



Commissioners:

Austin, Bridges, Child, Crawford, Haase, Haines, Huffington, Johnson

Staff Liason:

Derek Barry, Community Services Manager

The city is conducting this public meeting using a hybrid model. The public is welcome to attend tonight's meeting in-person at City Hall (First Floor Conference Room), or virtually by using the meeting access link below.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NGMMyOTIwZTAAtMTU0Yi00N2U1LWI2NjEtODg4Y2FIYzdlMzU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d2e17d56-5ed4-4f6d-9847-78f1db76cd6f%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a21fd3a7-22ab-4445-a016-209fdf70cd17%22%7d

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. Approval of the April 2023 Minutes
2. Sumner Municipal Code update - 12.60.050 General Trail Hours
3. Rainier View Park Playground Replacement
4. Parks & Trails Plan Updates - Vision
5. Ordinance Green Burial Update

REPORTS

ADJOURNMENT

Forestry & Parks Commission Meeting

4/13/2023 4:50-5:50pm

Zoom

Meeting called by: Derek Barry

Type of meeting: Forestry & Parks Commission

Facilitator: Derek Barry

Note taker: Derek Barry

Attendees: Commissioners Austin, Bridges, Child, Crawford, Johnson
Community Services Manager Derek Barry
Parks Supervisor Dan Gates

Minutes

Agenda item: Approval of the March 2023 meeting minutes

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Approved the minutes of the March 2023 meeting.

Conclusions:

Approved

Agenda item: Green Burial Section – Municipal Code

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Community Services Manager Barry shared the updates to the SMC. This includes amending section 8.04 and new section 8.04.320 related to Green Burials.

Conclusion:

Approved with recommendation to forward to Council for approval.

Agenda item: Rainier View Park Playground Replacement

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Community Services Manager Barry shared proposals for the playground replacement at Rainier View Park. Commissioners wanted to see swings, nets, climbers and possibly a zip line in future proposals.

Conclusion:

The discussion and direction from the commission is request using Park Impact Fees to expand and make the playground inclusive. This will help current and upcoming growth near the park. CSM Barry will work with Council to request access to PIF and reach out to vendors for proposals within the requested budget amount.

Agenda item: Heritage Park & Alley Activation – Update

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Community Services Manager Barry shared updates on the preferred design and next steps including seeking funding for final design.

Agenda item: Parks & Trail Plan – update

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Community Services Manager Barry shared kickoff information about the plan. He reminded the commission of the upcoming Open House.

Agenda item: Arbor Day Event Reminder

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Community Services Manager Barry reminded the commissioners of the Arbor Day event planned for the Rivergrove area on April 22nd between 9-11am.

Agenda item: Commissioner Comments

Presenter: Derek Barry

Discussion: Commissioners Haase and Johnson shared interest in getting bulb flowers, ground cover strawberries, blueberries and huckleberries in our parks or along trails. Staff shared we do have some food bearing trees in several parks from an earlier partnership with Pierce County Conservation District.

ORDINANCE XXXX
CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTIONS OF SMC 8.04 CEMETARY AND ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 8.04.320 RELATED TO GREEN BURIALS.

WHEREAS, the Sumner Cemetery provides needed and valued services to the community; and

WHEREAS, the City has identified and developed an area of the Sumner Cemetery to provide a green burial option.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That Sumner Municipal Code Section 8.04.140 entitled Sodding of Graves shall be amended as follows:

All graves, except the green burial section, will be sodded or seeded by the city without charge to the lot owners, when the graves shall have thoroughly settled and been made level with the surface of the surrounding lawn.

Section 2. That Sumner Municipal Code Section 8.04.200 entitled Interment – Position of Grave shall be amended as follows:

When an interment is to be made the person requesting it must show or designate the exact position of the grave, and give the order in person or in writing, except in the at need area of the green burial section.

Section 3. That Sumner Municipal Code Section 8.04.250 entitled “Decoration” shall be amended as follows:

No lot or grave shall be decorated by the owner or other interested therein with any trees, shrubs or plants of permanent nature. This does not, however, exclude the placing of cut flowers upon the graves, which must be placed in receptacles sunk that are level with the ground. Such ground-level receptacles do not obstruct the maintenance work or upkeep or appear unsightly when nonfilled non filled as do glass jars, vases, bottles, cans and similar holders. The placing of fresh cut flowers upon the graves in the green burial section may be without a receptacles. Vase holes may be bored into the boulder markers in the green burial section. No person shall place artificial flowers or decorations in the green burial section anytime of the year at any time Such artificial décor shall be subject to removal by City staff. A suitable vase for each grave will be furnished and set at a nominal charge upon application to the cemetery ~~administrative manager~~. Floral or other decorations may be removed from lots as soon as they become wilted or unsightly and persons wishing to retain any of the decorations must remove them within 48 hours after interment.

Section 4. That Sumner Municipal Code Section 8.04.270 entitled Monuments and Memorials shall be amended as follows:

A. Each grave may contain one memorial and one official flower vase for each occupant. The memorial shall be of the type and size approved for the specific section of the cemetery. Raised headstones shall not exceed 30 inches in height, except monument sections, and all footstones shall be flush with the turf. Plot owners shall keep all monumental work placed upon their plots in good repair. Vase holes may be bored in the boulder markers.

Section 5. That Sumner Municipal Code Section 8.04.294 entitled Earth Burial, and Scattering of Cremated Remains shall be amended as follows:

An extended land use charge shall be made for earth burial of cremated or composted remains on occupied ~~adult~~ graves and will be charged as listed in the fee schedule. The scattering of human cremated remains in the Sumner Cemetery shall be performed by cemetery staff in designated areas. Composted remains may be used in a traditional burial plot with subject to the same costs fee schedule as traditional burial. As an alternative, or the composted material may be placed in the green burial section of the cemetery in a plot or in any designated composting of our trees in the site within the green burial section. Descendant's name may be inscribed on our the City's Boulder in Memoriam

Section 6. That a new section of Sumner Municipal Code, section 8.04.320 entitled Green Burial Section shall be adopted as follows:

8.04.320 Green Burial Section

A. Allow for burial, only descendants that have not been embalmed or those embalmed only with Green Burial Council – approved, nontoxic chemicals shall be permitted to locate in the green burial section.

B. No vault (partial, inverted, or otherwise), a vault lid, concrete box, slab, or partitioned liner is allowed in the green burial plot section.

C. All burial containers, shrouds, and other associated products shall be made only of natural, biodegradable materials.

D. Boulder markers shall be made from local field stone material provided through by the Sumner cemetery.

Section 7. Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are declared separate and severable. The invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or portion of this ordinance or the invalidity of the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the ordinance or the validity of its application to other person's circumstances.

Section 8. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective five (5) days from and after its passage approval and publication as provided by law.

Section 9. Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the city attorney, the city clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; ordinance, section, or subsection numbering; or references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations.

Passed by the City Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Sumner, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof this _____ day of _____ 2023.

Mayor Kathy Hayden

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michelle Converse, City Clerk

City Attorney Andrea Marquez

First Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date of Publication:
Effective Date: