACT grant for \$296,100 to cover eligible expenses from the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible expenses must be incurred by November 30, 2020. On July 31, 2020 the Governor issues Proclamation 20 – 23.7 extending the waiver for shut off and late fees until October 15<sup>th</sup> which requires the City to updates Resolutions 2020-0101 and 2020-012 relating to shut off and late fee waivers and the City's utility customer support program. The updated customer support program includes a utility credit available to eligible residential and commercial customers reimbursable from the CARES ACT funding.

On May 20, 2020, the City of Arlington was awarded \$592,200 in Coronavirus Relief funding. The funds are to be used to cover eligible expenses for COVID-19. On June 1, 2020 the City Council approved acceptance of the Coronavirus Relief funds and approved expenditures as set forth in the proposed budget. Discussion followed with Mr. Ellis answering Council questions.

### **City's Flag and Banner Policy**

City Administrator Paul Ellis and City Attorney Steve Peiffle reviewed a draft policy and resolution regarding the display of flags and banners on City property.

The City of Arlington displays the U.S. Flag, Washington State Flag, and POW/MIA Flags at each of its public facilities in accordance with state law. In addition, the city has traditionally displayed the U.S. Flag on banner poles and light poles to celebrate national holidays. In 2019, Thin Blue Line flags and Thin Red Line flags were donated to the city. The Blue Line flags were flown on Olympic Ave. during Police week in May 2019 and 2020. The Red Line flags were flown on Olympic Ave. during Fire Prevention week in October 2019. Discussion followed with Mr. Ellis answering Council questions.

### **Community and Economic Development (CED) Monthly Report**

Community and Economic Development Director Marc Hayes reviewed the current development projects and work being conducted by the CED Department. Mr. Hayes updated Council on COVID-19 office precautions, staff cross-training, current contracts, challenges the department is facing, opportunities the department has had, new programs, General Information Meetings (GIM's), and Planning Commission items. Discussion followed with Mr. Hayes answering Council questions.

### **August 2020 Financial Report**

Finance Director Kristin Garcia reviewed the August 2020 Financial Report. Discussion followed with Ms. Garcia answering Council questions.

### **ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS**

None.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Tolbert gave a brief review of the recent Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) meeting and their discussion on the 2050 Vision.

### **COMMENTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

None.

**COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

Councilmembers Debora Nelson, Jesica Stickles, Michele Blythe and Don Vanney provided brief updates, while Councilmembers Marilyn Oertle, Mike Hopson and Jan Schuette had nothing to report this evening.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

William Nelson, 28112 Grandview Road, Arlington, spoke regarding the City's Flag and Banner Policy agenda item. He supports Arlington's public servants, such as police and fire, and their efforts to keep our community safe, but he does not agree with flying flags that are not already State recognized.

Nathan Chabot, 16101 Jordan Way, Arlington, spoke regarding the City's Flag and Banner Policy agenda item. He is supportive of Arlington's police and fire departments, along with all others that keep our community protected, but believes the time and efforts needed in order to approve and disapprove would not be of value, and that there are better ways to show appreciation to the departments. He does not agree with the City flying flags or banners other than those that are mandated by the State.

**REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**


None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

  
Barbara Tolbert, Mayor

