



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
www.ci.longview.wa.us

Minutes

City Council

*Mayor MaryAlice Wallis
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wallin
Council Member Ruth Kendall
Council Member Angie Wean
Council Member Spencer Boudreau
Council Member Hillary Strobel
Council Member Christopher Ortiz*

Thursday, September 8, 2022

6:00 PM

2nd Floor, City Hall

The City Hall is accessible for persons with disabilities. Special equipment to assist the hearing impaired is also available. Please contact the City Executive Offices at 360.442.5004 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend the meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82394132374>

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Webinar ID: 823 9413 2374

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Wallis called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **INVOCATION*/FLAG SALUTE**

22-000554 JEFF HOOVER, CITISERVE

After the invocation provided by Jeff Hoover, CitiServe, the flag salute was recited.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Wallis, Mayor Pro Tem Wallin, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Wean, Councilmember Strobel, Councilmember Boudreau, Councilmember Ortiz.

Staff Present: City Manager Kurt Sacha; Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson, City Attorney Jim McNamara; City Clerk Tiffany Ostreim; Public Works Director Ken Hash; Peer Specialist Kayce Settlemeir, Parks and Urban Forestry Manager Joanna Martin, Public Works Maintenance Manager Chris Collins, Fire Marshall Jon Dunaway, Public Works Engineer John Axford, Police Captain John Reeves.

4. WORKSHOP

22-000547 PROPOSED STRATEGIES TO HOUSE THE UNSHELTERED POPULATION (TIME ESTIMATE - 60 MINUTES)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECOMMENDATION FROM COUNCIL UNHOUSED SUB-COMMITTEE TO LONGVIEW CITY COUNCIL FOR MOVING FORWARD WITH SELECTION OF A SITE TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS.

Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson presented the background - how we got here starting in December, 2019 to the present. Impacts of unsheltered homelessness - negative impacts on mental and physical health of those living unsheltered, increase in visible homelessness, increased solid waste, biohazardous material and belongings on both public and private property. Impact contributors - shortage of shelter space, chronic health conditions, unmet needs, untreated mental/behavioral health, homeless response system at capacity/overwhelmed, and lack of deeply affordable supportive housing. Recent efforts - Unhoused Sub-Committee met and made recommendations for staff to begin the immediate remediation of the Alabama Street site and direct staff to evaluate all city-owned properties. The council concurred with the recommendations and declared a public health and safety emergency. September 1 began the transition of moving unhoused individuals to adjacent lot. On September 6 an excavating contractor began disposing of trash and debris.

Parks and Urban Forestry Manager Joanna Martin explained the criteria for site evaluation - compatible use, size of property, distance to basic services, topography, impervious surface, utilities, adequate fire suppression and displaced use. Evaluated 176 city owned parcels; adjacent parcels were combined for a total of 99 properties. Scored each category and came up with 59 properties with a score of 1 or higher in every category. Selected four properties to work on site plans. 12th and Hemlock - site plans for 54 and 25 individuals. 1451 Alabama - site plan for 50. Safe parking - 1140 Commerce. Gehart Gardens, 200 Freedom Road, was looked at, but lacked infrastructure needed to meet November 15 deadline. The cost estimate for each site was presented.

Councilmember Ortiz voiced opposition to any downtown site and in support of Gerhart.

Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson explained the intake process performed for each unhoused individual in the current Alabama camp who wanted to move to the temporary site. Completed a total of 109 intakes.

Peer Specialist Kayce Settlemeir explained the process of moving individuals from the Alabama encampment to the temporary site. Explained the trauma for many of the individuals. Explained the efforts in reaching out to other agencies for housing supportive services.

Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson presented information obtained from the intake process - age demographic, ethnicity, 80% Cowlitz County residents for more than five years, snapshot of homeless duration, reasons for being homeless, barriers to housing, addiction, and of 65 with felony convictions, 32 noted their conviction as a barrier to housing. Ten people in case management and 85 expressed an interest. 108 people that went through the intake process indicated an interest in moving to a managed site. Four are employed and 16 people receive

social security. 55 have no family or support. 27 individuals do not live with addiction, 23 have addiction and want services, and 59 are not ready and think they can kick themselves. Shared information on Vancouver Safe Stay which utilizes 8 x 8 pallets. Secure site, door locks, weatherproof, insulated, equipment with heater and electrical outlets. Short-term mechanism to respond to escalating homelessness. Vancouver reported 30% reduction in emergency calls. Of 46 individuals, 14 have successfully transitioned into housing and 11 have jobs. Pallets can be assembled in an hour and people can keep their animals. It's a stepping stone to permanent housing. To be successful - qualified organization to manage site operations, onsite support services, including case management and housing navigation, adequate lighting, 24/7 security, privacy fencing, controlled access, and code of conduct. Need residency requirements - 18 year and older, active case management, agree to abide by a code of conduct, no drugs or alcohol, and chores and other work contributions. Good neighbor plan is also required. Pallet has a program manager to help with the success. Pallet provides for dignity standards - hygiene facilities, meals, location, safety, and supportive services. Staffing considerations - emergency outreach coordinator, behavioral health professionals and community services officers. The city needs to hire a liaison for the outcomes and success.

