

**FIFE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

5A

**Fife City Hall
Council Chambers**

**Date: January 12, 2010
Time: 7:00 p.m.**

- EXECUTIVE SESSION** Mayor Johnson convened an executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of Real Estate RCW 42.30.140 for approximately 45 minutes.
- ADJOURNMENT** Mayor Johnson adjourned the executive session at 6:45 p.m.
- CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting of the Fife City Council to order at 7:02 p.m.
- PRESENTATION OF COLORS** The Council, staff, and audience members saluted the flag during the presentation of colors by the Honor Guard.
- SWEARING IN OF COUNCILMEMBERS** Municipal Court Judge Kevin Ringus swore in Glenn Hull, Nancy de Booy and Donald Alveshere as Fife City Councilmembers.
- ROLL CALL** Councilmembers present: Richard Godwin, Glenn Hull, Butch Brooks, Barry Johnson, Rob Cerqui, Nancy de Booy, and Donald Alveshere.
- Staff present: City Manager Steve Worthington, Assistant City Attorney Gregg Amann, Assistant City Manager Steve Marcotte, Police Chief Brad Blackburn, Public Works Director Russ Blount, Parks, Recreation & Community Services Director Kurt Reuter, Acting Community Director Carl Durham, Assistant City Engineer Ken Gill, Acting Finance Director Dave DeGroot, Planner Chris Pasinetti, Administrative Assistant Andrea Richards, Municipal Court Judge Kevin Ringus, Marketing Coordinator Laurel Potter, and Recording Secretary Valerie Gow.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Councilmember Alveshere led the pledge of allegiance.
- COUNCIL ELECTION OF MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM** Councilmember de Booy nominated Barry Johnson as Mayor. Councilmember Hull seconded the nomination.
- Councilmember de Booy nominated Butch Brooks as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Hull seconded the nomination.
- No other nominations were offered for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.
- Motion** Motion carried unanimously to elect Barry Johnson as Mayor and Butch Brooks as Mayor Pro Tem for a term of two years.
- CHANGES, ADDITIONS, OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA** Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to add Resolution #1334; authorizing the City Manager to apply for and negotiate a Community Development Block Grant. Correct the minutes of December 8, 2009, replacing "Police Chief" within the first paragraph on

page 8 with “citizens.” Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes: Date: December 8, 2009 as amended
- b. Approval of Vouchers:
Payroll for 12/22/2009: #46321 - 46374 \$671,513.90
Payroll for 01/12/2010: #46375 - 46421 \$604,845.59
Claims for 12/22/2009: #77992 - 78135 \$980,635.15
Claims for 01/12/2010: #78136 - 78291 \$528,534.89
- c. Set a Special Meeting for January 19, 2010 Study Session
- d. Set a Special Meeting for January 22-23, 2010 Council Retreat at Gig Harbor, Friday, January 22 from 4:00 pm and Saturday, January 23 from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approval of the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) 2040

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Director Norman Abbott distributed and reviewed several informational handouts. The PSRC is comprised of four counties (King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap), 82 cities, special districts, ports, transit, state agencies, and tribal governments. The PSRC is designated as the federal Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region and the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for the state. The organization serves as a forum for regional decisions by local elected officials, transportation planning, and allocation of federal transportation funds to projects, compilation of regional data and forecasts, and planning under the Growth Management Act.

The region’s current transportation plan, *Destination 2030*, is being updated and will be replaced with *Transportation 2040*. In May, members will be asked to approve *Transportation 2040*.

Currently, the President is the Mayor of Everett, Ray Stephanson, with Josh Brown, Kitsap County Commissioner, serving as Vice President.

PSRC planning documents include:

- VISION 2040
- Regional Economic Strategy
- Transportation 2040

The region is growing with Puget Sound forecasted to see a 36% increase in population and a 51% increase in jobs by 2040. *VISION 2040*, which replaces

VISION 2020, addresses the anticipated growth in transportation, the economy, and the environment under the guidelines of multicounty planning policies and the Growth Management Act (GMA) and the regional growth strategy. The regional growth strategy allocates growth to “regional geographies”, developing compact communities and centers, promoting growth in metropolitan cities, core cities, and large cities, and minimizing incompatible rural development.

