

# FIFE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Fife City Hall  
Council Chambers

Date: October 23, 2007  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Kelley convened an executive session at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of Real Estate RCW 42.30.110 (b) (c) and Personnel RCW 42.30.110 (g) for approximately 20 minutes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kelley adjourned the executive session at 6:55 p.m.

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Kelley called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Godwin, Johnson, Edwards, Kelley, Cerqui, de Booy, and Roscoe.

Staff present: Worthington, Marcotte, Blackburn, Reinbold, Richards, Combs, Smith, Blount, Ringus, Reuter, Potter, Schwan, DeGroot, Stargel, and Recording Secretary Cheri Lindgren.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Kelley led the pledge of allegiance.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

**Jeff Rhyner, 2022 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East**, requested confirmation on the cost to hook up to water on 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. He reported the road was partially blocked the last several days. He described problems about gate access from an apartment complex to 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue residences during water line construction. Communication by staff or the Council to residents is critical. He said it's his understanding it will cost \$3,000 and not \$5,000 to hook up to water. He thanked the Council and staff for working with neighborhood residents.

City Manager Worthington explained Director Blount and the Public Works Department responded quickly to address the issue. A new water line to serve 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue residents is under construction. It should be completed within the next five days followed by a testing period. Property owners should be able to physically connect to the water line by the end of next week. Staff is distributing a letter to residents outlining hook up costs. Fife's Municipal Code (FMC) provides an exception for paying General Facility Charges (GFC) when property owners connect to a new water line within the first six months, which will save residents approximately \$4,000.

In response to questions from the Council, City Manager Worthington clarified the cost to property owners for a residential meter is less than \$1,000. Residents are also responsible for the cost to run a line from the meter to their house.

**Frieda Cramer, 2611 David Court Place East**, reported she recently received a letter from Pierce County Drainage District #21 regarding the Wapato Creek easement. This is the third revision based on citizen comments. She asked if Councilmembers have seen a copy of the agreement. Several Councilmembers indicated they have. Ms. Cramer asked whether

Councilmembers will sign the agreement without discussing it with an attorney.

Councilmember Edwards responded he doesn't know whether he would sign any agreement without talking to an attorney.

Ms. Cramer said the letter from Pierce County "soft pedals" signing the agreement somewhat. She asked what the City plans for Wapato Creek in the future, particularly for the residential portion.

**RECESS:**

Mayor Kelley recessed the meeting from 7:15 p.m. to 7:16 p.m.

**John Randolph, 2104 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East**, reported his well collapsed and the City hooked his home up to a fire hydrant. It's been difficult to get answers to questions. He commented about problems concerning gate access through a nearby apartment complex using a code to get to his house during construction. He said he asked a foreman on the job if he had locked the gate. The foreman indicated it was not his responsibility. Mr. Randolph said his wife contacted Fife Police and Fire Departments about locking the gate. Both departments indicated they did not have a key. It's an example of communication problems. Mr. Randolph commented about standing water and lack of proper drainage at the old fruit stand site. Approximately 10 years ago he lost equipment in his garage because of flooding. Residents, particularly on 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East are not getting a "fair shake."

Councilmember Roscoe asked whether site conditions at the Sterino property have changed to affect drainage. Director Blount explained some grading and temporary stormwater control has been completed. Development will be required to provide additional stormwater facilities.

City Manager Worthington provided additional details concerning access to 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue during construction.

Councilmember Edwards commented it is fortunate that the apartment owner is willing to help the neighborhood.

**Ellen Rhyner 2022 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East**, reported a week ago heavy pounding took place on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Her house experienced shaking. She conveyed she called and reported the activity to the City. She said she noticed a crack in a wall above a doorway in her home. She acknowledged a thank you card mailed to residents from Councilmember Roscoe.

Councilmember Godwin asked what type of response Ms. Rhyner received when she telephoned City Hall. Ms. Rhyner replied she accessed voicemail both times.

