



**1City of Mount Vernon
City Council Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2021
Police Court Campus
1805 Continental Place**

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, and Morales

Absent Councilmember Molenaar (excused)

Staff Present: Finance Director Volesky, City Attorney Rogerson, Police Chief Cammock, Parks and Enrichment Services Director Berner, Fire Chief Brice, Assistant Fire Chief Harris, Battalion Chief Storey, and Human Resources Director Keator

Citizens Present: 6

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of August 4, 2021 Study Session Minutes.
- B. Approval of August 11, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
- C. Approval of August 20, 2021 payroll checks numbered 110896 - 110915, direct deposit checks numbers 83657 - 83892, and wire transfers numbered 1005 - 1009 in the amount of \$1,198,999.82.
- D. Approval of August 25, 2021 Claims numbered 14851 and 14853 - 14996 in the amount of \$2,036,922.60.

Councilmember Hulst moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A-D. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS

- A. Committees
 - 1. Finance and Parks & Enrichment Services – see committee minutes for details.
 - 2. Development Services – see committee minutes for details.
- B. Public Comments - Email

Public Comments sent via email to council@mountvernonwa.gov were read aloud by Mr. Rogerson.

- Paul Turner, Mount Vernon resident supports Transportation Improvement Plan projects T-03-02, T-02-13, and T-02-10.
- Emily and Eli Winslow, Mount Vernon residents, support Transportation Improvement Plan projects T-08-01, T-16-01, T-03-02, T-02-13, T-02-10 and T-17-02.
- Sue Roane, Skagit County resident addressed fireworks and suggested an alternate to the July 4th fireworks show.

Public Comments - none

C. Councilmember Comments

- none.

D. Mayor's Report - none

E. Committee Agenda Requests

- Councilmember Hudson requested a discussion of the City's noise ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Steps Shelter Program Update: Mayor provided a brief synopsis of origination of the First Steps Shelter Program. Friendship House Director Tina Tate provided an update of the program and played a video provided by Skagit Health Trust.
- B. Public Hearing – Sales and Use Tax Rate Increase: Mr. Rogerson presented an ordinance authorizing the City to impose a Sales and Use Tax of .001 to fund affordable housing and related services. House Bill 1590 allows Cities and Counties to impose this tax.

Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing.

Mr. Rogerson read a comment submitted via email:

- Patricia Atterberry opposes the Sales and Use Tax Rate increase.

Hearing no additional comments, Mayor Boudreau closed the public hearing.

Mayor Boudreau provided a brief review of how the tax may be used to support affordable housing and related services. The tax will take effect January 1, 2022. Councilmember Hulst noted that the City will have no control on spending if Skagit County imposes the tax.

Councilmember Hulst moved to adopt Ordinance 3836 authorizing a .001 Sales and Use Tax to fund

affordable housing and related services. Motion seconded by Councilmember Beaton. Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Opioid Litigation – Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals: The City is a party to litigation involving Mallinckrodt. Mr. Rogerson requested authorization to cast a vote in favor of Mallinckrodt's proposed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Plan of Reorganization.

Councilmember Hudson moved to authorize the City Attorney to cast a vote in favor of Mallinckrodt's proposed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Plan of Reorganization. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hulst. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned into executive session at 7:56 p.m. for a period of 30 minutes. for a discussion with legal counsel on matters relating to enforcement actions, litigation, or potential litigation to which the City, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency, and to discuss with legal counsel matters pertaining to collective bargaining. The executive session will conclude at 8:26 p.m. No action will be taking following the Executive Session.

Mr. Rogerson announced at 8:26 that the Executive Session is extended until 9:15 p.m.

The meeting reconvened into regular session and adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Becky Jensen, City Clerk

APPROVE:

Jill Boudreau, Mayor