

DRAFT



Minutes of the Arlington City Council Zoom Meeting

Council Chambers
110 East Third Street
June 15, 2020

Councilmembers Present: Mike Hopson, Michele Blythe, Jan Schuette, Marilyn Oertle, Jessica Stickles, Debora Nelson, and Don Vanney.

Council Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Mayor Barb Tolbert, Paul Ellis, James Trefry, Kristin Garcia, Jim Kelly, City Attorney Steve Peiffle, and Wendy Van Der Meersche.

Also Known to be Present: Twenty-one YouTube viewers.

Mayor Barb Tolbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call followed.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Stickles moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Marilyn Oertle seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

PROCLAMATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Stickles moved and Councilmember Marilyn Oertle seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda that was unanimously carried:

1. Minutes of the June 1 RFA Council Retreat, and June 1 and June 8, 2020 Council meetings
2. Accounts Payable:
EFT Payments and Claims Checks #99819 through #99924 dated June 2, 2020 through June 15, 2020 for \$729,185.29; and
Payroll EFT Payments and Checks #29545 through #29552 dated May 1, 2020 through May 31, 2020 for \$1,465,471.21.
3. Conveyance of Real Property for Right-of-Way Purposes Related to the Villas at Arlington Project

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Rent Relief Grant Program Funding

Finance Director Kristin Garcia requested Council approve the award of \$95,372 in business relief grants from CARES Act funding, distributed by the Washington State Department of Commerce.

Forty-two applications for the rent relief program were received totaling approximately \$107,000. Thirty-six of the applications met all the required eligibility to receive funding. The total amount eligible to be awarded for the 36 applications is \$95,372. Applications were required to meet basic criteria and were scored on a variety of metrics. The maximum amount to award per application was up to two month's rent or \$3,500.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles moved and Councilmember Don Vanney seconded the motion to award \$95,372 in business relief grants as presented on the grant application summary. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Directing the Cessation of Processing Special Events Permits

City Administrator Paul Ellis requested Council approve the resolution directing the cessation of processing special events permits.

The Governor has extended the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" proclamation through at least July 1, 2020, and the Governor's "Safe Start" extension of the original Proclamation is effective through at least July 1, 2020, as well. The spread of COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, continues throughout the State, without any expectation of ending in the immediate future. Public health experts are concerned about a "second wave" of COVID-19 infections which could occur as Washington and other states begin re-opening.

Public events attract large numbers of people to the City of Arlington, and under the Governor's "Safe Start" plan, large gatherings are prohibited until the County reaches "Phase 4" status.

These recommendations and restrictions are intended to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Washington and the citizens of Arlington. The City wishes to limit social gatherings which might be encouraged by the issuance of special events permits within the City. Special events create staffing challenges for the City staff, which is already stretched thin by virtue of the Governor's order. The City shall not accept applications for, or approve, any special events permits nor allow City facility reservations for activities in City parks, facilities, or other City-owned or controlled property through August 30, 2020.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately and staff is directed to implement it immediately for the protection of the public. This resolution aligns with the Governor's proclamation. Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles listed recommendations for edits. City Administrator Paul Ellis stated that those changes would be made to the resolution.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles moved and Councilmember Debora Nelson seconded the motion to approve the **amended** resolution and authorized the Mayor to sign it. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor indicated it will be subject to review by the City Attorney.

Termination of Interlocal Agreement with Snohomish County for Twin Rivers Park Maintenance

Administrative Services Director James Trefry requested Council approve the termination of an interlocal agreement with Snohomish County for maintenance of Twin Rivers Park.

Councilmember Marilyn Oertle moved and Councilmember Don Vanney seconded the motion to terminate the interlocal agreement with Snohomish County for the maintenance of Twin Rivers Park, due to reduced revenues and available funding and resources pursuant to Section 15.2 of the interlocal agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Rejecting Bid Protest letter to 2020 Utility and Pavement Preservation Bid Award

Public Works Director Jim Kelly requested Council approve the resolution rejecting the bid protest letter from Reece Construction Company to the 2020 Utility and Pavement Preservation Project bid.

JB Asphalt Paving, Inc. submitted the lowest qualified bid, the bid complies with the requirements of RCW 39.30.060, and it is in the best interests of the City and the taxpayers to accept the JB Asphalt bid and waive all irregularities in the bid, if any exist. A brief discussion followed with Mr. Kelly answering Council questions.

Councilmember Debora Nelson moved and Councilmember Jesica Stickles seconded the motion to approve the resolution rejecting the Reece Construction Company challenge to the 2020 Utility and Pavement Preservation Bid, submitted by JB Asphalt & Paving, and find JB Asphalt & Paving, Inc. to be the qualified low bidder for the 2020 Utility Improvement and Pavement Preservation Project, and authorized the Mayor to sign the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Bid Award for 2020 Utility and Pavement Preservation Project

Public Works Director Jim Kelly requested Council approve the bid award for the 2020 Utility Improvement and Pavement Preservation project.

The capital improvements and pavement preservation program for year 2020 were advertised for bid in early May. Bids were opened on May 21, and JB Asphalt & Paving is the qualified low bidder.

Councilmember Debora Nelson moved and Councilmember Marilyn Oertle seconded the motion to award the 2020 Utility Improvement and Pavement Preservation Project to JB Asphalt & Paving in the amount of \$2,497,643.04, and authorized the Mayor to sign the construction contract, pending final review by the City Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Condemning Racism and Supporting Peaceful Protests in Snohomish County

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles presented and read aloud a resolution in response to the death of George Floyd, condemning racism, and supporting peaceful protests in Snohomish County.

Councilmember Mike Hopson read from a prepared statement, recommending Councilmembers review Arlington Police Department's policies. Mayor Pro Tem Stickles stated that she would like Councilmembers to take next steps.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles moved and Councilmember Debora Nelson seconded the motion to approve the resolution, and authorized the Mayor to sign it. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Hopson would like Council to review employee policy manual and 8 Can't Wait police campaign.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesica Stickles would like Councilmembers to form small groups to divide work and review. The Mayor would like this to be a public process, (workshop) and will talk with City Administrator Paul Ellis and Chief Ventura. Councilmember Nelson would like this done publically whether task force, hear citizens of color, and possibly Mr. Nelson to get different people/business owners/students involved, and incorporate those affected by this to be included.

Councilmember Vanney agreed and would like diversified public involvement. Mayor would like to ensure resources, tools and partnerships are available to police department.

Councilmember Blythe would like police representation included in everything pertaining to their department. The Mayor indicated she would like the Chief and Administrative Services Director James Trefry to prepare presentation for Council meeting.

Councilmember Blythe stated she is discouraged by the number of citizens in the community not wearing face masks.

ADMINISTRATOR & STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Paul Ellis stated that the Resolution suspending utility shutoffs will expire June 30. The Governor has extended that order until July 28. Mr. Ellis would like Council to approve a new resolution with the July 28 extension. He would also like an additional resolution brought forward at a later date providing an additional extension for citizens who are on a payment plan.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tolbert spoke of the peaceful protest she attended in Arlington Friday night where she saw Councilmembers in attendance. She indicated that the City will be partnering with Mr. Will Nelson, from Arlington School District, to educate the community regarding racism.

Department of Emergency Management will be distribute 16,000 face masks to low income citizens in the community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.


Barbara Tolbert, Mayor