Mayor Johnson noted the status of Fife as a small city was recently updated to reflect the City as a large city. He asked how that will impact the City. Mr. Abbott replied that Pierce County only had one other large city, which is University Place. Fife’s new designation as a large city reflects a city of at least 22,500 people within city limits and its urban growth area (UGA). As a small City, the amount of growth for future allocation was less. As part of the large city category, the region expects the City to accommodate more growth. Regional growth by 2040 is anticipated to increase by 1.7 million people. The region allocates based on “regional geographies.” Most of the growth is forecasted to occur in the cities. Approximately 32,000 people will need to be accommodated by the cities of University Place and Fife from now to 2040. Fife City staff is working with staff from the City of University Place on the appropriate population forecast for each jurisdiction.

Councilmember Godwin asked about the City’s population projection to 2040. Mr. Abbott replied that the City is in the process of updating its forecast to 2040. Councilmember Alvshere said the number is approximately 2,500 people for the next 15 years.

Mr. Abbott said PSRC’s goal is to maintain rural lands and focus growth in the urban centers. Currently, much of the growth is occurring within the rural areas and along the fringe of urban areas, which is contrary to the vision of the region. However, much growth is also occurring within the cities and major metropolitan areas. Some of the vision is occurring but urban sprawl is continuing. Local leaders are asked to align local growth targets with the regional growth strategy.

Recently, the Governor proposed extending the date of the update of comprehensive plans from the end of 2011 to December 2014. It could be some time before the targets are implemented and the vision is aligned with local plans. PSRC plans to revisit the numbers and the plans after the update to ascertain how well the region is aligning with its targets.

Mr. Abbott provided online information for local governments to utilize during its planning process.

The draft Transportation 2040 plan is anticipated to be released by the end of January. The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) will be asked to take action on the plan in March. The public review process begins after its release in January through March prior to the TPB taking action.

Councilmember Alveshere asked whether the PSRC has a tracking mechanism for monitoring whether growth is occurring in urban areas based on targets and the desire to avoid growth occurring in the rural areas. Mr. Abbott said the regional body is the mechanism for working together and agreeing on where growth should occur, monitoring to ensure growth is occurring where planned and, revising plans to address issues as they occur. There are things that can be done and Pierce County is updating its transportation plan and has expressed interest in clustering growth to reduce sprawl because of the difficulty in funding that sprawl.

Councilmember de Booy asked whether the growth projection is based on Fife's urban growth area as well. Mr. Abbott said the projection includes the growth area. The regional geographies include all types of cities and the unincorporated areas of the counties.

**Preferred Alternative
for Port of Tacoma
Road Interchange**

Director Blount introduced Jilma Jimenez, Project Manager, Berger/ABAM. Ms. Jimenez has led a successful effort over the last year on behalf of the City to bring together all the stakeholders involved in the Port of Tacoma Road/I-5 interchange to work on a preferred alternative. The effort is federally funded and this particular phase does not include any funds from the City but includes funds appropriated by the City's congressional delegates in recognition the interchange has in the region's economic growth.

Ms. Jimenez introduced Tom Noguchi, Transportation Modeler.

Ms. Jimenez outlined the project area involving the area of the Port of Tacoma Road and the I-5 interchange. As inferred by the name of the road, the roadway is the main access point to the Port of Tacoma and unlike many other interchanges; it's not uncommon for the interchange to experience upwards of 30% truck traffic. That factor coupled with six closely spaced intersections within one half mile of the area make it very difficult for freight and vehicles to maneuver through the area. Working under the direction of Director Blount and several partner agencies and stakeholders, project goals and objectives were developed of providing efficient movement of traffic into and out of the Port of Tacoma and surrounding areas, especially for trucks, and to improve safety and reliability of access to local area businesses while balancing the effects to the natural community environment.

