

City of Kenmore, Washington
City Council Regular and Special Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2017

CALL SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER — The Kenmore City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Baker at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Mayor David Baker and Councilmembers Brent Smith, Laurie Sperry, Milton Curtis, Nigel Herbig and Stacey Denuski.

Councilmembers excused: Deputy Mayor Allan Van Ness.

Staff present: Rob Karlinsey, City Manager; Nancy Ousley, Assistant City Manager; Debbie Bent, Community Development Director; Bryan Hampson, Development Services Director; Rod Kaseguma City Attorney; Dawn Reitan, Assistant City Attorney; Sarah Bingham, Graduate Intern and Kelly Chelin, City Clerk.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The meeting recessed to executive session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Property Negotiations, Potential Litigation and Litigation Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b) and RCW 42.30 110 (1) (i) for approximately 90 minutes.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION:

The meeting reconvened to regular session at 6:50 p.m.

The Council took a short break from 6:50 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER — The Kenmore City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Baker at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

The Council led the flag salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Baker requested the following changes:

1. Presentation to introduce Shelby Krogh be moved to the June 19, 2017 meeting.
2. Presentation for Walk Friendly Communities Award be moved to the June 19, 2017 meeting.
3. Business Agenda Item for Code Changes Addressing Vegetation and Sidewalk Maintenance be moved to the June 26, 2017 meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Curtis made a motion to approve the revisions to the agenda, Councilmember Herbig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION

Introduce Maureen Colaizzi, Parks Project Manager - Lauri Anderson, Senior Planner

Mary's Place - Update on Community Meetings and Proposed Kenmore Location - Marty Hartman, Executive Director and Dan McGrady, Member of Board of Directors for Mary's Place

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Vicki Grayland, 20308 73rd Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Ms. Grayland spoke against the Saint Edward ballfields. She asked the Council to explain where they are going to get the funds to build these fields.

Macy Ratliff, 14925 73rd Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Ms. Ratliff stated that she was thrilled to hear Mary's Place is coming to Kenmore. She spoke about the ballfields and said she appreciated the beauty at Saint Edward Park.

Jolen Ratliff, 14925 73rd Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Mr. Ratliff stated he loved Saint Edward Park. He loves the openness and solitude of that park which has value. He said he's not against sports however he's not in favor of the improvements suggested for the ballfield.

Karen McFadden, 19604 66th Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Ms. McFadden said she is worried about the LED lighting proposed for the field. She also does not want to see artificial turf there. The turf may not be healthy for the kids playing on it.

Richard Fried, 20315 60th Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Mr. Fried introduced himself as the President of the Little League. He had all the kids stand up from the Little League team. He stated that the kids need a safe place to play sports. Right now, the fields are swampy and uneven.

Patrick O'Brien, 6330 NE 181st Street, Kenmore.

Mr. O'Brien stated that he is for the ballfields but not for over \$4 million. He said that improvements could be done to the existing ballfields but not with artificial turf.

Paul Schmidt, 14817 74th Place NE, Kenmore.

Ms. Schmidt stated that Edward do need lights and turf at the Saint Edward ballfields. He urged the Council to go forward with making it a useful field.

Stuart Hogge, 21624 2nd Avenue SE, Bothell.

Mr. Hogge said he supports the ballfields given that he has two sons that are involved in Little League. He believes there is plenty of room at that park for all users.

Keith Dunbar, 14310 93rd Avenue NE, Kirkland.

Mr. Dunbar stated that he lives in Finn Hill and is a retired parks employee. He stated that its not traditional to have lighting and artificial turf at a state park.

Phyllis Finley, 5962 NE Arrowhead Drive, Kenmore.

Ms. Finley urged the Council to make a decision with the residents' tax dollars. She would like the City to make the best decision with the least amount of disruption to the park and wildlife.

Doug Levy, 15619 62nd Place NE, Kenmore.

Mr. Levy stated that the park can still have its solitude and useful playfields. Everyone can benefit from this park. He encouraged the Council to move forward.

Elizabeth Mooney, 5934 NE 201st Street, Kenmore.

Ms. Mooney stated that the City could put artificial turf in other areas of the City. She does not want to see it at Saint Edward ballfields. She stated you can't take a 100-year-old eco-system and move it just anywhere. She believes the park will be ruined.

Tennille Marx, 14923 73rd Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Ms. Marx said she was in support of the ballfield project. She stated that she believes it builds community.

Graysen Holes, 15611 100th Place NE, Bothell.

