

**FIFE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Fife City Hall
Council Chambers**

**Date: October 13, 2009
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 AND
ROLL CALL** Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting of the Fife City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Richard Godwin, Glenn Hull, Butch Brooks, Barry Johnson, Rob Cerqui, Nancy de Booy, and Kim Roscoe.

Staff present: City Manager Steve Worthington, Assistant City Attorney Gregg Amann, Finance Director Steve Marcotte, Police Chief Brad Blackburn, Parks, Recreation & Community Services Director Kurt Reuter, Acting Community Development Director Carl Durham, Municipal Court Judge Kevin Ringus, Public Works Director Russ Blount, Administrative Assistant Andrea Richards, Financial Analyst Dave DeGroot, Marketing Coordinator Laurel Potter, and Recording Secretary William Gow II,

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE** Councilmember Roscoe led the pledge of allegiance.

**CHANGES,
ADDITIONS OR
DELETIONS TO
AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.

CITIZENS COMMENTS Carole Sue Braaten, 2410 Berry Lane East, Fife, expressed concerns with the City's budget and loss of police officers because that loss should have been part of the Environmental Impact Statement as Fife has grown considerably. Those impacts should be considered. During that time the economy was in hyperinflation for almost 10 years. Because of over assessments in property taxes, cities begin relying on those assessments. There has also been a request to the Pierce County Attorney to look into the matter and it appears a letter of demand has been requested. The City needs to consider the matter, as police officers are a priority while trails along people's backyards and the drainage ditch are not. It was addressed at many meetings to reconsider the growth prior to each development occurring and prior to the large multi-complexes that were constructed.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes: September 15, 2009 Council Meeting/Study Session
September 22, 2009 Council Meeting
- b. Approval of Vouchers:
 - Payroll: #46106 – 46159 \$634,985.60
 - Claim: #77348 – 77505 \$561,945.66

- c. Set a Special Meeting for October 20, 2009 Study Session City Hall
7:00 p.m.

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL
PRESENTATIONS**

**Harvest Festival
Recap/Report**

Marketing Coordinator Potter presented a slide show recapping the 5th Annual Fife Harvest Festival on October 3, 2009 at Dacca Park. The first event featured a pancake feed at the Fife Community Center. Kiwanis members cooked breakfast for participants. The second event, "Stuff the Bus 5k Run," resulted in donations and proceeds to the local food bank. The major sponsor for the festival this year was Boeing Employees Credit Union. The day ended with a chili feed at Columbia Junior High School and the "Really Big Show!" Attendees were treated at the end of the day to fire dancers and fireworks.

Coordinator Potter and Councilmember Roscoe participated in several prize drawings for local venue overnight packages.

Director Marcotte read a letter from Mike Seeger into the record congratulating the City of Fife, staff, and Councilmembers for working to make the 5th Annual Fife Harvest Festival the best ever. The event was family friendly and one of the most affordable events in Pierce County history. The beer and wine garden and music were wonderful new additions. Mr. Seeger expressed his appreciation to City staff for their efforts.

Councilmembers commented positively on the festival with many agreeing the harvest should reflect a local, smaller community event and not try to replicate larger and regional events, such as the Puyallup Fair or Issaquah Salmon Days.

Museum Update

Connie Cook, President, Fife Historical Society, reported on current activities at the Fife Museum and Dacca Barn. Currently, displays include the community's first fire department and the Japanese/American community. The Japanese/American display includes photographs and memorabilia. She thanked several individuals for their efforts in developing the display. The Japanese/American Citizen League of Seattle participated in a private showing. Members complimented the museum on the display. The Harvest Festival was very well attended with over 70 people signing the guest book during the event.

The barn project involves the efforts of Boardmembers Mike Kelley and Pat

Hulsey. Much has been accomplished. A grand opening is anticipated involving all individuals and companies that have donated time, material, and labor as the guests of honor. The museum looks forward to the train as an addition. She extended an invitation to visit the museum.

Pat Hulsey, Boardmember, referred to the City funding of \$130,000 and indicated he reviewed expenditures. In 2008, the museum spent \$49,756.49. In 2009, the museum spent \$40,163.90. Total expenditures are below \$90,000 to date. He said it appears not all bills have been submitted to the City. He assured the City that the bills will be submitted. City Manager Worthington confirmed that after the City receives the billings, the museum will receive reimbursement.

