



SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday, August 7, 2014 – Council Chambers – Evening Session

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lacher called the regular session of the Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers: Position No. 1, Steve Hushebeck; Position No. 3, Anna Maria de Freitas; Position No. 4, Farhad Ghatan; and Position No. 5, Barbara Starr.

Others Present: Mayor, Carrie Lacher; Town Administrator, Duncan Wilson; and Clerk, Amy Taylor.

Treasurer, Kelle' Wilson; and Position No. 2, Noel Monin, were absent.

EXECUSED ABSENCE

Mayor Lacher asked if the Council wished to excuse the absence of Councilmember Monin. Council unanimously excused his absence.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Lacher conducted the flag salute.

PUBLIC ACCESS TIME

No public access was forthcoming.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proclamation – Relay for Life

At 5:34 p.m., Mayor Lacher proclaimed September 27th and 28th, 2014 as *Relay for Life Days* in the Town of Friday Harbor. This year's event will be held at the SJC Fairgrounds.

Public Hearing – Substantial Shoreline Development Permit No. 98

At 5:40 p.m. Mayor Lacher opened the public hearing regarding a request by the Port of Friday Harbor to replace the existing and failing bulkhead, and to install beach access stairs with a new bulkhead.

The subject parcel is identified as TPN 351353001 and located at 10 Front Street, Friday Harbor. The Applicant is requesting approximately 280 lineal feet of existing bulkhead that will be replaced generally in the same footprint, and to install beach access stairs at the pocket beach area. The bulkhead will be predominantly a rockery type construction. However, at the face of the center segment, there are two vertically driven steel piles with horizontal timbers which will also be removed. During excavation, some upland utilities will be removed, including an existing septic tank located at the north end. Approximately 17 derelict creosote treated timber piles located to the south will be removed.

The Council answered in the negative to direct communication regarding the proposal; and affirmative to hearing the matter in a fair and objective manner.

At 5:45 p.m., Mayor Lacher requested that the Applicant make their presentation. Port Commissioner Hertel described the benefits of the project, including increased public access to the water.

48 At 5:47 p.m., Mayor Lacher asked Land Use Administrator, Mike Bertrand, to present the staff report.
49 Mr. Bertrand stated that the improvements will be beneficial to the waterfront and increase view.

50
51 At 5:50 p.m., Mayor Lacher opened the hearing to Council questions.

52
53 Councilmember Ghatan inquired about plantings. Mr. Hertel stated that there will be plantings, but not
54 trees that will eventually grow to block views.

55
56 Councilmember Hushebeck inquired if the Port was designing the “pocket beach”. Mr. Hertel stated
57 that the Port was reclaiming and providing access to what is already there.

58
59 Councilmember de Freitas inquired if the stormwater utilities for the proposal will occur at the same
60 time as Town’s project. Mr. Hertel and Mr. Bertrand explained that they were two separate projects
61 that would “tie together” aesthetically.

62
63 Mayor Lacher inquired if the pocket beach would become ADA accessible. Mr. Hertel stated that the
64 beach would be somewhat handicap accessible on the north side.

65
66 At 5:54 p.m., Mayor Lacher opened the hearing to public testimony.

67
68 Roger Bennett, 1 Spring Street, stated that the quantities of materials proposed for the project were
69 disproportionate to the drawings presented. Mr. Bennett questioned why eelgrass disturbance wasn’t
70 taken into account.

71
72 In response to Mr. Bennett’s testimony, Mr. Bertrand stated that conceptual drawings, not construction
73 specifications, are presented in the staff report.

74
75 In response to Mr. Bennett’s testimony, Mr. Hertel stated that construction will occur on the upland
76 side of the project and would not affect any eelgrass. Additional fill is required to raise the grade to a
77 certain level. Mr. Hertel noted that raising the grade was taken into account during discussions of the
78 proposed building (SSDP No. 97).

79
80 At 6:03 p.m., hearing no further question from the Council or comments from the audience, Mayor
81 Lacher closed the public testimony portion of the hearing and opened deliberations.

82
83 The Council took turns expressing their individual opinions. Consensus that the proposal was
84 advantageous environmentally and provided aesthetically pleasing benefits to the public.

85
86 **Moved by Starr, seconded by Hushebeck, to approve Shoreline Substantial Development**
87 **Permit Application No. 98 and SEPA Checklist No. 294; adopt the staff report dated July**
88 **28, 2014; and direct staff to prepare Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision.**
89 **Motion passed 4-0 with Monin absent.**

90
91 Resolution No. 2049

92 At 6:06 p.m., Mayor Lacher introduced discussion of draft Resolution No. 2049, *authorizing the Mayor*
93 *to execute a perpetual non-exclusive easement and temporary construction easement with the United*
94 *States Postal Service.* Administrator Wilson explained that Town was required to negotiate a fee for
95 the easements in an amount of \$2,950. No discussion followed.

96

97 **Moved by Ghatan, seconded by de Freitas, to adopt Resolution No. 2049, authorizing the**
98 **Mayor to execute a perpetual non-exclusive easement and temporary construction**
99 **easement with the United States Postal Service. Motion passed 4-0 with Monin absent.**

100
101 Resolution No. 2050

102 At 6:08 p.m., Mayor Lacher introduced discussion of draft Resolution No. 2050, *authorizing the Mayor*
103 *to execute a grant agreement with the Department of Ecology for the Spring Street Stormwater*
104 *Retrofit Project.* Administrator Wilson explained that the \$66,000 grant will fund design and
105 construction specifications for redesign of the stormwater outfall on Spring Street. No discussion
106 followed.

107
108 **Moved by de Freitas, seconded by Starr, to adopt Resolution No. 2050, authorizing the**
109 **Mayor to execute a grant agreement with the Department of Ecology for the Spring Street**
110 **Stormwater Retrofit Project. Motion passed 4-0 with Monin absent.**

111
112 Sunshine Alley Urban Planning Update

113 At 6:12 p.m., Mayor Lacher introduced discussion of the Sunshine Alley Urban Design project.
114 Administrator Wilson explained that one major feature of the proposed plan includes redesign of the
115 entrances to the alley to discourage vehicular thru-traffic. The consultant is scheduled for a
116 presentation to the Council on September 4th. Discussion followed regarding pedestrian access.

117
118 Council Retreats

119 At 6:25 p.m., Mayor Lacher introduced discussion of dates and topics for a Council retreat. Discussion
120 followed regarding Saturday, October 25, 2014 as the preliminary date for a retreat. Topics will
121 include tourism, budget, parking, traffic and development related issues. No action was taken.

122
123 **COUNCIL UPDATES**

124 Mayor Lacher updated the Council that she has contacted SJC Councilman Rick Hughes regarding Town
125 representation on the SJC Ferry Advisory Committee.

126
127 **CITIZEN RESPONSE**

128 No citizen response was forthcoming.

129
130 **ADJOURNMENT** – Hearing no further business and no objection, Mayor Lacher adjourned the
131 meeting at 6:40 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21, 2014 at 12:00
132 p.m.

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134 * * * * *

135 **These minutes were approved on August 21, 2014. The original document is retained by**
136 **the Clerk in the Town Council’s permanent records. Attest: Amy Taylor, Town of Friday**
137 **Harbor Clerk**