

**CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE
MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the City Council
Monday, May 15, 2023**

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Worthington called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by the City Clerk as follows:

Councilmember Keel	Present
Councilmember Wood	Present
Councilmember McCluskey	Present (Virtual)
Councilmember Flemming	Present
Councilmember Belleci	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa	Present
Mayor Worthington	Present

Staff Present: City Manager Sugg, City Attorney Kaser, Administrative Services Director Petorak, Public Safety Administrator Hales and City Clerk Genetia.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Belleci led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Figueroa, to approve the agenda.

The motion carried.

5. PRESENTATION

Day Island Preparedness Series Update – Administrative Services Director Petorak provided an overview on the Day Island preparedness series relating to the outcomes of the extremely rare and damaging king tides the Puget Sound region experienced in December 2022 that affected homes on the south spit of Day Island and Sunset Beach. She indicated that shortly after the tide, the West Pierce Emergency Coalition went door to door to assess damage, and in cooperation with the County and State FEMA representatives, a more thorough damage assessment was conducted in January to see if any homes met requirements for federal or state assistance. With the assistance of FEMA and West Pierce Fire & Rescue, City staff, along with two Councilmembers, have met with residents on two separate occasions with Day Island residents at their Club House to answer questions related to future mitigation of potential damage to homes and personal preparedness. Topics of discussion included flood insurance and the FEMA flood program and the City's permitting and construction process in relation to some renovations required of their homes. She noted that questions were brought up about raising homes. For the next step, staff plans to hold a third course on storm preparedness and a presentation on PC-Net in September. In addition, the staff is recommending an update to the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan to provide for some other projects like potentials for raising homes, other escape routes, etc.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – The following individuals provided comments: Chris Saunders, University Place Parks & Recreation Foundation; and Jackie Jones-Hook, Buffalo Soldiers Museum.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: By Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Belleci to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023 Council meeting as submitted.
- B. Receive and File: Payroll for period ending 04/30/23.
- C. Authorize the payment of \$56,338.08 for the Rainier Communications Commission invoices for 2023 RCC membership dues covering January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

The motion carried.

8. CITY MANAGER & COUNCIL COMMENTS/REPORTS

City Manager Sugg commented on the certification of the election result for the Public Safety Levy. This proposition will provide funding for eight additional patrol and traffic officers as well as one enforcement officer to address homelessness, parks safety and crime prevention. He also informed the public of the upcoming Duck Daze parade and other planned activities for the event. Groups interested in participating in the parade can still register until May 25.

Councilmember Keel announced that, after twelve years of service, he will not be running for his current position. He remarked on the realization/fruition of his goals for the City and that he intends to continue to be an active citizen. He hopes that his colleagues will support the progress/development of the Four-Corners project he started.

Councilmember Wood thanked Councilmember Keel for his service, leadership, and friendship. He remarked on an email he received from Representative Leavitt regarding the solution for the Blake decision and AWC's support in its current form. He also thanked Ms. Jones-Hook for her comments today.

Councilmember McCluskey also thanked Councilmember Keel for his tenure in the City Council and for being a pioneer and an inspiration. She commended his state, regional and national influence which served the City and added value because of his service and commitment.

Councilmember Flemming reported that he attended the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners meeting. He also thanked Councilmember Keel for his leadership and service to the community.

Councilmember Belleci echoed her fellow Councilmembers' sentiments about Councilmember Keel's service and achievements.

Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa stated that he will reserve his remarks for Councilmember Keel in December because of his friendship and long list of accomplishments. He reported on the congressional, federal department and other meeting opportunities he attended on behalf of the City during his Washington D.C. trip in April.

Mayor Worthington relayed that he was invited and attended the Curtis High School's boys' soccer team's playoff game for the State title. He informed Council that the State Legislature convened today in a special session to address the Blake decision. He shared that he participated in a video conference with the Pierce County Executive, Prosecuting Attorney Robnett, Pierce County Sheriff and other mayors to discuss the Blake decision and available legislative resources, approach, and other potentials for drug-related offenses for the Blake fix if needed. Mayor Worthington also informed the Council that the City received letters of support from JBLM, Port of Tacoma, and Northwest Seaport Alliance for the Day Island Bridge that will be moved toward the City's FEMA grant application. Lastly, he asked for volunteers for the AWC voting delegates (Mayor Worthington, Councilmembers Keel and Belleci volunteered); informed his colleagues of the June 14 Special Council Meeting in lieu of the June 20 regular meeting, and the June 10 Council retreat.

9. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. No other action was taken.

Submitted by,

Emy Genetia
City Clerk