



**City of Mount Vernon
City Council Study Session Minutes
January 6, 2021 6:00 p.m.
(Virtual Meeting)**

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting order 6:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Police Chief Cammock, Project Development Manager Donovan, Finance Director Volesky, Fire Chief Brice and Assistant Fire Chief Harris

Citizens Present: 12

- A. Swearing in of New Councilmember Juan Morales: Skagit County Superior Judge Riquelme performed the swearing in of Ward 1 appointed Councilmember Juan Morales.
- B. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore: Mr. Rogerson explained that after each general municipal election or when a Council vacancy occurs, the Council must elect a Mayor Pro Tempore who, in the absence of the Mayor, will perform the duties of the Mayor. The Mayor Pro Tempore may not appoint or remove any officer to veto any ordinance.

Councilmember Beaton moved to appoint Councilmember Hudson as Mayor Pro Tempore. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hulst. Motion carried 7-0.

- C. Discussion – Fire Infrastructure: Chief Brice led a discussion about Fire Stations 2 and 3 remodels. He reviewed the timeline that began in 2018 with a needs assessment, a failed 2019 voter bond and a reassessment of needs presented to City Council in 2020. Current key goals for Stations 2 and 3 are seismic safety, decontamination standards, workspace, crew areas and ADA requirements. Health and safety are the main needs/goals for both stations. Chief Brice presented a potential timeframe preparation and construction of the improvements. Mr. Volesky presented an overview of current City debt and potential new non-voted bond and voted bond debt. It was the consensus of Council to have staff move forward with exploring funding options and gather additional information regarding architectural

detail for the improvements of Stations 2 and 3, and to continue discussions on Station 1 replacement.

D. For the Good of the Order:

- Fire personnel have begun receiving COVID-19 vaccinations.
- The City's web page has links to the State and County websites providing additional vaccine, testing and other COVID related information.
- Mayor Boudreau reviewed upcoming agenda topics.

The meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss with legal counsel matters relating to the selection of a site or acquisition of real estate for lease or purchase when public knowledge of the discussion is likely to result in increased price. And to discuss 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 either adverse legal or financial consequence to the City. The duration of the Executive Session is estimated to be fifteen minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Becky Jensen, Recording Clerk

ATTEST:

Doug Volesky, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Jill Boudreau, Mayor