Three different alternative development meetings were held resulting in the development of 12 alternatives for the project area. A specific and detailed screening process was developed to evaluate all 12 alternatives. Traffic modeling was an important part of the work. The base year selected for the study effort was 2006 because the economy at that time was vibrant. The team, using an array of information from different sources including PSRC information and the regional transportation model, developed travel demand forecasting to 2040. The models were not able to predict the length of cueing in the area in 2040 if no improvements occur because of the degree of gridlock

and the length of cueing.

Ms. Jimenez presented a simulation of what occurs in 2040 if no improvements occur. The backup on 20th is extensive from Port of Tacoma Road to 54th as well as along Pacific Highway. Traffic cueing backs up to SR509. In many cases, traffic experiences several cycles of lights before clearing intersections.

The alternatives were screened for environmental effects as well as hazardous and noise impacts.

Ms. Jimenez presented the preferred alternative, a diamond couplet. Once built, it would be one of the few interchanges of this type in the state. Movements within the couplet are one way and work better than the existing configuration by increasing capacity to trucks by accessing the area through 34th and the Port of Tacoma Road. Creating one way movements result in fewer phases of signals enabling more processing of vehicles. She displayed a simulation of the preferred alternative. Modeling was conducted on the worst peak hour of traffic. The model reveals no gridlock occurring with a diamond couplet design. The preferred alternative was presented to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in November. FHWA officials offered positive comments and the team received concurrence, which is important because no improvements can occur to the interchange without approval of the FHWA.

Councilmember Hull asked whether the modeling assumes SR167 will be open. Ms. Jimenez said the team began with the presumption that SR167 was not open, but eventually determined that without access to SR167 or major improvements to 54th; it's not possible for vehicles to access Port of Tacoma Road in 2040. Subsequently, the model assumes SR167 will be open.

Mayor Johnson asked whether traffic projections accounted for increased growth in freight movement at the Port from the Panama Canal and the South East. Ms. Jimenez said Port officials reviewed planning scenarios for those areas and provided some growth projections, which was used in generating the number of vehicles.

The project included the development of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprised of representatives from the City of Fife, WSDOT, FHWA, Port of Tacoma, Marine View Ventures, Puyallup Tribe, Washington Trucking Association, and the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board.

Next steps include completing environmental documentation and preparation of an Interchange Justification Report that is required by the FHWA for any project involving a federal interchange. The preparation of construction documents will follow.

Councilmember Brooks asked about the number of alternatives the team analyzed. Ms. Jimenez said the team began initially with 15 alternatives and

merged some of the best components into 12 alternatives. The 12 alternatives underwent an extensive three level peer review for any fatal flaws. The first review analyzed fatal flaws and costs. The result was nine alternatives. The second level review involved geometry to ensure the design would work. That review produced four alternatives. Traffic modeling information was applied to the four alternatives to ascertain how each alternative addressed traffic concerns. That review produced two alternatives. The TAC asked for detailed simulations of the two alternatives. The issue with a single point intersection is that it cannot be constructed in phases, which would result in the closure of Port of Tacoma Road for up to a year, which is not possible operationally for the Port. The diamond couplet performed better than the single point urban interchange and could be constructed in phases.

Mr. Noguchi added that in order for the single point interchange to work, it would require widening the intersection of Highway 99 and Port of Tacoma Road to up to eight lanes creating safety issues for pedestrian crossings. Ms. Jimenez said both alternatives would incur similar costs. The diamond couplet can be built in phases whereas the single point intersection would require funding upfront to complete the project.

Councilmember de Booy acknowledged that improvements are needed. She expressed concerns with some backup occurring. Ms. Jimenez acknowledged that there will be some traffic backups. However, the diamond couplet alternative will improve backups that the area is experiencing today as well as improving the capacity for growth. Currently, the levels of service at some of the intersections today are D, E, and F. The alternative would improve service to level A and would operate better than today.