**Roberta Randolph, 2104 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East**, reported as a result of pounding

and other construction activities, her well collapsed. Before the well collapsed, rocks and sand were deposited through the water line into her washing machine, necessitating replacement with a new washing machine last week. Walls in three different rooms in her house have cracks caused from development activities and pounding on the ground. Ms. Randolph asked the Council to investigate the matter.

Councilmember Godwin said there are many Fife residents who rely on wells and he doesn't want to see citizens forced into hooking up to City water when wells fail. He suggested discussing the issue at a study session.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Minutes:                      Date: October 9, 2007 Council Meeting
- b. Approval of Vouchers:
  - Claims: #70152 – 70333                      \$871,254.66
  - Payroll: #43544 – 43636                      \$548,643.33
- c. Adopt Ordinance:
  - #1647-07, Street Illumination Regulations

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Fife Golden Jubilee Harvest Festival Recap**

Assistant Richards reported Fife's 2007 Harvest Festival was very successful. Approximately 3,000 people attended throughout the day. Councilmembers and Congressman Adam Smith participated in the parade. A photo slideshow of festival activities, including the popular fish tank, Elvis impersonator Danny Vernon, and fire dancers was displayed. Volunteers and contributors were acknowledged.

**Halloween Carnival**

Police Officer Schwan provided an overview of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Carnival planned for October 31, 2007 at the Fife Community Center from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A video showcasing last year's festivities was presented. A free swim from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Fife pool will follow the carnival. A canned food donation is requested. Gift bags containing Halloween flashlights were distributed to Councilmembers.

**New Employee Introductions**

Mayor Kelley introduced new Financial Analyst Dave DeGroot and new Communications Officer Erin Stargel. Councilmembers and staff welcomed Mr. DeGroot and Ms. Stargel to the City of Fife.

**Proclamation – 20<sup>th</sup> Street East Project Completion Celebration Month of November**

Mayor Kelley read a proclamation declaring November 1 – 30, 2007 as *20<sup>th</sup> Street East Project Completion Celebration Month*. In celebration of the event, businesses located along 20<sup>th</sup> Street East from 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue will have the ability to install temporary signs as defined by FMC sections 16.04.030 and .050 without the need to file an additional permit. The

Council encourages Fife citizens and surrounding areas to “stop and shop” at businesses located along 20<sup>th</sup> Street East.

Councilmember Roscoe commented that the section from 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue is the first phase of a multi-phased project for 20<sup>th</sup> Street East.

**COUNCIL  
DELEGATE REPORT**

Councilmember Godwin reported he and Councilmember Johnson attended a meeting with Port of Tacoma representatives regarding Wapato Creek.

Mayor Kelley added the Council would like fish habitat restored within Wapato Creek.

Councilmember Johnson reported he and Councilmember de Booy attended a field trip tour of mitigation sites along Wapato Creek. Information from the tour will be presented at the Council’s November study session.

Councilmember Edwards reported he, City Manager Worthington, and Assistant City Manager Reinbold attended a leadership meeting on future plans for the Port of Tacoma. Port of Tacoma is the seventh busiest port in the U.S. A variety of interests were represented at the meeting including environmental groups and the Puyallup Tribe.

Councilmember de Booy said the field trip tour of Wapato Creek was informative. It was a learning experience on how plantings can be used within buffer zones. She reported she recently met with the chamber and marketing director and discussed welcoming and gateway entrance signage for Fife. The Senior Center is hosting a benefit dinner on November 17, 2007 at Village Green in Federal Way. All proceeds will benefit Fife’s Senior Center. She said she also attended Selden’s Furniture store grand reopening event on October 19, 2007.

Councilmember Roscoe reported that Community in Schools has disbanded for a number of reasons. She said she plans to attend North Pierce County Coalition meetings. She recently discussed the issue of attracting a grocery store to Fife with a local boy scout troop. The young participants offered interesting solutions and perspectives. She reported she met with a concerned citizen from the Willow Street neighborhood about height limit increases along Highway 99.

