



**CITY OF EDGEWOOD
COUNCIL STUDY SESSION SUMMARY**

November 6, 2018 – 7:00 PM ♦ City Hall – 2224 104th Avenue East ♦ Edgewood, WA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eidinger called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Daryl Eidinger, Councilmember John C. West, Councilmember Mark Creley, Councilmember Ryan Day, Councilmember Stephanie Hunter, Councilmember Roseanne Tomyn, Councilmember Nate Lowry. **Excused:** Deputy Mayor Tyron Christopherson.

Staff Present: Assistant City Administrator Dave Gray, City Clerk Rachel Pitzel, Community Development Director Darren Groth, Jeremy Metzler Public Works Director, Police Chief Micah Lundborg, City Attorney, Carol Morris, Senior Planner, Kristin Moerler.

2. COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. Discussion – Development Review

Senior Planner Kristin Moerler discussed the September totals regarding permits issued, inspection total amounts, and applications received and issued. She discussed the permit and project activity map, and permit activity recap report.

Discussion took place regarding trending in the applications received and issued and the ebb and flow of what months are more productive regarding issuance.

Community Development Director Groth discussed Economic Development and noted that Buxton looked at Trader Joes in Washington and gave the comparison of locations that they look for, and based off that it appears Edgewood isn't in their target market.

He discussed the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) which helps cultivate relationships with different builders and companies interested in different areas.

Mr. Groth inquired about the Economic Development Advisory Board. He asked Council if they wanted to seat the board with the four current members.

Discussion followed between staff and the Council.

Council action: Council recommended staff move forward with sending out the Buxton letters, and seating the Economic Development Advisory Board as is, setting a time for them to meet in December, and then schedule a joint meeting between them and Council sometime in January. Mayor Eidinger noted to add the additional applicant on the next study session schedule for an interview to help fill one of the other vacant seats.

B. Review / Discussion – Perceived Density Code Amendments

Community Development Director Darren Groth briefed Council on this agenda item.

He explained the city currently allows for Residential Cluster Developments but does not extend to all of our zoning districts. He then detailed the changes made for the zoning districts and the community septic systems. He noted there is a public hearing scheduled for next week's regular council meeting on November 13th to discuss this item further.

C. Review / Discussion – ADU Code Amendments

Community Development Director Darren Groth briefed Council on this agenda item. He noted the Planning Commission approved changes to the proposed code amendments regarding ADUs, and what it means to qualify as an ADU. The amendment clarifies to anyone doing a home remodel or expansion letting folks know when they cross the line from being an expansion to an ADU.

Council action: Council recommended staff move forward and Mr. Groth noted there would be public hearing for this item at next week's regular council meeting as well.

D. Review / Discussion – Sign Code Ordinance (Model Code to Planning Commission)

Community Development Director Darren Groth briefed Council on this agenda item.

Mr. Groth referred to the proposed model sign code, asking if Council could refer it to the Planning Commission to get it on their upcoming agenda. He then asked how Council would like to fill in the model code, with the easiest option being to pull forward relevant code sections from our current sign requirements, and plugging them in for the Planning Commission to review. He noted that way they can fill it in while identifying changes for future code amendments. He noted the other more time consuming option, would be to have the Planning Commission review several details such as height and setbacks.

Council action: Council recommended staff to bring the model code to Planning Commission regarding the Sign Code and to use the current standard to move forward to become legal as soon as possible.

E. Review / Discussion – Hall Street Vacation (Wyoming Avenue)

Public Works Director Jeremy Metzler briefed Council on this agenda item and noted this is the street vacation Council passed a resolution on last week that set the public hearing at next week's regular council meeting.

Public Works Director Metzler referred to the staff report and appraisal including his recommendation for compensation if the vacation were to proceed. A hearing will be held next week allowing for public comment, and then it will come back at the next study session with an ordinance to go over the details.

Discussion followed between staff and the Council.

F. Review / Discussion – Proposed 2019 Property Tax

Assistant City Administrator Dave Gray briefed Council on this agenda item.