Councilmember Cerqui asked whether the modeling assumes some containers will move by rail. Mr. Noguchi said the analysis assumes a substantial number of containers will be removed by rail, but there will be some percentage of containers moved by trucks. The analysis projects to 2040 and assumes the current downturn in the economy will begin to improve and result in substantial growth in Port activities. Councilmember Cerqui asked whether the team considered future light rail needs in that area. Mr. Noguchi said the team did not consider light rail in the modeling assumption.

Councilmember Hull commented on the diversity of the team and questioned whether there was consensus by all members on the preferred alternative. Ms. Jimenez reported that at the conclusion of the meetings, all stakeholders, with the exception of WSDOT, supported the preferred alternative. WSDOT representatives did not offer consent at that time until the department completed a detailed review of the models. All the questions the department asked were answered thoroughly. At this time, all stakeholders including, WSDOT and the FHWA, are in support of the preferred alternative.

Councilmember Hull commented on the probability of completing SR167 and

how that will impact the project. Director Blount indicated it boils down to a political budgeting issue. At an earlier meeting in the day with WSDOT officials concerning SR167, funding for the approximate cost of \$2 billion for the SR167 project was discussed with one option of tolling, which based on estimates, would only produce \$330 million creating a \$1.7 billion budget gap. There will be refinements, but it points to the problem that SR167 is not an easily funded project. Another reason the project is moving forward is to buy some time to give the state time to develop a \$2 billion budget. The project would substantially improve freight capacity and the Port's competitiveness on the West Coast. Over a 30-year planning horizon, both projects will be needed.

Councilmember Hull asked if a model was analyzed without SR167. Mr. Noguchi indicated that he's unsure what could be gained other than there would be a gridlock of vehicles on streets. Ms. Jimenez said that additionally, there are some interim improvements that the state could do to 54th to extend the life of the area without extending SR167 and still enable vehicle access to the area. The analysis revealed that without the 54th and SR167 projects, movement of freight would not be possible to move through the Port of Tacoma Road.

Councilmember Brooks asked whether there's any difference between the two alternatives to accommodate light rail crossing up and over Port of Tacoma Road and 34th with the acknowledgment that there would be additional construction costs. Director Blount said light rail could operate along the street level along Pacific Highway. He noted the topic is a completely different planning process that is not part of this particular study and without further analysis it would be difficult to rule one alternative better than the other. Ms. Jimenez said both alternatives are basically the same level in elevation. There is nothing in the project that would impact any decisions on raising light rail through the area or placing it at street level.

Councilmember Brooks said at this point, the City of Fife is the lead on the project, he asked staff how they foresee the City moving forward in terms of pursuing federal funding support on behalf of others. City Manager Worthington said the project is clearly to the benefit of others, but clearly it is in the City's interest for the project to move forward. The reason for the study is based on the success of the Council and other investments secured by other partners. Representative Adam Smith has requested funds within the Highway Reauthorization Bill based on the Council's previous request of \$8 million.

Director Blount described the project as halfway completed. At this point, the funding allocation will fund the detailed environmental documentation and then a first phase construction package. The next step is approaching the congressional delegation for the next phase.

**National Night Out
Award**

Police Chief Blackburn reported on the National Night Out event attended by 375 citizens. The City of Fife was one of the few cities in Pierce County that received the National Award Winner for its outstanding participation in the 26th

Annual National Night Out event from the National Association of Town Watch. Police Chief Blackburn presented the plaque to Mayor Johnson. Mayor Johnson thanked the Police Chief and the Police Department for their efforts.

**2009 Nutcracker
Performance**

Marketing Coordinator Potter reported on the December 19 and 20, 2009 performances of the Nutcracker by the 9th Avenue Studio of Dance. Over 700 people attended the performances. She presented a slide show of highlights from the show.

On February 13, 2010, *Up in the Air: A Juggler's Tale of Circus & Invention* will be featured at the Fife Performing Arts Center at Columbia Junior High School.

**COUNCIL
DELEGATE REPORT**

Councilmember Hull reported on his attendance to the South Sound Chamber of Commerce's recent luncheon. Majority Senate Leader Lisa Brown was in attendance and spoke about the problems associated with the state's budget and potential ways for increasing revenues. A senate hearing is scheduled on proper disposal of unused medicine.

