

# OBSERVER REPORT FORM

**University Place City Council**

Date: October 18, 2021

Name of Observer: Kresha Warnock

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

All Council Attachments can be found at

[http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%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 Kaser, City Attorney, Community Connection; Sgt. Darren Moss, Pierce County Sheriff's Office

**Proclamation for Islamic Center:** Mayor Belleci read the proclamation which condemned the arson at the Tacoma Islamic Center and expressed support for its members and the Tacoma Islamic community.

**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:**

Sheriff Darren Moss, Pierce County Sheriff's Office:

Update: Working in collaboration with FBI and ATF to investigate the arson at the Islamic Center. No known motives; early in investigation. Definitely arson but not enough information to identify as hate crime. Showed picture of man who is person of interest.

Steve Sugg reviewed Music in the Park and other summer programs, upcoming development projects. Fund Balance as percent revenue got Moody's Superior rating. Cirque Drive infrastructure finished this year. He also reviewed the various development programs completed or in process this year.

**Council Comments and Report Outs:**

Keel : 1)Need to publicize the Moody's rating.

- 2) Stated how unamerican the attack on the mosque was (Most of the Council members reiterated this sentiment.)<sup>3</sup>
- 3) Searching for CEO's for AWC and Sound Transit. Each will have new leader in 2022. Welcomed input from other members.

McCluskey: Input from Curtis High School students...

- 1) Suggested adding mixed-use housing on main streets
- 2) Chambers Bay – add more trees

Belleci: In touch with Mr. Al Hassan from Islamic Center. They have gotten tremendous community support.

Executive Session is October 25.

New businesses in UP:

Collected Home

Second Born Maternity

Pop-up Kids

Canway asbestos and demolition

Lilith Pole and Aerial Dance

South Sound Affordable Housing had first meeting this morning which Belleci attended. It was a formation meeting and the Council will determine UP representation by January.

#### **Study Session:**

**Senior Center Discussion** – Matt Kaser, City Attorney

Third of three scheduled study sessions. Lease with Community Connection Place. Three action options:

- 1) Extend lease as is.
- 2) Extend lease and make changes
- 3) Solicit different third party to operate community center.

There is support for current operator. Have received much community input on this. In looking at contract, pieces warrant revision:

- 1) Term of lease – rollover plan or is there way to terminate for convenience with extended lead time.
- 2) To what extent the Council wants to have a say in the way the center functions. Suggest baking piece of that into agreement.
- 3) Add option that city can use to co-program space
- 4) Contractual agreement for reporting.

Flemming: Concerns from citizens that some feel left out. Add language to contract to enable equitable access to all.

Keel: Likes reporting piece. When give feedback from Council, some accountability. Also set up ad hoc group of seniors that report directly to Council to give feedback.

McCluskey: Need to improve marketing.

Belleci: The current programming is not as effective as it might be. The background of the director is before and after school programs, as opposed to senior programs. Community Connection Place.

McCluskey: Need the youth programs to provide the funding.

[http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%20RM.pdf) (pp. 17-32)

**2022 Legislative Agenda:**

Steve Sugg, City Manager

Memorandum in packet. Traditionally follows AWC's legislative priorities:

- Passing transportation package
- Protect TBD funding authority
- Infrastructure

Missing from list: Police Reform bills. Still a topic of conversation. Need specific updates on discussions on this topic.

Capital Budget Funding – summarized in packet

([http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City\\_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%20RM.pdf](http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/10-18-21%20RM.pdf) pp. 34-35)

Three priorities identified by staff for which funds could be asked for:

- Chambers Creek pedestrian bridge (fully funded)  
Need second bridge – sufficient to make canyon accessible from top to bottom (still funding needed for that bridge.)
- Day Island Bridge funding—initial study needed
- Homestead Park Pavilion – Set aside in federal bill awaiting passage.

Other ideas from Figueroa:

- Additional Sewer infrastructure funds
- Additional funds for community center, maybe at Chambers Bay, in coordination with County [Most thought it was a premature discussion]
- Funds to clean up hazardous/contaminated properties (public and private)
- Funds for public safety/homeless clean up

Flemming suggested matching funds for improvements of road to Chambers Creek Golf Course

Worthington: Want to be sure to track the Police Reform issues.

Adjourned at 8:44 pm

