



**City of Mount Vernon
City Council Study Session Minutes
March 3, 2021 6:00 p.m.
(Virtual Meeting)**

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting order 6:02 p.m.

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

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Finance Director Volesky, Police Chief Cammock, Public Works Director Bell, Development Services Director Phillips, Project Development Manager Donovan, Assistant Fire Chief Harris, Library Director Huffman and Capital Programs Manager Bullock

Citizens Present: 1

- A. Proposed Option for a Purchase & Sale Agreement of Real Property with Skagit County: Mayor Boudreau provided a timeline of the work that has taken place to transfer ownership of property located at 208 Kincaid Street for the purpose of building a Library Commons facility. The project consists of a Library, Senior Center and public parking in concept, with other potential uses added. A resolution authorizing the City to enter into a property option agreement for the Skagit County owned property was presented. The agreement allows the City up to three years to purchase the property for \$352,000 and corrects a right-of-way issue. If the City has not begun construction of the project in ten years, Skagit County may purchase the property back for \$352,000.

Councilmember Hulst moved to approve Resolution 989 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Option Agreement with Skagit County for the purchase of property located at 208 Kincaid Street. Seconded by Councilmember Beaton. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Boudreau thanked Skagit County Commissioners Janicki and Browning for their work with this project.

- B. Mount Vernon Library Commons Discussion: Mayor Boudreau provided a review of the steps that have occurred on the Library Commons project from 2014 to present. The next step is the design and engineering phase. Construction readiness requirements, funding scenarios and grant opportunities were reviewed. Council agreed to authorize staff to move forward with the design and engineering

solicitation process. City Council will take formal action to select a firm after RFQ process is complete and contract is presented to City Council for action.

C. Public Safety:

- Fire Department Training Overview - Mr. Harris provided an update of training.
- Miscellaneous Update – Mr. Harris stated that a structure has been donated for Fire Department training.

D. For the Good of the Order:

- College Way Speed Discussion Follow-Up - Chief Cammock stated that SR538 is a State of Washington owned roadway and any changes are executed by the State Department of Transportation. He discussed the various speed limits on the road, State and City speed studies, speed zone history and accident history. Mr. Bell added that the recently installed traffic signal at the College Way and 30th Street intersection should reduce the incidents that have historically occurred there and that the Department of Transportation strictly adheres to the traffic study data when making decisions on speed limits.
- Councilmember Beaton asked Council to consider returning to conducting meetings live at the Police Court Campus. Mayor Boudreau proposed limiting in person meetings to the second and fourth Wednesdays through April. Councilmember Hulst requests that committee meetings resume at 6:00 pm. Councilmember Carías expressed concern with the length of in person meetings. The target date is to return meetings to the Police Court Campus is March 24, 2021 once appropriate infrastructure is in place and Skagit Public Health has approved the plan, the meetings will officially resume in chambers.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Becky Jensen, Recording Clerk

ATTEST:

Doug Volesky, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Jill Boudreau, Mayor