Councilmember Brooks said he also attended the chamber function and monthly RAMP meeting with several legislators in attendance who shared information on the outlook for transportation during the short legislative session. Sadly, the region suffered the loss of another law enforcement officer. A number of City staff and Councilmembers attended the memorial service for Pierce County Deputy Kent Mundell.

Councilmember Cerqui reported he attended Fife Historical Society's annual meeting at the Fife Historical Museum as well as touring the barn. He attended a send-off dinner for several legislators and received an overview of pending issues during the upcoming legislative session. He also attended the funeral of a long-time Fife farmer.

Councilmember de Booy reported she attended the memorial service as well as the Christmas luncheon at the Fife Community Center. She attended the Fife Historical Society annual meeting and toured the barn. She volunteered for a Christmas dinner at the Community Center for swim center groups.

Councilmember Alveshire said he also attended the send-off dinner for several legislators.

Mayor Johnson reported on his attendance to the Pierce County Cities and Towns meeting. Pierce County Executive Pat McCarthy shared information on what Pierce County is pursuing to attract the biotech industry. He is scheduled to attend a Puyallup River Executive Task Force meeting with City Manager Worthington. He also attended the Deputy's memorial service. There was a great deal of support from the community for his family.

**ORDINANCES AND
RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTIONS

**#1330; Approve
Segregation of LID
Assessment for
Benaroya/WSDOT
Property**

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve Ordinance #1330; Approve Segregation of LID Assessment for Benaroya/WSDOT Property.

Acting Finance Director DeGroot read the title of Resolution #1330:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, to segregate existing assessments under Utility Local Improvement District Number 98-02, pursuant to Section 35.44.410 of the Revised Code of Washington.

Assistant City Manager Marcotte reported the resolution is in response to a request by the Benaroya Corporation relating to sale of property to WSDOT for right-of-way for the State Route 167 road project. There are three lots that are part of the ULID No. 98-02 that Benaroya is seeking segregation for to distribute evenly between six newly created parcels. The total cost of the assessments is approximately \$315,000. The action does not change the amount but distributes the amount over a larger number of parcels.

Assistant City Manager Marcotte referred the Council to several associated attachments for additional information. If approved, the portion of the assessment to WSDOT would be paid of approximately \$110,000 and the remaining portion would continue to be paid under the existing debt service schedule. Early payment by WSDOT will be allocated to the debt service.

Staff requests approval for the segregation of ULID No. 98-02, as requested by Benaroya Capital Company LLC.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion

**#1331; Approve
Additional Services by
RH2 for Holt Well**

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve Resolution #1331; Approve Additional Services by RH2 for Holt Well.

Acting Finance Director DeGroot read the title of Resolution #1331:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to sign Contract Amendment No. 4 with RH2 Engineering, Inc. for hydrogeologic analysis and water rights application for the Holt Well.

Director Blount reported the consultants completed the work previously authorized by the Council. Staff is confident that the well is a viable producer. The next stage is preparing additional documents and some additional studies as backup as well as working with the Department of Ecology (DOE) on determining whether water rights will be transferred or granted for the well. He noted that there will be significant initial capital investment, but in the long-term, the investment will reduce the City's need to purchase water from Tacoma at a higher cost.

Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 1331 as written.

Councilmember Godwin asked about the timeline associated with completing water rights issues associated with the well. Director Blount said the City will submit an application within the next several months. However, the process could take up to a year for DOE's process to move forward. Councilmember Godwin questioned whether the City has any guarantee for securing the water rights necessary to pump from the well. Director Blount affirmed that there is no guarantee other than some confidence that the City can obtain the water rights. Councilmember Godwin said it's troubling not knowing if there are any guarantees. He asked about the rights that would be transferred. Director Blount advised that there are several inactive wells and there is the potential of transferring all of the City's water rights to the Holt well. There has been a slight change in how the department operates in terms of water rights. Previously, water rights were associated with a specific well, now they are associated with an aquifer. Because of the transfer, the City is pursuing rights and then potentially gaining some rights for another well drilling in the vicinity. Councilmember Godwin said the City's had a number of wells that produced water usable for park irrigation and other irrigation needs that the City failed to follow up to have transferred when the City purchased the property. He expressed frustration that staff hasn't pursued steps to transfer those water rights. At some point, staff needs to consider the costs lost to the City because of inactivity.

