

**CITY OF SUMNER
Council Meeting
Minutes – March 1, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The Sumner City Council met in regular session at 6:01pm. City Hall remains closed during Governor Inslee's "Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery" order, a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Mayor, Council and staff members attended through ZOOM either telephonically or through their computer. The public was allowed to attend via ZOOM, PCTV livestream and by telephone.

Staff present via electronic device: City Administrator Jason Wilson, Public Works Director Mike Dahlem, Assistant City Attorney Christy Palmer, City Attorney Andrea Marquez, Communications Director Carmen Palmer, Community Development Director Ryan Windish, Development Services Director Doug Beagle, Assistant City Engineer Andrew Leach, Community Development Manager Derek Barry, Chief Financial Officer Kassandra Raymond and City Clerk Michelle Converse.

Mayor and Councilmembers present via electronic device: Mayor Pugh, Councilmembers Bitetto, Brown, Hamilton, Hayden, Hochstatter, Neuman and Reed.

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CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY HAYDEN, SECONDED BY HOCHSTATTER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH CONSISTED OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Approval of the minutes from February 16, 2021 regular council meeting, and the February 22, 2021 study session.
2. Approval of the checks and electronic payments in the amount of \$1,288,817.32.

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Public Comment tonight.

NEW BUSINESS

3a. Ordinance No. 2763 -Street Tree Code Amendments (Sumner Municipal Code 12.42)

MOVED BY HAYDEN, SECONDED BY BROWN TO APPROVE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2763 AMENDING SECTIONS OF SMC 12.42 RELATED TO STREET TREES.

Community Services Manager Derek Barry addressed the Council.

In conjunction with the changes being proposed to the City's code related to sidewalks, the street tree code requires amendments to reflect the following changes:

1. To clearly outline which tree care expectations are that of the abutting property owner vs. the City, and which actions require permits;

2. To make clear that the City will perform, on a reasonable and established cycle, all major tree care of City-required street trees within the public right of way; and
3. To make it clear that property owners are responsible for minor maintenance related to street trees (watering, debris/leaf clean up, etc); and
4. To establish a clear enforcement process for violations of this chapter.

Council asked clarifying questions.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

3b. Ordinance No. 2764 – Sidewalk Code Amendments (Sumner Municipal Code 12.20 and 12.32)

MOVED BY HAYDEN, SECONDED BY BROWN TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2764 – AMENDING SECTIONS OF SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE 12.20 AND 12.32 RELATED TO CITY SIDEWALKS.

City Attorney Andrea Marquez spoke to the subject.

Amendments to the City's sidewalk code provisions are necessary to help make the roles/responsibilities of the City vs. the property owner more clear. In an effort to make the code consistent with current City practices, staff recommends updating the code as follows:

1. To clarify that the City is responsible for the repair/maintenance of sidewalk damage caused by City-required street trees, but that abutting property owners retain liability and responsibility for the repair/maintenance of non-City related street-tree damage;
2. To remove the outdated council-review "non compliance hearing" process and clarify that all violations/penalties of the sidewalk code obligations will be addressed by SMC 15.06 - Code Enforcement;
3. To incorporate a new notification process whereby property owners abutting damaged sidewalks must notify the City of such damage, and continue to monitor any interim measures that are implemented; and
4. Necessary code clean-ups to make the process more readable, transparent and consistent.

Clarifying questions ensued.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

COUNCIL REPORT

Councilmember Reed appreciates the public involvement on things that are happening in Sumner. He really appreciates it!

Councilmember Bitetto reminded everyone to check out the library. Even though they are closed to the public, they are still offering a lot of services.

Councilmember Brown enjoyed the beautiful sunshine.

Deputy Mayor Hayden had an opportunity to sneak a peek at the work that is going on at City Hall in the Council Chambers. The Council Chambers is in the process of being remodeled. Facilities Manager Daniel Davenport and his crew are doing a wonderful job.

Councilmembers Neuman, Hamilton and Hochstatter had no reports tonight.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City Administrator Jason Wilson reported to Council the following:

Upcoming Policy Issues:

- Next Week's Study Session
 - Sound Transit Financial Realignment Update
 - Police Body Cameras
 - 2020 Financial Year End Review
 - 2022-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan
- Next Regular Council Meeting on March 8th
 - Public Hearing on the 2022-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan
 - Resolution amending the Council Rules of Procedure
 - Ordinance amending the budget for council chambers technology

Commission Updates:

- Planning Commission: There are two public hearings scheduled for this Thursday (March 4th):
 - Fence Code Update: A code amendment to expand the use of certain types of security fencing and increased heights in the Interchange Commercial and Industrial Zones.
 - Housing Action Plan: A planning document that analyzes the affordability of housing in Sumner and provides a list of recommended actions for creating more affordable housing opportunities for all income levels within the city.

Policy Follow-Up:

- Sumner Tapps Highway Channelization: Staff recommended to council that the lane configuration be changed as part of the resurfacing project. The new configuration reduces the number of northbound, or uphill, lanes to one and add shoulders. As you may recall this was studied by outside traffic engineers and found to be a safer solution than the current configuration. Since being announced the City has started the public education process. The Sumner Connects page has had over 2300 visitors, 13 have engaged staff directly (approximately .5%). Out of the 13, 12 were upset with the changes. The important observation is that over 2300 were aware of the project and engaged the City when they felt necessary.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Pugh announced that he will not be seeking re-election. This hasn't been an easy decision for him to make, but after 46+ years in government, he has decided its finally time to focus on his bucket list and family.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was none scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the Mayor adjourned the 6:26pm meeting.
Councilmembers concurred.

ATTEST:

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William L. Pugh

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William L. Pugh, Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Converse

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Michelle Converse, CMC City Clerk

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