Mr. Holes stated that he believes the City does need the fields because there have been games canceled due to the rain and swampy field.

Acting Mayor Curtis stated that due to the late hour, the Council will allow for 1 minute citizen comments from this point forward or wait and have 3 minutes at the end of the meeting.

Doug Hill, 5859 NE 153rd Place, Kenmore. (Signed up but was not present)

Peter Lauce, 6501 NE 151st, Kenmore.

Mr. Lauce urged the Council to look at the parking for the future lodge. The lodge might change the parking plans for the proposed ballfields.

Andrew Smith, 15313 73rd Avenue NE, Kenmore. (Signed up but did not want to speak)

Alan Marx, 14923 Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Mr. Marx stated he lives in Finn Hill. He stated that the Saint Edward state park has a lot of area and has enough room for everyone.

Brent Anderson, 16304 81st Place NE, Kenmore.

Spoke to the RCO grant and the PAUE being first introduced in January. He is against the ballfields at Saint Edwards.

Anne Anderson, 16304 81st Place NE, Kenmore.

Ms. Anderson stated that she is against the ballfields at Saint Edward State park. She talked about the potential pollution problems because of the hotel.

Janet Hay, 6303 NE 181st #301, Kenmore.

Ms. Hay stated that she is concerned with the proposed lights at the field after studying the environmental map.

Frances Hill, 15602 East Shore Drive, Lynnwood.

Ms. Hill relayed to the Council that she is not in favor of the ballfields.

John Hendrickson, 5919 NE 202nd Lane, Kenmore.

Mr. Hendrickson spoke against the ballfields.

Danny How, 15609 62nd Place NE, Kenmore.

Mr. How spoke in favor of the ballfields.

Derek Cone, 18603 66th Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Mr. Cone spoke in favor of the ballfields.

Note: Mayor Baker left at approximately 8:15 p.m. Councilmember Curtis took over the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Curtis moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted, Councilmember Herbig seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

The consent agenda included the following:

The Following Checks and Electronic Payments are Approved for Payment:

Total Check Numbers 36889 through 36978 in the Amount of \$251,332.68.

Total Payroll Electronic Deposits Dated 05/12/2017 in the Amount of \$78,005.25.

City Council Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2017 and April 19, 2017

The Following Checks and Electronic Payments are Approved for Payment:

Total Check Numbers 36979 through 37068 in the Amount of \$624,367.26.

Total Payroll Electronic Deposits Dated 5/26/2017 in the Amount of \$79,812.19.

Wire Transfer for Debt Service Payment on 6/1/2017 in the Amount of \$137,177.79.

City Council Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2017, May 1, 2017 and May 8, 2017

Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract No. 17-C1650 for the Construction of the Moorlands Park Improvements Project

Receive and File Automatic Renewal of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (ICA) Regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for 2018-2020

Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Hvas Group for an Amount not to Exceed \$22,500

Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Interlocal Agreement with City of Marysville for the Rental of Outdoor Video Services for Movies @ the Square Events to be Held in the Town Square

BUSINESS AGENDA

Status Update on the St. Edward Ballfield Improvement Project - Rob Karlinsey, City Manager

City Manager Karlinsey provided a progress report on the St. Edward State Park ballfield improvement project. For next steps, staff recommends continuing to proceed with negotiating terms for a 20-year lease with State Park Staff and preparing materials for a land use permit application (critical area variance) and SEPA application. Staff also recommends that if light sensitive, State-priority species bats are present at St. Edward State Park (based on the results of the upcoming State Park study June/July), that field lighting be excluded from the project. Staff is requesting direction on staff recommendations.

The renovation of the ballfields supports year-round recreation opportunities. The field will be available for scheduled use by youth and adult sport leagues as well as for informal recreational use by the public and other activities and events. The renovation will also support existing recreation uses: an adult cricket league that currently uses the field between May and October; the Wilderness Awareness School program; and informal recreation. The field is not currently used by any other youth or adult organized leagues. The youth and soccer leagues serving Kenmore are part of a larger service area and have experienced significant growth over the last few years and competition for use of fields. Renovating the fields at St. Edward will help meet Kenmore's proportionate share of fields for youth soccer and baseball.

Lease Status: A long-term lease agreement is required between the City and State Parks to allow the City to improve, manage and maintain the ballfields at St. Edward State Park. On 1/22/16 a Memorandum of Agreement (Contract 16-C1507) was executed by the City and State Parks to work towards a long-term lease agreement. City staff and parks staff have been working on terms of a 20-year draft lease but there are still details to work out. The date for Commission action on the lease has not yet been determined. At the 5/17/17 State Park Commission meeting several commissioners expressed the desire to act on the lease by year end.