Mayor Kelley reported the Mayor’s gathering was well attended.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**2008 Budget**

City Manager Worthington provided an overview of the Council’s 2008 preliminary budget process to date. The budget document has been available to the public in a variety of ways.

City Manager Worthington reviewed the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) recommendation and beginning and remaining fund balances, and total lodging tax funds available. He pointed out alternative funding recommendations based on the Council's feedback at its last study session.

The Council will consider extending the current management agreement with Fife Historical Society in the near future. A \$50,000 allocation was not included in the initial LTAC recommendation.

City Manager Worthington reviewed proposed agency programs, and initial and alternative funding recommendations. LTAC and alternative funding recommendations total \$776,683 and \$760,683, respectively.

One future change involves Drainage District #21.

Director Marcotte reported allocations based on Drainage District #21 recently adopted in the 2008 budget will be reflected in Fife's storm sewer utility fund prior to the second reading of the ordinance. Expenditures and revenues of \$13,000 will offset each fund.

Mayor Kelley opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

**Ellie Chambers, Convention & Visitor Bureau (CVB) boardmember,** reported CVB is currently conducting a nationwide search for a new executive director. She reviewed the purpose of the CVB. Approximately 9,190 web users have visited Fife's web page this year. The City receives \$22 for each \$1 contributed to CVB. Additional year-to-date web results were highlighted. She outlined how CVB promotes Fife at key events around the community. Unique features and events specific to Fife are included in the *Visitor Guide*. The web page is located at [www.travelfife.com](http://www.travelfife.com) The CVB Executive Board recently approved Fife's delegate as a voting member. She thanked the Council for their investment in the agency.

**Tim Waer, Executive Director of Tacoma Pierce County Sports Commission (TPCSC),** thanked the Council for financially supporting the organization. TPCSC is the only agency in Pierce County designed to attract athletic events to the region, which is important to Fife because of the number of Fife hotels and the City's proximity to events. Sports events bring approximately 150,000 visitors to Tacoma/ Pierce County and generate approximately \$17 million in spending revenue annually. Mr. Waer described how TPCSC works closely with hoteliers in the area. Fife hotels benefit from receiving the majority of hotel bookings from various events. TPCSC recently won a national award for its website.

In response to a question from City Manager Worthington, Mr. Waer reviewed other TPCSC funding partners for 2008.

There was no further public testimony. Mayor Kelley closed the public hearing at 8:20 p.m.

City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Ordinance #1648-07:

*An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington adopting the final budget for calendar year 2008.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt first reading of Ordinance #1648-07; City of Fife 2008 Budget.**

Discussion ensued on the LTAC's 2008 funding recommendations and an amendment concerning Drainage District #21 funding for the second reading.

Councilmember Cerqui expressed support for the alternative funding recommendations outlined in the LTAC matrix. He offered a suggestion to increase *Art in the Park/Fountain Relocation* funding by an additional \$10,000 allocated from tribal grant funds.

City Manager Worthington pointed out the Council can make a decision on LTAC funding now or at the Council's November 13, 2007 meeting.

Councilmember Edwards suggested forming an arts commission to determine an appropriate funding level.

Councilmember Roscoe and Mayor Kelley expressed support for allocating an additional \$10,000 for *Art in the Park/Fountain Relocation*. The Council could redesignate funding in the future if needed. An arts commission would have an initial budget to work with.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Cerqui moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to amend the motion and increase *Art in the Park/Fountain Relocation* by an additional \$10,000 raising the total to \$30,000. The amendment to the motion carried. Councilmember Godwin opposed.**

Discussion followed about what happens to LTAC funds that are not expended in a calendar year. Director Marcotte said authorities expire at the end of the year and any remaining funds are rolled into the next year's beginning fund balance.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to amend Ordinance #1648-07 to include the LTAC's summary of funding with the alternative recommendations included acknowledging funding for *Art in the Park/Fountain Relocation* is increased by \$10,000.**

Councilmember Johnson suggested retaining the initial \$15,000 funding recommendation for the *Fife-Milton Float Association* rather than an

alternative recommendation of \$10,000.