Major Jonathon Harvey, Salvation Army, shared what the Salvation Army does and how it can help the community. Envision a micro-community that would be clean, orderly, healthy, safe for the citizens in it and those outside, peaceful, well managed, hopeful and dignified. Envision a micro-community that restores hope and dignity and regenerates a willing spirit and reintegrates participants with purpose and direction. Primary target outcome is to restore hope and permanently house our neighbors without homes. Propose a site that would be for adults, 24/7 safe shelter access. Requires strong partnership with local government and regional service providers. Objective is to be a drug and alcohol-free community, single occupancy, pets allowed, daily hours including curfew, hygiene services, one meal provided each day, on-site support services including case management and housing navigation, financial assistance for barrier removal and exit to permanent housing options.

Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson explained the goal is to get people into housing. The proposed structure includes a Board of Directors - two city of Longview staff, one county representative, one Longview city councilor, one local service provider representative, one emergency management representative, and one community member at-large. Measures of success - number of people getting into housing, reduction in crime in neighboring areas, reduction in demand on public and private services, survey feedback from local businesses, and feedback from local service providers.

Councilmember Strobel made a motion to eliminate downtown properties that are on the list of properties. Councilmember Wean seconded. The motion was clarified to strike properties in the DC zone from the list.

Keenan Harvey spoke to the motion.

Citizen spoke to the motion.

Arial Arze spoke to the motion.

Chris spoke to the motion.

Citizen spoke to the motion.

Citizen spoke to the motion.

Josh Mitchell spoke to the motion.

Flough Paget spoke to the motion.

Lloyd Malone spoke to the motion.

Cameron Wilkinson spoke to the motion.

Shawn Higgins spoke to the motion.

Corey Woods spoke to the motion.

Citizen spoke to the motion.

Citizen spoke to the motion.
Erik Halverson spoke to the motion.
Jordine Shuman spoke to the motion.
Madison Moore spoke to the motion.
Ann Lucas spoke to the motion.
Anna spoke to the motion.
Sammy Adophsen spoke to the motion.
Dave Miller spoke to the motion.
Alan Ledgerwood spoke to the motion.
John Peters spoke to the motion.
Judy Potter spoke to the motion.
Bob Beline spoke to the motion.
Mike spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
Odine Husemoen spoke to the motion.
Paige Espinosa spoke to the motion.
Josh Lamb spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
Emily Evana spoke to the motion.
Kalei LaFave spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
Amelia Besmet spoke to the motion.
Jennifer Jinks spoke to the motion.
Kathy Davenport spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
Citizen spoke to the motion.
The City Council announced a recess at 8:53 p.m to correct audio issues and reconvened at 9:00 p.m. with all members present.
Mandy Davidson by phone spoke to the motion.
Ben by phone spoke to the motion.
Dian Cooper by phone spoke to the motion.
Timi Harris by phone spoke to the motion.
Elizabeth Borders by phone spoke to the motion.
Toree by phone spoke to the motion.
Dawn by phone spoke to the motion.
Kahne Hooper by phone spoke to the motion.
Sam Thompson by phone spoke to the motion.
Tricia Junker Rodman by phone spoke to the motion.
Mary Lyons by phone spoke to the motion.
Sara Richmond by phone spoke to the motion.

The motion to eliminate all properties in the DC zone from the list presented was approved unanimously.

Councilmembers Wean and Kendall explained that as members of the Council Unhoused Sub-Committee they wanted the whole Council to have this open dialog.

Councilmember Ortiz made a motion, in addition to removing the properties in the DC zone from the list, to remove Alabama Street from the list. Councilmember Boudreau seconded.

City Manager Sacha explained there was a siting committee established with the county which reviewed 13 sites owned by the county and each county-owned site was rejected.

The motion to remove Alabama Street from the list failed with the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Ortiz, Councilmember Boudreau and Mayor Wallis

Nays: Councilmember Strobel, Councilmember Wallin, Councilmember Wean and Councilmember Kendall opposed.

Councilmember Ortiz commented on Gerhart Gardens being a viable option for a hosted encampment not within the city.

Fire Marshall Jon Dunaway commented on the water hydrant needs.