Critical Area Variance Permit Status and SEPA Status: Since December 2016, staff has been compiling materials in support of a SEPA application and a critical area variance permit application to allow variance from the wetland buffer width requirement. A variance application is a Type 2 administrative decision by the Development Services Director appealable to the Kenmore Hearing Examiner. A combined SEPA process for the variance permit and lease is also required. Public comment periods and an appeal period are part of the SEPA and permit process.

The following is a tentative schedule for the permit and SEPA process.

- Late June: Submit critical area variance permit application and SEPA checklist
- August: Notice of Application for the permit with a 21-day public comment period
- September: Issue "draft" SEPA determination with a 14-day public comment period
- October: Issue SEPA and Permit decision with a 21-day appeal period
- November: Possible State Park Commission consideration of the ballfields lease. It is also anticipated that State Parks would schedule a public meeting in Kenmore to receive public comment prior to the Parks Commission's November meeting held in Westport.

Status of Issues/Questions: Both City staff and State Parks staff have been compiling information to address questions raised by the State Park Commissioners at their November 2016 and January 2017 meetings, and questions from citizens.

- **Location of the headwaters of Stream 0226:** Several citizens questioned the location of the headwaters of Stream 0226 that is located southeast of the existing grass ballfield. In 2017 the City's consultant ESA completed an updated "draft" Critical Area Report which defined the start of the stream channel approximately 500 feet south of the existing ballfield. A previous 2008 Critical Area Report identified the stream channel beginning 50 to 100 feet south of the ballfield. On 5/8/17 city staff, state park staff, the City's environmental consultant and interested citizens met with WDFW staff on site. WDFW staff identified the likely location of the start of the stream; it appears that the stream at its identified location will not be affected by the project. This information regarding the stream will be referenced in an updated Critical Area report and SEPA checklist.

- **Confirmation of the wetland boundary:** Several citizens questioned the location of the wetland boundary delineated by ESA, the City's environmental consultant. The Department of Ecology (DOE) has the regulatory authority to confirm wetland boundaries when there is a dispute. On 3/17/17 city staff, state park staff, the city's environmental consultant and several citizens met with DOE staff on site but the verification could not be completed due to heavy rains in previous weeks. On 5/9/17 DOE revisited the site and confirmed the location of the wetland boundary as delineated by the City's consultant.
- **Field lighting and bats:** State Park Commissioners raised questions about the effect of field lighting on nocturnal animals, particularly bats. State Parks staff are in the process of compiling a literature review and have consulted with WDFW. At the 5/17/17 Commission meeting, State Park staff recommended that a consultant be hired to complete a study in June and July to assess if light sensitive bats are present at the park. City staff recommends excluding field lighting from the project for the duration of the lease if the conclusion of the study is that light sensitive, State-priority species bats are present at the park. If light sensitive bats are not present, then City staff recommends including field lighting in the project.
- **Field use and field lighting:** The existing grass field is in poor condition. The grass field is currently used by The Olympic Cricket Club and Northwest Cricket club for practice and weekend games but is not used by any other youth or adult leagues. The proposed ballfield improvements will not preclude use of the field by the Wilderness Awareness School as their program is weekdays from 9-3pm and scheduled practice for Little League and Soccer starts generally at 4:00 pm on weekdays. The draft lease terms will likely require that the City dedicate use of the field to State Parks for State Parks scheduled play, unscheduled play or open play or State Parks sponsored event of no less than 24 daylight hours per week between March 1st and November 1st with at least four of the hours available one weekday no sooner than 3 pm. The lease will also likely require no City scheduled games, practice games or tournament use on Memorial Day weekend or weekends and holidays July 1 through Labor Day without the prior consent of State Parks designated representative. Based on these terms, Attachment #2 shows use of fields by sports leagues under two scenarios: 1. Field lighting and no summer weekend practice/game use and 2. No field lighting and no summer weekend practice/game use. Lighting the fields increases available hours by approximately 36%. Fields are anticipated to be used approximately 60% by youth and 40% by adults, both with and without lights.
- **Noise and park users:** State Park Commissioners raised questions about noise from field use and how far away it could be heard by park users e.g. trail users. The City hired the Greenbusch Group in March 2017 to complete a noise study. The report is anticipated to be received the first week of June, and results will be incorporated into the SEPA checklist.
- **Parking demand:** State Park Commissioners raised questions about parking demand. State Park staff hired Sound Engineering late 2016 to review the parking study prepared by the City's consultant Fehr & Peers related to parking demand associated with ballfield use and provide an estimated 20-year parking demand project for general park visitor use. The study was completed in April 2017. The City received a copy of the study 5/15/17 which is currently being reviewed by the City's traffic consultant, Fehr & Peers. Results will be incorporated in the SEPA checklist.