**Motion** **Amendment to the motion carried.**

**Motion** **Councilmember Johnson moved, seconded by Councilmember Godwin, to amend the motion and add another \$5,000 to the *Fife-Milton Float Association*.**

*Following additional discussion on the amount of lodging tax funds available for allocation, the makers of the motion withdrew the motion.*

**Motion** **Councilmember Godwin moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to amend the motion and add another \$10,000 to the *Fife-Milton Float Association* for a total of \$20,000. Amendment to the motion carried.**

**Motion** **Motion carried unanimously on the main amended motion.**

**Continuation of Modification of Radiance IV Preliminary Plat** Mayor Kelley reviewed the status of the modification of the Radiance Division 4 preliminary plat Planned Residential Development (PRD) request.

City Attorney Combs reminded the Council that following the previous public hearing, the record was left open for the sole purpose of allowing members to ask clarifying questions of witnesses who previously testified. Staff anticipates presenting a proposal to the Council for deliberation at the Council's November 13, 2007 meeting. He advised the Council that the matter is a quasi-judicial issue. Councilmembers are not allowed to speak with anyone about the application outside of the public meeting forum.

**Continuation of Public Hearing** Mayor Kelley continued the public hearing on modification of Radiance Division 4 preliminary plat PRD to November 13, 2007.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**#1153-07; Authorize** City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1153-07:

**Setting of Regular**

**Property Tax Levy for 2008**

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, fixing the amount of the tax levy necessary to meet the estimated revenues from sources other than taxation, for the general and special funds of the City of Fife for the year 2008 and to levy the annual Ad Valorem taxes of the City of Fife for the fiscal year 2008.*

Director Marcotte explained the primary purpose of the resolution is to set the total property tax levy amount. The Council determined the City requires a regular levy in the amount of \$2,225,261. The amount includes an increase in the property tax from the previous year, funds from the addition of new construction and improvements to property, increases in the value of state assessed property, and amounts authorized by law as a result of any

annexations that have occurred and refunds processed. Fife's actual levy for the previous year was \$2,078,809. The resolution authorizes an increase in the regular property tax levy for 2008 in the amount of \$146,452. Prior resolutions have included a property tax rate; however, Pierce County now requires all jurisdictions levying property taxes to declare the total amount. The estimated property tax levy rate is \$1.12/\$1,000 Assessed Valuation (AV). Pierce County will continue to refine the rate as final assessed valuation numbers are adjusted. Ultimately, Pierce County will produce a rate that equals a regular tax levy for Fife in the amount requested of \$2,225,261.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Resolution #1153-07; Authorize Setting of Regular Property Tax Levy for 2008.**

The Council discussed the \$1.30/\$1,000 AV property tax rate for 2007 compared to an estimated \$1.12/\$1,000 AV for 2008.

Councilmember Roscoe emphasized that the Council should be clear that the levy is different compared to the rate.

Director Marcotte reported the actual impact to an individual property is dependent on how the assessed valuation of his/her property has changed. It is difficult to predict what could happen for any particular individual. Fife's levy is a single component of the total property tax rate. The property tax levy amount is limited to 1% of the previous levy exclusive of new construction, annexations, or increases in state assessed properties.

Further discussion ensued about Fife's inability to set the rate. Fife is required to disclose the total levy amount.

**Public Comment**

**Walt Fitz** said he doesn't understand how the levy is set. He referred to rates established in 2004, 2005, and 2006 at \$1.19/\$1,000 AV, \$1.20/\$1,000 AV, and \$1.30/\$1,000 AV, respectively. Mayor Kelley reiterated that Fife informs Pierce County about the total amount of money it will collect next year in property taxes. Pierce County will establish the actual property tax levy rate to collect \$2,225,261 in 2008.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1141-07; Authorize Contract for Legal Services**

City Manager Worthington reported City Attorney Combs is leaving McGavick Graves and establishing a new law firm of VSI Law Group. Councilmembers previously requested information on how the City will conduct business with the new law firm. Staff worked with City Attorney Combs and drafted a legal services agreement effective January 1, 2008. Loren Combs has served as City Attorney since 1988.

