

CITY OF SHELTON, WASHINGTON - CITY COMMISSION
Business Meeting Minutes – August 1, 2011 5:30 p.m.
Shelton Civic Center

Executive Session – The Commission, Dave O’Leary, City Attorney Kathleen Haggard, Vicki Look, Cathy Beierle, Steve Goins were in attendance for 20 minutes to discuss potential litigation with no action to follow. The Commission adjourned the Executive session at 5:50 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Tarrant, Commissioner Byrne and Commissioner Pannell
Staff Present: Dave O’Leary, Vicki Look, Steve Goins, Erik Birk and Lesleann Kangas

Mayor Tarrant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Tarrant announced a change to the agenda. Item #1 under New Business will be pulled from the agenda.

Commission Reports

Commissioner Byrne read a letter from the Washington Finance Officers Association stating that the City of Shelton’s Director of Financial Services Cathy Beierle has earned the Professional Finance Officer Award for the eleventh year. This annual award requires ongoing educational and professional excellence by each individual and is not automatically awarded. Commissioner Byrne congratulated DH Beierle.

Mayor Tarrant recognized Mr. Bill Busacca who said the Shelton Historic Preservation Board (SHPB) hosted a dance and raised \$1013.00. The SHPB is donating this money to the City of Shelton and requesting the funds to be used for historic neighborhood signs and historic house signs.

One or more Commissioners will attend the following activities this week:

- Mason Transit Authority/Recruiting process for new manager
- Port of Shelton Meeting
- National Night Out
- County Commission Meeting/Presentation consider Public Safety Tax

Public Comment

Mayor Tarrant recognized Ms. Tressa Padgett who said she contacted the City requesting information on the utility rates that became effective in July and has not received information yet. She asked if the utility tax is part of the water, sewer, and garbage bill and if so, how much it increased. Ms. Padgett said she understands the new utility tax is due to Lane vs. Seattle, but would like to know the amount of the increase in the utility tax.

Public Works and Community and Economic Development (PW/CED Director Goins said he did not have the figures with him, but the change in utility tax was adjusted to cover the cost of providing fire protection service from five percent to 11.6 percent.

Commissioner Pannell said the water rate actually went down to compensate for the utility tax.

Ms. Padgett said that only pertained to persons using under 1500 cubic feet of water.

DH Goins said the two tier rate did change to a three tier rate. He said that 58 percent of customers were under 900 cubic feet rate.

The Commission said staff would get the actual figures and provide them to Ms. Padgett. DH Goins gave her his contact information to set up a meeting to discuss her concerns.

Mayor Tarrant recognized Mr. Tom Davis who said he had attended the Candidate Forum earlier in the day and had made some comments that were harsh and then extended an apology to City Administrator O'Leary.

Mayor Tarrant recessed out of the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 6:14 p.m.

Public Hearing - Simpson-Reed Local Historic District – Ordinance No. 1787-0811 – An Ordinance of the City of Shelton, Washington Establishing the Simpson-Reed Local Historic District (LHD) and Enacting a New Chapter 20.67 to the Shelton Municipal Code Entitled “Simpson-Reed Local Historic District.” – Associate Planner Birk presented the proposed Simpson-Reed Local Historic District. The proposed district would include 31 properties in an eight-block area north of Railroad Avenue to Birch Street and between First and Fourth Streets. It includes the site where Shelton’s founder, David Shelton, built his first cabin and several homes built by the Simpson-Reed family including the Colonial House, Green Diamond and Simpson headquarters, Post Office, Brewer Park, Memorial Hall, Sheriffs Office and the Tollie. This proposed district would be the second historical district in the City of Shelton. The 31 properties were sent ballots to vote on the proposed district; 23 voting in favor of the district, one voting no, four residences that did not return ballots and the City of Shelton owns three properties, equaling 74 percent of the property owners in support of the proposed district. AP Birk said a SEPA review is required so he is requesting this be brought back at the August 22, 2011 meeting for consideration.

Mayor Tarrant asked if the ordinance for the new proposed district is the same as the ordinance for the already designated North Sheltonville Historic District. AP Birk responded yes.

Commissioner Byrne asked if a district is approved by ordinance if the designation is reflected in the deed to the property. AP Birk answered no. DH Goins said this is no different than any other land use designation in the City.

Commissioner Pannell asked if the property owners in the district were given a copy of the proposed ordinance. AP Birk replied yes.

Commissioner Byrne asked if the SHPB has reviewed building plans and how much time would be needed for a review. AP Birk responded the SHPB has had two plans to review. One was a chain link fence and SHPB suggested a wood fence. The second one did not continue with their permit. Mr. Mike Olsen said the SHPB reviewed the Public Safety Building.

Public Testimony

Mayor Tarrant recognized Mr. Tom Davis who said it must be disclosed when purchasing in historic districts. Mr. Davis is a fan of historic districts, when traveling he looks for historic districts to find out the flavor and sense of towns. Historic districts have an economic impact when designated. When there is recognition and promotion, these districts show community pride and also that local officials support and value historic districts. Mr. Davis suggested it be called the Shelton-Reed Historic District as opposed to the Simpson-Reed Historic District. Mr. Davis is in favor of the proposal.

Mayor Tarrant recognized Mr. Mike Olsen who said in response to Commissioner Byrne’s question on review time that the SHPB determined review could be completed within a week. Mr. Olsen said this district is an example of how an idea to improve the downtown area can be accomplished with the involvement of a wide variety of citizens and their interests. Forming this district included the county government, Chamber of Commerce, a church, the federal government, a large corporation and some retail and professional businesses. There has been strong support in creating this district which will create a better downtown core. Mr. Olsen is in favor of the Simpson-Reed Local Historic District.

Mayor Tarrant recognized Ms. Tracy Moore who wanted to thank the board and persons who have supported and worked so hard on this project. Ms. Moore recognized the current board, Mr. Bruce Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Bud

Commissioner Pannell said she thought language in the policy says that said they can elect not to hook up if they have a functioning septic system until the septic system fails.

City Administrator O'Leary said the policy applies to inside the City, in the County the policy says they should have a plan to hook-up. He suggested a date certain for hook-up.

Commissioner Byrne said anyway to encourage economic development in the area is good, even if it means a delay in hooking up to sewer. He said policies should be looked at as they apply in today's real world.

- Layton Box Update –PW/CED DH Goins said shipment of the Layton Box should be sometime this week, and then a date will be to set for a christening. The plan is to use the Layton Box this year.
- City Administrator O'Leary said he would be giving his presentation to the Shelton Rotary on Thursday at St. David's and asked if one of the Commissioners would be available to attend with him. Mayor Tarrant said he would be available to attend.

Public Comment

Mayor Tarrant recognized Mr. Conley Watson who said that in the Public Safety Tax hand-out, under Rules, Item #4 says it applies to all sales except motor vehicles. The Legislature and the Governor have some tax free items and the way this is worded it might upset the general public.

City Administrator O'Leary responded that these are the rules the Legislature set, not the rules we would choose if we had a choice. The tax would be on all items currently taxed.

Administrative Touches

CE Michael – Cooperative Agreement w/Mason County Piggy Back Convenience Contracts/Ace Paving

DH Beierle – USDA Resolution Fire Station/Issue Bond

DH Beierle – Ordinance Fire Station/Bond

RPM McDonald – Cross Connection Control Policy/Ordinance and Resolution

Announcement of Next Meeting

Mayor Tarrant announced the next regular Commission meeting of Monday, August 15, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.



Mayor Tarrant



City Clerk Look