Councilmember Cerqui asked about the transfer of water rights from the old aluminum plant. Director Blount said the City of Tacoma won the bid.

Mayor Johnson asked whether DOE expressed concerns about impacts to Wapato Creek and surface water. Director Blount said staff is confident that those concerns can be addressed. One of the issues is water rights that have been used for surface goals in Wapato Creek. It may be one of the things that the department will consider in its role to consider impacts to Wapato Creek. It may have some impact on the department's decision with respect to the City's withdrawal rate. Staff anticipates that Wapato Creek is very well protected.

Mayor Johnson said he supports the direction the City is taking but if there are impacts; mitigation will involve shuffling surface withdrawal rates which could create concerns.

Councilmember Brooks suggested delaying action and combining the discussion with the study session discussion on water rates scheduled next week. He asked about potential impacts if the Council delays action. Director Blount explained that the issue has been delayed since Thanksgiving because of the Council's agendas. It is a process that will take years. The request is consistent with previous Council decisions and staff has presented the basic concepts and the overall cost within the comprehensive plan during each step of the process. If there is no decision to move forward, the City will continue to write huge checks to the City of Tacoma for water. The only mitigation to that is for the City to develop its own source of water. Two weeks likely will have little impact.

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Godwin, to table consideration of Resolution #1331 until the Council's January 26, 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Johnson acknowledged that the item would likely be discussed during the Council's study session on January 19, 2010.

#1333; Set Public Hearing Vacating a Portion of Alexander Avenue East

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve Resolution #1333; Set Public Hearing Vacating a Portion of Alexander Avenue East.

Acting Finance Director DeGroot read the title of Resolution #1333:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, fixing the time and place for hearing on petition to vacate a portion of Alexander Avenue East between Tax Parcels 0320122036 and 0320126021/0320126020.

Director Blount reported the public hearing is required by state law for vacation requests. The owners requesting the vacation are Robert and Jennifer Larson. Staff recommends approval of the resolution to set a public hearing on February 9, 2010.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

#1334; Authorizing the City Manager to apply for and negotiate a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve Resolution #1334; Authorizing the City Manager to apply for and negotiate a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Acting Finance Director DeGroot read the title of Resolution #1333:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to apply for and negotiate a Community Development Block Grant.

Planner Pasinetti reported the requested action authorizes staff to continue pursuing an application to apply for a Community Development Block Grant and negotiate the grant contract if awarded. The grant request is for approximately \$400,000 for sidewalk improvements to 62nd Avenue.

City Manager Worthington addressed Council questions on the amount of the funding request, likelihood of receiving the grant, and timeline for spending the funds, which covers an 18-month period.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Commission Liaison Assignments

City Manager Worthington reviewed current openings on the City's advisory boards and commissions. He requested direction on how the Council wants to proceed in filling vacant positions.

The Council agreed to form a subcommittee to interview applicants.

City Manager Worthington was asked to review other applications submitted during previous vacancies. Councilmembers Godwin, Brooks, and Cerqui volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

**Proposed Calendar
Items for Council**

City Manager Worthington reviewed the proposed calendar and asked for feedback on potential conflicts for budget retreat meetings. The Council reviewed potential calendar conflicts. City Manager Worthington confirmed he will survey the Council individually on availability to establish a meeting date schedule.

