

Snohomish City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 7, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Redmon called the Snohomish City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 7, 2025. The meeting was held in hybrid format with in-person attendance at the Snohomish Carnegie, 105 Cedar Avenue, Snohomish, and remote online access via Zoom.

- a. Roll Call

Present: Councilmembers Lea Anne Burke, David Flynn, Karen Guzak, Maygen Hetherington, Judith Kuleta, Tom Merrill, and Felix Neals; Mayor Linda Redmon

- b. Pledge of Allegiance

2. **PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- a. Public Safety Board Annual Update - Public Safety Board members Debby Lippincott and Peter Messinger provided an update of 2024 accomplishments. Anticipated activities for 2025 focus on Neighborhood Watch programs, pedestrian safety campaign, Coalition of Neighborhoods, and Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) review.
- b. Snohomish Police Department Q4 Update - Snohomish Police Department Chief Nathan Alanis provided a quarterly review of statistics for the City. Highlights for 2025 include a Community Outreach Officer starting in February, and installation and use of Flock cameras.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Public comment was taken.

4. **APPROVE AGENDA Contents and Order**

MOTION by Guzak, second by Merrill to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed (7-0).

5. **CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. ADOPT 2025 Legislative Agenda
- b. ACCEPT the 2025 Lodging Tax Grant Award Recommendations
- c. REJECT All Bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Motor Control Center (MCC) and Generator Project
- d. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute Contract with Shoreline Construction Co. for the North Sewer Trunkline Project
- e. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to Execute Software Licenses and Professional Services Agreements with Oracle America, Inc. for Software Licensing and Implementation of Oracle NetSuite
- f. APPROVE minutes of the December 3, 2024 regular meeting

g. APPROVE Vouchers and Payroll ACH Transactions

MOTION by Guzak, second by Neals to approve the Consent Items as presented. Motion passed (7-0).

6. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. ADOPT Park Impact Fees by Ordinance - ADOPT Ordinance 2513

Public Works Director Nova Heaton explained the ordinance was to adopt the fees previously passed by resolution, and addressed some concerns that had been raised regarding the fees.

Staff provided answers to Council's questions, including:

- Concern that non-residential fees would impact economic development, and the possibility of delaying adoption of the non-residential fees as this time.
- A code amendment would still be needed as a next step before non-residential fees could be imposed and collected; the code currently only allowed for residential fees.
- Removal of non-residential fees could mean residential fees would have to increase to meet anticipated project needs, but projects and fees could be re-evaluated every few years.
- The amount of development and potential fee collection were all based on estimates, and decisions could be made later based on actuals. Collected fees had to be used within ten years or they would be refunded to the developer.
- The proposed fees were determined by the City's consultant, who based them on research and data from state labor statistics, industry codes, and other resources.

Public comment was taken.

MOTION by Guzak, second by Hetherington to adopt Ordinance 2513 adopting a revised Park Impact Fee. Motion passed (7-0).

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Traffic Calming Measures

Director Heaton provided an introduction to various traffic calming measures that could be utilized in the City to improve safety by decreasing vehicular speed. The four main methods were described, with examples shown:

- Horizontal Deflection: forcing motorists to deviate from a straight path, reducing speeds by navigating curves (roundabouts, chicanes).
- Vertical Deflection: changing the height of the street to slow traffic (speed hump, table, raised crosswalks).
- Roadway Narrowing: reducing the width of the travel lane to slow vehicles, and narrowing sidewalks to reduce the length of time pedestrians are in the sidewalk (bulb outs, median islands).
- Traffic Restriction: routing to prevent particular vehicle movements, such as left turns, intended to eliminate cut-through traffic (road closure, diverter, forced turn island).

Council and staff discussed the options:

- Discussions and perhaps temporary installation of various options were expected during the First Street Master Plan development process.
- The intersection of Maple and Pine Avenues was in design to improve traffic flow, and include bulb outs and center medians to shorten pedestrians' exposure in the roadway.
- Reviewing both the Second Street Master Plan and First Street Master Plan to ensure they work together.
- Installation of bulb outs and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) was anticipated in a few locations within the next two years.
- Community outreach and engagement will occur, including Town Halls, interactive maps on the City's website, and project tracking through the new budget tool.

8. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Councilmember Kuleta inquired if Council would want to consider developing an emeritus position for Gordon Cole to serve as a non-voting member on the Planning Commission, in acknowledgement of his knowledge and contributions to City planning. After extensive discussion, the majority of Council was not interested in pursuing such a position.

Councilmember Neals inquired about a response to a concerned community member about barking dogs. Mayor Redmon will follow up with the Police Chief and respond to the resident and Council.

Councilmember Burke remarked on the nuisance of fireworks over the New Year holiday, and inquired on the number of complaints reported. Chief Alanis would research, but did not believe any complaints had been received.

9. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

In response to public comment, Councilmember Hetherington denied promoting jaywalking in Historic Downtown and encourage everyone to use sidewalks.

Councilmember Flynn appreciated that flags (for use when crossing sidewalks) were coming to First Street.

Councilmember Guzak remarked on the City's holiday decorations and events.

10. COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S ITEMS/REPORTS - Council President Merrill was attending a legislative preview event in Everett.

11. STAFF BRIEFINGS - None

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS - City Administrator Heather Thomas-Murphy was on vacation. Acting City Administrator Brooke Eidem announced the City received a development application for the former County public works site on Avenue D. The proposed development included mixed-use buildings and townhomes.

13. MAYOR'S COMMENTS - Mayor Redmon shared Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 20th, and Lunar New Year on January 29th.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss legal risk of potential action, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(iii) with no anticipated action to follow.

MOTION by Burke, second by Flynn to adjourn the meeting at the end of the Executive Session. Motion passed (7-0).

At 7:48 p.m., Council recessed to executive session to begin at 7:55 p.m., allowing for time to transition between meeting locations. Executive session to last ten minutes, until 8:05 p.m.

15. ADJOURN - There being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

CITY OF SNOHOMISH

ATTEST:

Linda Redmon, Mayor

Brandi Whitson, City Clerk