Mike Kelley, 3120 Freeman Road East, updated the Council on the status of the barn and future activities. The barn has undergone some renovation with more planned involving electrical and insulation. The walls will be sheet rocked. Sewer installation is currently underway and once completed there will be a restroom within the barn. Some vents are necessary for the roof. The barn is handicap accessible. After completion of sewer work, concrete work will be completed to the street. The next big project is installation of a heating system. With the assistance of many people, the Tribe, and the contractors, renovation of the barn was possible. Progress continues on the renovation with a grand opening planned for next spring. The barn will provide a venue for community events.

Councilmember Brooks asked that staff prepare a budget report of expenditures for the museum because of some misunderstandings. The City authorized \$130,000 for capital improvements to the barn. City Manager Worthington affirmed a report is ready for the Council's review. Some of the allocation was to repay a portion of the budget that had been previously provided for the roof and other items. That information will be included in the report.

Fife Regional Chamber of Commerce

PK MacLean, Executive Director, Fife Regional Chamber of Commerce, briefed the Council on chamber activities in 2009 involving visitor services, monthly luncheons, golf tournaments, visitor guides, and website redevelopment. Mt. Rainier continues to be the top choice for information requests followed by the Museum of Glass and the Emerald Queen Casino. This year, more people are seeking budget accommodations, campgrounds, and picnic areas. There have been more requests for information on the Fife Historical Museum, local parks, and Wi-Fi spots. She acknowledged Coordinator Potter for updating information and providing technical assistance on the website.

The chamber is active with the South Sound Chamber of Commerce Legislative Coalition; comprised of a group of nine South Sound chambers of commerce to lobby state legislators on issues of importance to each

chamber and its community. One priority for the 2010 legislative session is flood control infrastructure and long-term prevention of flooding at all levels through planning, studies, and prioritization of repairs to flood control networks directly impacting the state's economy.

At the local level, the chamber brought together stakeholders involved in Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) I-5 widening project and the potential of erecting 28-foot sound barriers along the I-5/Fife corridor blocking prime real estate frontages.

Next week, the chamber is hosting a City Council candidate forum on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fife Community Center. The forum will be moderated by the Tacoma/Pierce County League of Women Voters.

Pierce Transit System Redesign Project

Lind Simonsen, Community Relations Coordinator, Pierce Transit, provided an informational update on Pierce Transit's System Redesign project. Currently, the transit system has 52 bus routes spanning the region carrying 50,000 daily trips during weekdays. Route 500 serving Fife originates from downtown Tacoma through Fife on Pacific Highway to the Federal Way Transit Center. Approximately, 1,600 trips are provided each weekday. Route 501 travels along the south side of I-5 along 20th from downtown Tacoma through Fife to Milton and Federal Way. Nationally, there has been a significant growth in ridership over the last six years with over a 20% increase over the last two years. Over the last several years, the agency received over 200 requests for additional service throughout the service area.

The agency receives 70% of its revenue from sales tax. Currently, the rate is 6/10ths of one cent with most of the funds supporting Pierce Transit's fixed route system. ADA mandated shuttle service is provided with over 300 vehicles operating within the Vanpool Program for commuters.

When gas prices rose, many people adjusted their spending habits with more people using transit and more people spending less. A decline in sales tax began in early 2007. By the end of the 2007, the agency lost almost \$2 million of projected sales tax revenue. Since the agency was established in 1980, the agency has experienced an average increase of 6% in sales tax annually because of the growth of the economy in the Pierce County area. By 2008, the agency lost an additional \$12 million. In 2009, the projected loss is anticipated to be \$27 million. Over the last three years, Pierce Transit has lost \$41.3 million in sales tax revenue. Without some source of revenue, there will be significant reductions in service Pierce Transit provides to the community.

The agency is pursuing due diligence in cutting costs and in seeking additional revenue sources. As the agency reviews the redesign of the

system, the goal is to determine overall how a more effective and efficient system can be provided and valued by users. The agency is looking at how to prioritize service and is considering input regarding improvements and connections to regional transportation services. A series of community workshops are scheduled throughout the county for community discussions and input on prioritizing service, where the public wants improvements and reductions, and regional connections. More information can be obtained by visiting www.pttomorrow.org. Mr. Simonsen invited the Council to attend the workshops.

Mr. Simonsen responded to questions on the definition of a bus trip and how federal stimulus funding was used for capital purchases and maintenance. He reviewed standard bus fares as well as rates for seniors and youths.