Councilmember Boudreau questioned the intake process.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kendall, seconded by Councilmember Wallin to direct the City Manager to put a 50% deposit on 50 pallet homes to be delivered by November 14, 2022, paid out of the general fund.

Councilmember Wallin stated this is the next step to try to improve the situation - order pallet homes and set up a hosted site. Have to do something for individuals and businesses. Would like the committee to work with staff to put together site, rules, good neighbor agreement and use the assistance of the Salvation Army.

Councilmember Wean made an amendment to the motion, seconded by Councilmember Strobel to hire security for the existing Alabama camp 24/7 until November 14, 2022 or until a hosted site is established, as well as implement a good neighbor agreement.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Joe Hobson spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Mike spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Erik Halverson spoke to the motion and amendment.

Dave Miller spoke to the motion and amendment.

Clarification was made on the Cowlitz County Tennant Way Landfill; Port of Longview is expanding their rail line service through the landfill.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Document recording fees were explained; restricted for affordable housing and homelessness.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Longview Police Captain Reeves commented on their overtime activity in the past couple weeks. Highlands Outreach office may be opened early October.

Bryce Meyers spoke to the motion and amendment.

Lisa Mathis spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Jay Hooper spoke to the motion and amendment.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

George Paradis spoke to the motion and amendment.

Keven Thomas spoke to the motion and amendment.

City Attorney Jim McNamara clarified the two votes. Motion in front is to amend motion - hire security for the current Alabama camp 24/7 until November 14, 2022 or until a hosted site is established, as well as implement a good neighbor agreement. Once the first vote is taken, the second motion is to put a 50% deposit on 50 pallet homes to be delivered by November 14, 2022, paid out of the general fund.

Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.

Shawn by phone spoke to the motion and amendment.

*Kirsten Markstrom by phone spoke to the motion and amendment.
Susan Johnson by phone spoke to the motion and amendment.
Citizen spoke to the motion and amendment.*

Motion to hire security for the current Alabama camp 24/7 until November 14, 2022 or until a hosted site is established, as well as implement a good neighbor agreement carried with the following votes:

Ayes: Councilmember Wean, Councilmember Strobel, Councilmember Wallin, Councilmember Kendall and Mayor Wallis.

Nays: Councilmember Ortiz and Councilmember Boudreau.

Motion to put a 50% deposit on 50 pallet homes to be delivered by November 14, 2022, paid out of the general fund carried with the following votes:

Ayes: Councilmember Wean, Councilmember Strobel, Councilmember Wallin, Councilmember Kendall and Mayor Wallis.

Nays: Councilmember Ortiz and Councilmember Boudreau.

Councilmember Kendall made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wean to pave the Alabama site.

Assistant City Manager Kris Swanson explained the cost effectiveness and cleanliness of asphalt over purchase of rock. From a financial standpoint and usability, asphalt is included in the work plan for the cleanup of the Alabama encampment.

Councilmember Wean withdrew her second and Councilmember Kendall withdrew her motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Wallis, seconded by Councilmember Kendall to adjourn the meeting and bring items not acted on to the September 22, 2022 regular council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Wallis, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Ortiz, Councilmember Kendall, Councilmember Wean, Councilmember Wallin, Councilmember Strobel.

Nays: Councilmember Boudreau.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

22-000539 AUGUST 23, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

6. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

7. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

8. CONSTITUENTS' COMMENTS (Thirty Minutes)

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

10. BOARD & COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

11. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**12. MAYOR'S REPORT****13. COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS****14. CONSENT CALENDAR**

22-000542 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

22-000538 PROJECT COMPLETION – OCEAN BEACH HIGHWAY SEWER MANHOLE
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

**MOTION TO ACCEPT AS COMPLETE THE OCEAN BEACH HIGHWAY SEWER MANHOLE
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

15. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

22-000541 2023 SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON REGIONAL AIRPORT BUDGET

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2023 SOUTHWEST REGIONAL AIRPORT

16. MISCELLANEOUS**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION****18. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

*Tiffany Ostreim
City Clerk*

*Approved: _____
Mayor*

*** Any invocation that may be offered at the Council meeting shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen, to and for the benefit of the Council. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Council,**

and the Council does not endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker.

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS:

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 - 6:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 13, 2022, - 6:00 P.M.

NEXT COUNCIL WORKSHOPS:

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 - 6:00 P.M. - WASHINGTON WAY ROAD SAFE ROUTES PROJECT

OCTOBER 13, 2022 - 6:00 P.M. - FACILITIES CONDITION ASSESSMENT

NEXT SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

OCTOBER 6, 2022 - 6:00 P.M. - UTILITY RATES