City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1141-07:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for legal services with Loren D. Combs and VSI Law Group, PLLC.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Mayor Kelley, to adopt Resolution #1141-07; Authorize Contract for Legal Services.**

Mayor Kelley commented on Mr. Combs' long history with Fife. It's natural for the City to want to enter into a legal services agreement with VSI Law Group, PLLC.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1145-07; Authorizing Purchase of In-car Video Cameras**

Police Chief Blackburn reported adoption of the resolution authorizes the purchase of in-car video systems for new police vehicles acquired by the City this year.

City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1145-07:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington authorizing the City Manager to purchase in-car video camera systems through the interlocal purchasing agreement with the City of Seattle, for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 as budgeted.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Resolution #1145-07; Authorizing Purchase of In-car Video Cameras.**

Councilmember de Booy asked about the number of cars receiving new video camera equipment. Police Chief Blackburn replied funds are sufficient to acquire the server and camera equipment for four patrol cars.

Discussion ensued about the new server that will integrate with older video camera systems within the Police Department's patrol fleet.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1154-07; Authorize PSA for R/W and Construction with New Horizon Church**

Director Blount reported a copy of a deferral agreement is attached to the staff report. Purchase of right-of-way and a temporary construction easement from New Horizon Christian Center (NHCC) is \$12,304. In 2004, NHCC executed a frontage construction deferral agreement during the permitting phase of the church. However, the agreement did not include provisions for conversion of overhead utilities to underground, which was a City decision. To facilitate converting overhead utilities to underground, additional easement area is necessary to accommodate transformers and other equipment, as well as

access to install the conduit. The \$12,304 value will be credited against the deferral agreement for costs related to sidewalk construction. The payment Fife will make to NHCC is nominal and includes \$10 for the easement and \$10 for right-of-way to facilitate a binding agreement. NHCC will pay Fife \$70,000 to close out deferral agreement work. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1154-07 as presented.

City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1154-07:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington authorizing the City Manager to purchase right-of-way and a temporary construction easement from New Horizon Christian Center.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Resolution #1154-07; Authorize PSA for R/W and Construction with New Horizon Church.**

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1156-07; Authorize Supplemental Agreement #3 with David Evans and Associates for Environmental Analysis and Centerline Revision Feasibility Study for Improvements to Valley Avenue East, from 70<sup>th</sup> to Freeman**

Director Blount reported staff anticipates presenting an additional supplemental agreement in December. The proposed revised supplemental agreement includes an additional \$40,000 for environmental permitting re-evaluation to address design changes for Valley Avenue East. If the Council chooses to amend Resolution #1156-07, The Council will not have to consider an additional supplemental agreement in December.

Director Blount reported the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) wants to relocate a portion of Valley Avenue East associated with the design of the State Route (SR) 167 interchange, which impacts houses at the curve. The adjustment could result in construction cost savings of approximately \$1 million. If the Council approves the services outlined, the City is eligible for grant reimbursements. Staff recommends approval of amending Resolution #1156-07 to include an additional \$40,000 for environmental permitting re-evaluation, which results in a supplemental agreement amount of \$209,496.81 and a maximum amount payable of \$1,259,295.

City Clerk Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1156-07:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington authorizing additional services by David Evans and Associates for analysis and design of improvements to Valley Avenue East, from 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue East to Freeman Road East.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Resolution #1156-07; Authorize Supplemental Agreement #3 with David Evans and Associates for Environmental Analysis and**

**Centerline Revision Feasibility Study for Improvements to Valley Avenue East, from 70<sup>th</sup> to Freeman.**

Councilmember Edwards asked why Fife is paying for supplemental services when WSDOT is requesting the change. Director Blount explained Fife is the lead contracting agency and staff does not want to defer project responsibility to the state. The state awarded Fife millions of dollars in grant funds and has provided the City with additional right-of-way.

