



SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday, April 18, 2024 – Council Chambers – Afternoon Session

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jackson called the regular session of the Town Council to order at 12:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:05 p.m., Mayor Jackson announced that the Council would be holding an executive session regarding real estate in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) which was estimated to last 20 minutes. Immediately following an executive session regarding enforcement actions pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) which was estimated to last 30 minutes. Participants: Town Council, Mayor Jackson, Administrator Kulseth, Finance Director Berry, and Clerk Taylor. The session ended at 12:56 p.m. No action was taken. The Council recessed until 1:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers: Steve Hushebeck (Position No. 1), Richard Geffen (Position No. 2), Anna Maria de Freitas (Position No. 3) - Remote, Mason Turnage (Position No. 4) and Barbara Starr (Position No. 5).

Mayor, Raymont Jackson; Town Administrator, Denice Kulseth; Finance Director, Bethany Berry and Clerk, Amy Taylor.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Jackson conducted the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Public comment was postponed until the end of session.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Solid Waste Agreement

At 1:05 p.m., Mayor Jackson introduced discussion of the solid waste agreement with San Juan County. Administrator Kulseth explained that the Town and County continue to negotiate the lease that expires April 20, 2024. The Town does approve of the operational agreement presented between San Juan County and Lautenbach for solid waste handling. No discussion followed.

Moved by Hushebeck, seconded by Starr, to exercise the holdover (month-to-month) provision of the current lease agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Starr, seconded by Turnage, to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Operations and Services Agreement for Solid Waste between San Juan County and Lautenbach Industries [14SW004-Amendment 1]. Motion passed unanimously.

42 **CONSENT AGENDA**

43 Moved by Geffen, seconded by de Freitas, to adopt the Consent Agenda as follows. Motion passed unanimously.

- 44 • Ordinance No. 1793 – Amending FHMC 10.04.120 to designate a portion of Nash Street as two-way
- 45 • Resolution No. 2845 – Adopting the Friday Harbor Landfill Post Closure Plan for years 2024-2025
- 46 • Resolution No. 2846 – Waiving competitive bidding requirements for utility work on a portion of Nash
- 47 Street
- 48 • Resolution No. 2847 – Adopting a driving policy for the Town
- 49 • Minutes and Claims postponed until the next meeting.

50
51 **ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS (Cont.)**

52 Ordinance No. 1794

53 At 1:10 p.m., Mayor Jackson introduced discussion of draft Ordinance No. 1794 concerning refuse rates.
54 Administrator Kulseth listed the proposed rate increases that equated to approximately 10%. The new rates are in
55 anticipation of increased tipping fees in year 2024. The last refuse rate increase occurred in year 2014. No discussion
56 followed.

57
58 **Moved by Hushebeck, seconded by Geffen, to adopt Ordinance No. 1794, amending Chapter 13.28.150 FHMC**
59 **relating to refuse service charges. Motion passed unanimously.**

60
61 Hearing Examiner Services

62 At 1:12 p.m., Mayor Jackson introduced discussion of contracting for hearing examiner services. Community
63 Development Director Ryan Ericson asked if the Council would consider sending certain land use and administrative
64 matters to a hearing examiner on a permanent basis. Discussion followed regarding the types and frequency of
65 items. The Council noted that they would retain authority for final approval over certain issues, such as granting
66 rezone requests. **Council consensus to bring forward more information for consideration .**

67
68 Special Summer Promotion

69 At 1:19 p.m., Mayor Jackson introduced Deborah Hoskinson, Visitor Bureau Executive Director, to request special
70 summer promotion funds in the amount of \$20,000. Ms. Hoskinson listed current statistics for visitors and explained
71 that revenues are down for all sectors of hospitality and tourism locally. Discussion followed regarding the use of
72 funds. **Council consensus to bring forward more information for consideration at the next meeting .**

73
74 Administrative Appeal – San Juan County Fairgrounds Water Usage

75 At 1:49 p.m., Mayor Jackson opened the continued Administrative Appeal for deliberations by the Council.
76 Following individual opinions by Councilmembers, the following motions were made:

77
78 **Moved by Hushebeck, seconded by Starr, to uphold the decision of the Town Administrator and Notice of Violation**
79 **for water usage at the San Juan County Fairgrounds. Motion passed unanimously.**

80
81 **Moved by de Freitas, seconded by Geffen, to direct staff and/or the Town Attorney to prepare Findings of Fact,**
82 **Conclusions of Law, and Decision regarding denial of the administrative appeal for water usage at the San Juan**
83 **County Fairgrounds. Motion passed unanimously.**

84
85 **ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

86 At 2:04 p.m., Administrator Kulseth reported on the following:

- 87 • Water Treatment Certification – Employee Lucas Mirabella earned his WDM1 certification for water
- 88 distribution.
- 89 • SJI Conservation District – Town is considering the Conservation Corps program for wildfire prevention in
- 90 the Watershed. The Corps would be working in the watershed that abuts Mount Grant this summer to
- 91 remove undergrowth and wildfire fuel.
- 92 • SJC Assessor – Current tax valuation books were distributed.

- Transportation Benefit District – The Town needs to decide about whether to seek Proposition 1 in August or December 2024. The deadline for submitting a resolution for the August primary is May 3, 2024. Currently the SJI Library District and Fire District have propositions in August.
- Arbor Day – Town celebrated Arbor Day with a tree planting on April 12, 2024.
- Washington State Ferries – A virtual meeting to discuss the process is underway to revise the sailing schedule for the San Juan Islands will be held April 23 and 24, 2024.

FUTURE AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Marguerite Place Improvement Project

The Council asked about the status of the parcel owner complaints about the project. A parcel owner has contacted the Council and several other agencies with concerns. Public Works Director Jesse Douglas-Seitz explained that the situation stems from the parcel owner abutting Marguerite Place not being satisfied with the design of improvement frontage for their parcel. Mr. Douglas-Seitz then provided background, challenges, and risks of amending the approved plans at this late date. **Council consensus to not amend the approved designs for the Marguerite Place Improvement Project and direct the Town Administrator to inform the parcel owner in writing.**

CITIZEN RESPONSE

Brandon Andrews, SJC Fair Director, thanked the Council for their consideration of the appeal and requested that the Fairgrounds be given a grace period allowing water usage as they transition.

ADJOURNMENT – Hearing no further business and no objection, Mayor Jackson adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

These minutes were approved by motion of the Town Council . The original document is retained by the Clerk in the Town Council’s permanent records. Attest: Amy Taylor, Town of Friday Harbor Clerk