COUNCIL DELEGATE REPORT

Councilmember Brooks reported on his attendance to the monthly RAMP meeting. A report was provided on the region's Vision 20/40 for transportation throughout Puget Sound and a study by WSDOT between Ft. Lewis and Highway 512.

Councilmember Brooks hosted the Mayor's Forum in September. The Director from the Pierce County Health Department provided information on H1N1.

Councilmember Cerqui reported the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee held a meeting, which he was unable to attend. He thanked everyone for their efforts in producing the Fife Harvest Festival.

Councilmember de Booy said she visited the museum and toured the Japanese/American display. The work on the barn has been impressive by the volunteers. Currently, railroad ties have been placed in preparation for placement of the train engine. The barn will likely become a landmark for Fife and there are many possibilities for future events and activities. She also attended the opening of the Elder House for the Puyallup Tribe. "The House of Respect" is for tribal elders. The Tribe holds seniors in great respect as well as celebrating elders.

Mayor Johnson commented on his attendance to the opening of the Elder House as well. The facility is wonderful and it's humbling to see how the Tribe holds its elders in such high respect. The Tribe sets a wonderful example that society should duplicate.

Councilmember de Booy commented on the availability of a drop box for disposal of old and outdated medicines.

Councilmember Roscoe reported on an attendance conflict for the remainder of the year with Fife School District Board meetings. The Red

Wolf exhibit at Point Defiance Zoo is under renovation with a groundbreaking ceremony for the new exhibit scheduled earlier in the week. Wolf awareness weekend is scheduled at Northwest Trek on October 16, 17, and 18, 2009.

Mayor Johnson thanked his daughter for helping the Council serve corn during the Council Corn event at the Fife Harvest Festival. He also was honored to help select the Fife High School Daffodil Princess this year. Six candidates were interviewed.

PUBLIC HEARING

2010 Budget Revenue Hearing

Director Marcotte reported the public hearing is the first in a series of required public hearings on the proposed revenue budget for the City. The budget for all funds totals \$65,624,462 for 2010. The General Fund component of the budget is \$16,275,758. The proposed revenue budget includes a proposed increase of 1% in property tax levy as well as an additional increase from new construction. The resolution for adoption of the property tax levy will be presented to the Council at its next regular meeting on October 27, 2009. The proposed budget includes the total allowed levy of \$2,613,937, which represents a \$52,000 increase in property tax of which half is from the additional 1% and half from new construction added to the tax rolls.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Citizen Testimony

Carole Sue Braaten, 2410 Berry Lane East, commented that now is not the time during this economic crisis to increase property tax. Many people have lost jobs and many businesses are closing. There are many people living within the flood area who have to pay up to \$1,400 for flood insurance. She asked the City to make reductions, as everyone is sacrificing. Raising property tax will cause landlords to raise rents. Many people will move and leave the area. There are multiple families living in one house.

Mike Kelley, 3120 Freeman Road, said although he doesn't disagree with the previous comments if the City does make reductions, be prepared for an earthquake, as "Joel will rollover in his grave."

Don Alveshere, 6051 Discovery Street East, said he also believes it is not a good time for the City to increase property tax for some of the reasons already mentioned. Many people's homes have been devalued while their property tax would increase under the proposal, which is confusing to most people. It's not a good time to increase the levy. Some of the same restraints that contributed to not pursuing the loading door tax should apply to property taxes.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES:

#1704; 2008 WSDOT Specifications and Modified Street Construction Standards

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, Booy, to approve first reading of Ordinance #1704; WSDOT Specifications and Modified Street Construction Standards.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Ordinance #1704:

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, regarding street construction standards, and amending Fife Municipal Code Sections 12.14.010, 12.20.055, 12.20.065, 12.20.075, 12.20.080, and 12.20.085.

Director Blount reported the ordinance is of housekeeping in nature. Staff realized after the Valley Avenue project began that the City is several years late in adopting WSDOT's Standard Specifications, which are updated every two years. Additionally, the ordinance addresses a scrivener's error on pavement depths which was inadvertently incorporated in the City's "green street" ordinance. Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, Booy, to waive second reading and adopt Ordinance #1704; WSDOT Specifications and Modified Street Construction Standards.

Public Comment

Carole Sue Braaten, 2410 Berry Lane East, agreed on the importance of adopting the ordinance to meet state standards.

Councilmember Brooks commented that it is the City's decision whether to retain the current standard. Director Blount affirmed that it's possible with respect to the City's local streets.