**Council Liaison
Assignments**

City Manager Worthington and the Council reviewed and agreed to the following Council liaison appointments:

- Volunteer PD Reserve Board – Godwin
- Fife Area Chamber – de Booy
- Lodging Tax Advisory Committee – Cerqui
- Gathering Place Committee – dissolved
- Rainier Media Center – Godwin/Worthington
- Rainier Communications Commission – Godwin/Worthington
- Puget Sound Regional Council – Johnson/Hull
- Pierce County Citizens Advisory Board – de Booy
- Pierce County Regional Council – Brooks/Hull/Godwin (need resolution for Godwin as second alternate)
- Fife School Board – Alveshere/Johnson/de Booy
- Puyallup School Board – Cerqui
- Senior Citizens Advisory Board – de Booy
- RAMP – Brooks
- Voucher Review Committee – Council rotation schedule on Mondays
- PRCS Advisory Board – Godwin
- Association of WA Cities – voting delegates assigned in May
- AWC – Legislative Committee – Johnson/Godwin
- Fife Historical Society – Cerqui/de Booy
- Zoo Trek Authority – Alveshere nominated
- Valley Cities Mayor and City Administrators - Johnson/Worthington/Brooks
- Mayors of Pierce County – Johnson/Brooks
- Pierce County Cities & Towns – Johnson/Brooks
- North Pierce County Community Coalition – not assigned
- Pierce County Low Income Housing - Alveshere

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

City Manager Worthington reported on the following:

- The swimming pool was recently reopened after completion of seasonal maintenance. The pool is open from 5:30 a.m. to 8 or 9 p.m. The City is reopening the hot tub after complying with federal requirements.
- Steve Marcotte was appointed as Assistant City Manager. David DeGroot was appointed as Acting Finance Director. There are no plans to backfill any open positions because of the recent appointments.

**COUNCILMEMBER
COMMENTS**

Councilmember Godwin commented that it's obvious that staff is not listening to concerns about transferring existing water rights for the City's irrigation uses as well as providing water for a possible demonstration hatchery. He requested that the Council schedule a discussion on water rights at a future study session within the next several months.

Councilmember Godwin commented on the recent loss of law enforcement officers and how DUI offenders are prosecuted for their crimes while habitual offenders are not jailed or are released for their crimes. He urged everyone to contact their legislators and local officials to advocate for enforcement of laws by prosecutors. There is a failure in the criminal justice system to prosecute offenders.

Mayor Johnson referred to information he received from AWC regarding a state board opening for reviewing the criminal justice system. He encouraged Councilmember Godwin to apply.

Councilmember Hull said he is looking forward to a better year.

Councilmember Brooks referred to the presentation from Mr. Abbott on *Vision 2040* and urged citizens to submit comments on the plan.

Councilmember Cerqui congratulated fellow Councilmembers on their election to the Council.

Councilmember de Booy said she looks forward to a new and busy year. She agreed with Councilmember Godwin's comments concerning the criminal justice system not doing its job. It really is a "Criminal's Justice System." The answers are not easy. Local law enforcement is doing the best they can, but there is a flaw in the system.

Councilmember Alveshere said it's an honor to serve the citizens of Fife and to be elected as a representative of the City. He commented on some positive news recently released through the State Economic Forecast and how October and November revenues exceeded expectations.

Mayor Johnson wished everyone a happy new year.

City Manager Worthington reported several congressional representatives have worked hard for the City. Last month, a budget earmark was pushed through for \$1.6 million for the Valley Avenue Phase 2 project.

**CITIZEN
COMMENTS**

Carole Sue Braaten, 2410 Berry Lane East, said she's concerned about water issues and the loss of recharge area by industrial users. Many residents have wells and she's concerned that water will be drawn away from residential wells that are used by citizens. Pulling water away from residential wells that have

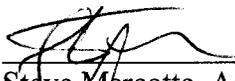
been long established is problematic. She cited an example in eastern Washington where wells were impacted by the withdrawal of other users. She commented that it can take up to seven years to receive water rights. The City needs to consider that issue. She addressed concerns about the loss of recharge areas.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.



Barry Johnson, Mayor



Steve Marcotte, Assistant City Manager/ City Clerk

Prepared by Valerie L. Gow, Recording Secretary/President
Puget Sound Meeting Services