

Puyallup City Council Meeting, May 2, 2017

Observer: Nancy Dahl

The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:30 PM by Mayor John Hopkins. All council members were present. The meeting complied with League expectations for meeting procedures. There was no printed background material but staff and consultant reports to the council were available. Three-minute citizen comments were accepted early in the meeting so that those who wanted to could leave.

A public hearing on the resolution to approve the 6-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) followed. The council commented that TIP is a “wish list” needed to create transportation grant proposals and not necessarily things that will ultimately happen. The resolution was approved.

The major discussion item of the evening was related to the first reading of an ordinance to update the city Park Impact Fees and resulted in a lively discussion and a close vote hinging on whether businesses impact parks, and if they do, whether all businesses or only some businesses should be included in the fee structure. The recommendation before the council included industrial type businesses only. Several council members felt the fees should only impact users of the parks, while others felt parks create a more desirable community which businesses benefit from. The staff and a consultant present, gave an informative presentation regarding how their recommended solution was arrived at, and how it compares to other cities. In the end, the council voted on the recommendation as it was presented and it passed 4-3 in favor. A second reading is expected next month.

The council also unanimously approved the first reading of a change to the zoning code regarding the siting of schools, the second reading of a proposed change to the 2017 budget and the second reading of an ordinance to prohibit vaping in city parks.

It was announced that there is an opening on the City Parks and Recreation Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