Councilmember Brooks asked whether it's necessary to adopt a specific version of the standard specifications or the most current standard specifications to avoid having to readopt an ordinance every two years. Assistant City Attorney Amann advised that it may be possible to amend the ordinance to reflect that the most recent version of WSDOT's Standard Specifications would be adopted.

adopt Resolution #1319; ILA with Tourism Promotion Area.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1319:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing an interlocal agreement with Pierce County and the Cities of Tacoma, Puyallup, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, DuPont, and Sumner for establishment of the Pierce County Tourism Promotion Area.

City Manager Worthington reported the Pierce County Council is seeking the Council's approval to authorize establishment of a Tourism Promotion Area (TPA). In joining the agreement, City of Fife hotel operators would assess a 50¢ daily room fee to be managed by the TPA. Area hotel operators would have two seats on the TPA Board. The Board determines how the funds will be expended through an approved marketing program. The City Council received a presentation on the proposal at a previous study session.

Public Comment

Rob Allen, Pierce County Economic Development Division, reported on his role in the process was developing the TPA interlocal agreement based on Spokane's agreement. The agreement is proposed by hoteliers for the benefit of hoteliers. The City of Sumner was the first city to pass the agreement. Since then, the cities of DuPont, Puyallup, and Tacoma approved the agreement. The cities of Lakewood and Gig Harbor as well as the Pierce County Council are scheduled to consider the agreement in the next several weeks.

Councilmember de Booy asked for clarification on the schedule for the special assessment rate. Mr. Allen reported Fife is located within Zone C, which has an assessment of 50¢. The original resolution of intent included City of Fife in Zone B. However, the proposed ILA was changed to reflect the City of Fife as located in Zone C, which represents an assessment of 50¢ a night for each room occupied.

Councilmember Hull referred to current lodging tax collected by hotels and questioned the intent of the additional assessment. Mr. Allen said the program is a recognition that in the state tourism promotion is recognized as funded at a much lower level than other states. The program is recognition that if the state wants to be competitive on a national level, promotion must be funded at a commensurate level.

Councilmember Godwin said the agreement doesn't provide information on the mechanism guaranteeing funds to hoteliers in Fife, which he's not comfortable with and will not support unless there is some mechanism for returning funds to the community generating the funds.

Amy Tyler, Pierce County Lodging Association, said she likely cannot

fully respond to the question but noted there is a mechanism ensuring funds assessed in Fife are returned through promotion of Fife hotels. One of the reasons for implementing the Tourism Promotion Area regionally is because more marketing promotion can be accomplished with more funding. The hotel community understands that some events the region wants to attract cannot be hosted by one single community because of capacity. The collaboration through the partnership of all the communities enables promotion to attract larger events. She cited some experiences of a TPA in the Yakima area. Existing programs in the community already supported downtown core programs with the majority of funding from the TPA benefitting ancillary and outlying areas tenfold to downtown areas. The benefits of TPA funds are incremental.

Sang Kim, General Manager, Baymont Inn & Suites, testified that all major areas, such as the Seattle area and areas in California have TPA's. Fife represents approximately 23% of the total lodging space within Pierce County. Fife hotels are competing with Seattle tourism. Hotels spend funds promoting and marketing the area. He said he's expended \$100,000 last year for marketing. In comparison, a larger hotel in Seattle spends \$250,000 annually on marketing. The hotel has benefited from membership in the Convention Visitors Bureau. There are many hotels in Fife that cannot afford to spend \$100,000 on marketing. There are no vehicles available to attract more customers. Hotels are still struggling because of the economy. The TPA provides extra help for hotels to market their properties.

Ms. Tyler responded to Councilmember Cerqui's questions pertaining to the Board of Directors and indicated it's an 11-member board with Fife having two seats. Fife is the second highest represented City on the Board.

Mr. Allen reported the effort has been promoted and driven by hoteliers. If they, at some point, decide the TPA is not working for them, there is the option of dissolving the TPA.

Councilmember Brooks said that based on the previous study session, the largest recipients to receive the funds are the CVB and the Sports Commission. Mr. Allen indicated that at this point, there have been no decisions. The hotel commission, which will be established by ordinance by the County Council, will contract with a tourism promotion area manager. That organization will run day-to-day operations. It is not designated within the ILA that it will be the CVB and the Sports Commission. An RFP process will be undertaken to select the organization.

Ms. Tyler said the Pierce County Lodging Association's original intent was to fund the CVB and Sports Commission for incremental programs. The intent is not to replace lodging tax funds but to build on existing programs.