He went over the breakdown of a 1% increase in property taxes and his recommendation not to bank them. He noted this will come forward to the next regular council meeting as a public hearing and then placed under Council Business for action, as there is a timeframe on when this is due to the State.

Discussion followed between staff and the Council.

Motion: To extend Study Session past 9:00pm, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Councilmember Nate Lowry, **Seconded by** Councilmember Ryan Day. **Motion passed (6-0).**

G. Review / Discussion – Proposed 2019 Preliminary Budget

Assistant City Administrator Dave Gray briefed Council on this agenda item.

He discussed how the hiring of two new administrative support positions would assist in spreading out some of the staff's workload.

Mr. Gray inquired how conservative Council wanted to be when it came to forecasting budget revenues, and asked for direction from Council on how to move forward. He explained there would be an open public budget meeting at the next regular council meeting where the public could come forward with any questions or concerns regarding the preliminary budget.

H. Review / Discussion – Carrera Holdings Segregation

Asst. City Administrator Dave Gray briefed Council on this agenda item and explained the Arbors property was originally two large properties that were sold to Carrera Holdings. The lot line adjustment was completed, but it did not take care of the LID, he noted if folks were to look at the two title reports, it shows both parcels owe the entire LID, which is not the case.

He stated the segregation would fix that and put them all on the same LID payment schedule.

Council action: Council recommended staff to place this item on the consent agenda at next week's regular council meeting.

I. Discussion – Hiring Process

Councilmember Creley clarified he meant no disparagement or negativity towards staff. He further explained that his concerns were that personal recruitment had a potential to look like "The Good ol' Boy Club."

He noted concerns were that it could be used in the future to hire friends, as opposed to the most qualified person for the position, and since it's part of a hiring policy and Council is the policy makers, he would like there to be consideration on changing that portion of it.

Councilmember Day agreed stating it isn't a matter of impropriety, but more about how it may appear to those on the outside. He suggested removing the portion of the policy about internal referrals, or rewording it so the city can still get the quality of candidates needed, while protecting the interests of the city.

Councilmember Tomin agreed stating internal referrals should just be included with the public candidates.

Councilmember Lowry inquired as to the cost involved in interviewing multiple candidates, when we already have a favorable candidate in mind.

Mayor Eidinger touched on the staff time that goes in to panel interviews, the cost of having several staff members set aside several hours to interview multiple candidates.

Councilmember Hunter requested staff be more transparent in the hiring process. She explained bringing a position forward for Council to review, and give input on, and then forgetting to tell them you already had a person in mind, created a disconnect.

City Attorney Morris noted she spoke with two individuals involved in the hiring process at the City of Seattle and the Seattle Housing Authority and both stated they post their positions publicly, and review from that pool of candidates.

Discussion followed between staff and Council.

3. OTHER COUNCIL ISSUES

Mayor Eidinger asked for a volunteer to write the upcoming council highlights article for the Edgewood Magazine, and Councilmember Lowry agreed to do so.

Mayor Eiding explained a property owner is interested in donating 30 acres of non-buildable land.

Mayor Eiding also asked folks to join him for the Veterans Day Ceremony Sunday November 11, 11am at the Veterans Memorial in Triangle Park.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Eiding asked City Attorney Carol Morris if there was an executive session.

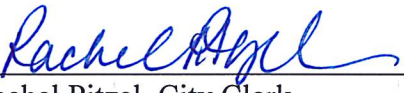
City Attorney Morris stated there would be an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) pending litigation. The Executive Session will last approximately 5 minutes.

Mayor Eiding recessed the meeting to Executive Session at 9:43pm for 5 minutes.

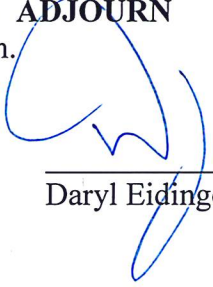
Mayor Eiding called the meeting back to order at 9:48pm.

5. ADJOURN

Mayor Eiding adjourned the meeting at 9:49pm.



Rachel Pitzel, City Clerk



Daryl Eiding, Mayor