

# OBSERVER REPORT FORM

## University Place City Council

Date: October 4, 2021

Name of Observer: Kresha Warnock

### Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Belleci started with a memorial for Ken Grassi, former council member and Mayor of University Place, who died recently. He was clearly a man who was loved and honored by most of the members and others present. <https://thesubtimes.com/2021/09/29/university-place-mourns-the-passing-of-former-mayor-and-council-member-ken-grassi/>

All Council Attachments can be found at

[http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf) [Appropriate page numbers will be listed within the minutes]

**Present:** Mayor Belleci; Steve Worthington, Mayor Pro Tem; Javier Figueroa, Council Member; Kent Keel, Council Member; Howard Lee, Council Member, Pro Tem; Denise McCluskey, Council Member; Flemming, Council Member.

**Others present:** Steve Sugg, City Manager; Matt Kaiser, City Attorney; Sheila Phillips, Community Connection Place.

**Council Position No. 4 Vacancy/Possible Appointment** – With passing of Council member Grassi, a permanent position is possible to replace him. (Howard Lee has been serving in his stead as a pro tem member of the Council for the last year or two.) The position is on the November ballot at which time a new council member will be elected. Motion for Howard Lee to serve out the term until the new council member is elected in November. Moved and seconded. Mr. Lee was sworn into the council

**Public Comments:** No email public comments. Audience members present; none offered public comment.

**Consent Agenda passed:** Before approval, Cybersecurity Awareness Month Proclamation. Consent Agenda approved.

### City Manager Report:

Steve Sugg set aside regular report to remember Ken Grassi, former Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Grassi was key to developing the aesthetic features of the city, which has had a great economic impact.

### **Council Comments and Report Outs:**

Each council member memorialized Ken Grassi as the face of University Place and also a compassionate man and excellent leader.

Lee – Veteran’s Memorial proceeding on track

### **Study Session:**

**Senior Center Discussion** – Matt Kaiser, City Attorney; Sheila Phillip, Director, Community Connection Place

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Second study session to meet with staff to whom the property for Community Connection Place is leased. Report on Community Center Community Connection Place: It was built with a primary focus on youth and seniors with the use of the Grandview center. 35,000 residents, including 5,553 seniors and 5,000 youth. Community Connection has overseen this project for the past five years and is looking to extend the contract. Ms. Phillips summarized the current programs.

Future issues: Grants are coming available for seniors and youth and grant writer on board. Looking to ground breaking for a new community center. Partnered with school district. May have property available. Also property set aside at Cirque Park to build a community center. Would be publicly owned.

Lee asked about engaging with the seniors. How do you do that? When seniors come in get them to sign in. Get current address, email, phone number. Have option to use mail and phone calls for those not able to use email.

Each Council Member expressed support for the program and their work with both youth and seniors.

### **One Percent Property Tax Levy** (Leslie Blaisdell, Finance Director)

Ms. Blaisdell read her report, which is attached here.

[http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf) starting at p. 49.

Public Hearing at next meeting

### **Fireworks code Update** (Second Reading)

Matt Premo, Matt Kaiser

Four potential changes to code discussed in July

- 1) Changes to sales requirement. Sales prohibited except for non-profits Instead: prohibit all sales
- 2) Prohibit fireworks to accommodate weather-related concerns. Pierce County enacted provision within code that would allow to prohibit in fire-risk situations. Discussed ways that could be included in code.
- 3) New code – juveniles cannot do at all, but revision can do with parental oversight.
- 4) General prohibition on discharge of fireworks at all. Other municipalities in area have shrunk the discharge time to July 4 only.

Kaiser's complete report is available here:

[http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-04-21%20RM.pdf), starting at p. 59.

Kaiser will present a written revised ordinance at next meeting for vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.