Councilmember Hull questioned the number of hotel property owners representing the 67% who have indicated support for the TPA. Ms. Tyler said supporting hotels represents more than 65% of the total number. Fife hotel owners were the first to sign the petition as well as participate in the first presentations.

Mr. Kim noted that the only two properties in Fife not participating in the TPA are Motel 6 and Extended Stay of America because of conflict of interest. Regarding CVB's role, he said his hotel had 140 rooms booked this year with over 3,000 rooms booked through April next year, which were generated through CVB's efforts. He commented on the goal to enhance CVB funds, which are not sufficient for the size of the region. The Sports Commission refers sports teams to Fife every year resulting in overnight stays.

Darshan Randhawa, Travelodge, spoke in support of the TPA.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**#1320; Authorize
Agreement for Purchase
of Jo Property**

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Resolution #1320; Authorize Agreement for Purchase of Jo Property.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1320:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding and related agreement with Young B. Jo and Yang N. Jo for purchase by the City of Fife of Tax Parcel No. 0420174035 for right of way and utilities purposes.

Director Blount reported the request is for the purchase of the Jo property for a portion of property for widening Valley Avenue East. Under the terms of the agreement, the Jo's received an option to sell the entire property. Agreement has been reached for purchase of the property. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Cerqui commented on the sad loss of the small community store owned by the Jo's.

NEW BUSINESS

**Valley Avenue
Contractors Schedule**

Director Blount referred to a copy of the detailed construction schedule for the 70th Avenue/Valley Avenue East Improvement project. Further refinements will likely occur regarding 70th Avenue work. A series of retaining walls will be constructed along 70th Avenue East followed by stormwater work on Valley Avenue. The contractor intends to move up some of the utility work to overlap with conduit work, allowing paving to move forward in the spring rather than summer next year. The schedule completes the project based on contract obligations. As the schedule is refined, staff will update the Council.

Councilmember Brooks said it appears the 50-day road closure will occur next summer. Director Blount verified that it will occur in the summer.

Councilmember Brooks said he asked staff to explore the possibility of escalating the next phase of 70th since the bids were less than the engineer's estimate. There was a discussion about having the consultant begin working on right-of-way acquisition to speed up the process. He asked for feedback from the Council for accelerating the schedule as the City received a grant for design on 70th, which is isn't due until next year. In the interim, the City could begin initiating work through the consultant on the next phase of work. The City will receive reimbursement for that work.

City Manager Worthington affirmed that the City could authorize the final design for 70th. The design will spell out what right-of-way is necessary to acquire.

Director Blount confirmed there are some reasons for beginning work on the design as it will help in preparing right-of-way plans and begin right-of-way acquisition. Part of that effort involves NEPA evaluation because of the potential to move the storm pond. The original permitting shows the storm pond on City property. The City has not formally undertaken the process for changing the permit to place the storm pond in a different location. Right-of-way efforts involve individual negotiations, which can vary in time between property owners. Another key issue is working with utilities converting overhead utilities underground. The first step is design, which staff is prepared to initiate. It will take approximately four to six months to complete the NEPA process for all right-of-way. Much right-of-way on the corridor of 70th is under a current NEPA, which will involve preparation of documentation requiring two to three months.

Councilmember Godwin asked about the amount of right-of-way currently acquired to date on 70th. Director Blount replied that no new right-of-way has been acquired to date. Right-of-way has been dedicated through various projects but not sufficient right-of-way for continuous lanes. Right-of-way is required of all property along 70th. Councilmember Godwin questioned how the City allowed development without reserving right-of-

way for the corridor. He said that although he favors undergrounding, the project is not the right candidate for undergrounding because of transmission lines. There is insufficient gain in the amount of utilities to be undergrounded to justify the expense. He said he prefers beginning sooner rather than later and doesn't want to see the project become a 12-year project. His expectation is that within a year, motorists can be driving on the corridor.

Director Blount pointed out that because of the involvement of federal funds; a year to completion is not realistic. Councilmember Godwin suggested the project should be completed within a year of the Valley Avenue project. There is a tendency by the City not to timely complete projects because they continually undergo expansion and change.

Councilmembers Hull, de Booy, and Mayor Johnson expressed interest in moving forward earlier rather than later.

Motion

Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to proceed with final design of the 70th Avenue/Valley Avenue second phase.