In response to a question from Councilmember Roscoe about the difference between the two supplemental agreement documents, Director Blount clarified revised Supplement No. 3 includes a work element 8 in the amount of \$40,000.

Councilmember Cerqui asked if the proposed realignment shifts the centerline of the road from 82<sup>nd</sup> to 70<sup>th</sup>. Director Blount indicated it will and by shifting the centerline, it will also reduce impacts to a creek in close proximity of the interchange.

In response to comments offered by Councilmember Godwin about existing structures, City Manager Worthington explained an assessment is required to protect significant sites and properties.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to amend Resolution #1156-07 so it refers to Supplement No. 3 dated October 22, 2007 as presented versus the supplement dated October 17, 2007.**

Discussion ensued about historical building structure inventory forms and federal funding requirements.

**Motion**

**The amendment to the motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion**

**The main, amended motion carried unanimously.**

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

At Council's direction, the Parks Department is implementing a 60-day trial shuttle bus program from Fife Community Center to the Surprise Lake shopping area. The weekly shuttle service begins on November 6, 2007 and will depart from the community center at 10:30 a.m. and return at 1:30 p.m.

The Council commented on providing service for residents unable to drive to the community center.

Fife recently received the required Department of Ecology (DOE) Water Quality Permit for the Valley Avenue project.

City Manager Worthington reviewed an upcoming calendar of events.

November 13, 2007 is identified as a tentative date for a “figurative” ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Port of Tacoma to recognize completion of the I-5 ramp.

Other key dates and events include:

- Comcast holiday message/video recording– November 14, 2007
- Chamber auction – November 15, 2007
- Community tree lighting ceremony – November 27, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.
- Council retreat – February 1 and 2, 2008

## **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

Councilmember Godwin emphasized that an employee should answer incoming telephone calls at City Hall. When messages are left, citizens should be able to expect a return call from staff. City Manager Worthington responded staff is working with the consultant to address technical difficulties with the telephone system.

Councilmember Johnson commented that voice mail is a reality today. However, he asked that staff ensure that calls are returned and recommended sending a Citywide e-mail asking staff to change personal voicemail messages to include an option of speaking directly with an employee.

In response to additional comments about concerns expressed by 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue residents, City Manager Worthington indicated staff will contact property owners to identify potential claims.

Councilmember Edwards stated most of the time when he calls City Hall he is connected to an employee.

Councilmember Edwards encouraged Councilmembers to attend the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) *Newly Elected Officials Training*. He acknowledged the Port of Tacoma’s \$2 million investment for a road project that will help alleviate traffic congestion in Fife.

Councilmember Cerqui thanked citizens who attended and provided comments during the Council meeting.

Councilmember de Booy added that it appears the meeting audience has increased. She added that an employee also answers the phone when she calls City Hall.

Council and staff discussed the City’s response to provide water to 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East residents. City Manager Worthington emphasized staff was only recently made aware of wells failing on 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East. The water line project was not scheduled or designed as part of the City’s work program. Staff reacted quickly and is responsive to the needs of its citizens. He said he

agrees that clearer communication between the City, contractor, and residents is necessary.

Councilmember Roscoe agreed that the Council and staff are responsive to citizens. In particular, she said she answered e-mails from a Willow Lane area resident concerned about building height increases. She met with the resident last night and learned that Councilmembers Johnson, Cerqui, de Booy, and Mayor Kelley have also spoken with the resident. Councilmembers work to be responsive to citizens. She encouraged Fife citizens to contact the Council with concerns and/or issues.

Councilmember Edwards agreed that staff and Council reacted quickly after learning about the wells failing on 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East. He added that Police Chief Blackburn asked an officer to check on the gate issue. The gate is now locked and the Fire Department can gain access.

Mayor Kelley reported a Veterans Day observance is scheduled for October 29, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. in the City of Puyallup.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business, Mayor Kelley adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.**

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Mike Kelley, Mayor

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Steve Marcotte, City Clerk/Finance Director

Prepared by Cheri Lindgren, Recording Secretary  
Puget Sound Meeting Services