Discussion followed on the City Manager's authority to move forward with the design work. It was noted the funds for the right-of-way work totals \$350,000. Director Blount indicated it will involve federal approval for changes to the environmental permit. Mayor Johnson asked about the additional right-of-way and whether that need is required because of undergrounding. Director Blount said right-of-way is also needed for street width because it's been a number of years since the Council adopted street design standards to include bike lanes and planter strips. A number of those projects were constructed prior to adoption of those design standards. For properties built in the 1990s, additional property will be required. The undergrounding will be located under the sidewalk other than for some additional bump outs for transformers and switch gears.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

City Manager Worthington reported on the following activities:

- The Fife Pool's trap door in the roof has been installed allowing future replacement of mechanical equipment.
- The City recently experienced some instances of graffiti. The graffiti was removed through painting. The Police Department continues to focus efforts on juvenile and young adult suspects.
- The City's annual Halloween Carnival is scheduled at Fife Community Center on October 31, 2009 beginning at 5:30 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. Free activities are included along with activities

hosted by the Police Department. Councilmembers and their families are encouraged to attend.

- The City's street classification system was recently reviewed with some federal street reclassifications to help identify specific functions and needs for streets, such as Levee Road that will help in future funding priorities.
- City staff is working on an internal City identification card. Staff should have individual ID cards issued by the end of the month.
- City Manager Worthington reported on his participation in a teleconference with a variety of city managers and administrators from across the U.S. on H1N1 flu. The message is that people need to be prepared and to consider the swine flu as a serious issue and take necessary precautions including obtaining a vaccination.
- The Pierce County Council is meeting in the Fife Council Chambers on October 20, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. The City's mobile command post will be displayed in front of City Hall prior to the meeting. The command post was recently used during an exercise on a terrorist drill.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Hull invited citizens to attend the Chamber's candidate forum to learn about the difference between the candidates running for Council positions. The forum is on October 21, 2009 at the Fife Community Center beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember de Booy commented on the red light enforcement program and the fact that there appears to be an abundance of tickets that were issued. Recent information indicated over 700 tickets were issued during the first day of the Puyallup Fair. Because of the number of tickets and that many people do not feel the tickets were legitimate, they are seeking a hearing, which is causing several court dates twice a week costing the City for the judge and administrative costs. The City's red light photo enforcement program is not meant to add revenue to the City, but to emphasize safe driving in the City. The City's revenue is limited because payment is made to the red light enforcement company, Redflex. Any remaining revenue is allocated to a Public Safety Fund with restricted uses. Because of the number of tickets and the court cases arising from them, she questioned the validity of the cameras. She asked whether the equipment is functioning properly and if the equipment is regularly maintained, as there could be a need for adjustments. She asked whether periodic maintenance is occurring.

City Manager Worthington replied that the equipment is periodically inspected and maintenance is performed if the equipment is found to working outside of established parameters.

Councilmember Brooks said he understands that no tickets are issued until

they have been reviewed by both Redflex and a Fife Police Officer. City Manager Worthington verified the procedure. Councilmember Brooks said he witnessed numerous people making right hand turns at the intersection at 54th without slowing down. Having a picture taken doesn't generate a ticket. Councilmember Godwin commented on his observations of motorists who don't obey traffic laws. However, there could be an improvement at 70th and Valley by installing a sign stating, "Stop Here" along with an arrow pointing at the stop line.

Councilmember Roscoe agreed that motorists have lost the ability to stop behind the white line on a red light. It's not about cameras malfunctioning; it's about people not stopping when they are supposed to stop on a red light.

Councilmember de Booy said her comments were not intended to indicate that cameras were the entire issue but that the cameras could have some problems, and that she wanted assurance that the cameras are checked periodically. It would be helpful for the intersection to be signed. It's amazing that so many people want to litigate tickets creating two days of court and extra expense to the City. She said she's concerned about the expense of the program.

Mayor Johnson reported he received a ticket on 70th and Valley and that it's not just a line but could be a pedestrian who's hit by a car running a red light. Motorists should stop behind the line.

City Manager Worthington reported the City's website includes information on the City's red light photo enforcement program

**RECESS TO
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

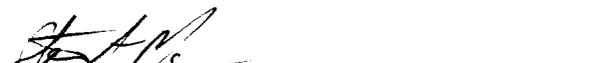
Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to recess at 9:06 p.m. to an executive session for five minutes on potential litigation. Motion carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE AND
ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Johnson reconvened and adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.



Barry Johnson, Mayor


Steve Marcotte, City Clerk/Finance Director