There are 220 parking stalls available for visitors to St. Edward State Park; these visitors include ballfield users and spectators. The proposed project will increase the parking supply by 19 new parking stalls. The existing strip of gravel parking on the West side of the ball field (20 parking spaces) will be paved and restriped and pavement extended to add 8 new parking stalls. In addition, the northernmost parking lot (55 parking spaces) will be restriped to add 11 new parking stalls. Sound Engineering recommends a total of 36 stalls be added related to ballfield use over the term of the lease. Timing for provision of additional stalls (potentially 17) is still to be determined and will likely be addressed in the lease.

Proposed Ballfield Improvement Project Description: The City proposes improvements to the existing grass ballfield area footprint (approximately 3.5 acres) in St. Edward State Park to accommodate two little league fields, two youth soccer fields, one full-size soccer field or one full-size cricket field (see Attachment #1).

- Wetland and Wetland Buffer: The ballfields will be shifted to the West and moved outside of the delineated Wetland area (but still within the existing grass footprint), so there will be no direct Wetland impacts. Installation of the synthetic turf field would cover 37,932 square feet of disturbed Wetland buffer, which is currently mowed grass (and is currently disturbing the buffer). Another 4,725 square feet of mowed Wetland buffer would be filled during site grading, but not covered with synthetic turf. Approximately 30,000 square feet of Wetland enhancement and 25,000 square feet of Wetland buffer enhancement (total 1.3 acres) is proposed as mitigation for buffer impacts.
- Stormwater and Turf: As part of ballfield site preparation, approximately 131,000 square feet of sod will be removed from under the field. Once the sod is stripped, a 6-inch thick layer of free-draining aggregate will be placed over the subgrade, which will be covered with a 6-inch thick plastic grating drainage system. The field will be graded flat and covered with a non-toxic synthetic turf and contain a rounded silica sand or organic infill. The new 100,632 square foot synthetic turf field will be pervious, and a subsurface stormwater system will be installed to provide drainage for the field. Controlled stormwater detention will maintain the natural hydrology to the surrounding Wetland. To integrate and blend the turf into the cultural landscape, the turf will be a dark green color as recommended by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.
- Pathways: Porous concrete will be used to provide a walking path around the perimeter of the fields, to support the backstop posts and to provide a floor surface in the new dugouts. An ADA-accessible permeable trail, approximately 6 feet wide, will be installed to connect the Western side of the fields to the parking areas and access road. Soils that are disturbed by installation of the pathways will be hydroseeded with native grass seed following construction.
- Field Lighting and Pedestrian Lighting: Field lighting consisting of ten LED floodlight poles and lighting fixtures around the perimeter of the field are proposed to accommodate field use. A draft lease term requires that lighting be allowed no later than 9 pm each evening. State Parks will be contracting with a consultant to complete a study to determine if there are State-priority, light sensitive bat species present at the park. If these species are present, then staff recommends that field lighting be excluded from the ballfield project. The proposed lighting will consist of LED floodlights mounted on 70 foot tall galvanized steel poles. The poles will be installed as close to the field as possible to not compromise the safety of the players, to allow for pedestrian access, and to minimize impacts to wildlife habitat in the vicinity to the extent possible. Lighting will

use the latest technology to minimize glare and light spillage. Lighting hours will be outlined in the lease agreement between the City of Kenmore and the State Park Commission, likely no earlier than 3pm or later than 9pm during scheduled field use. To further integrate the lighting fixtures to blend into the cultural landscape, the pole color will be a dark green, as recommended by the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

The paving and illumination plan shows three proposed pedestrian light fixtures to be installed to illuminate the proposed improved parking area immediately West of the field. The color and type of fixture will be consistent with existing light fixtures at St. Edward State Park.

- Backstops, Bleachers, Dugouts and Shed: The existing backstop in the northwest corner of the field will be removed, and two new backstops will be installed; one in the northwest corner and the other in the southeast corner. The backstops will be approximately 24 feet high and made from chain-link fencing or netting material supported by metal posts. The dugouts will also be constructed of chain-link fencing with roofs. Covered bleachers are proposed and a small equipment shed (10' x 25') will be constructed near the southwest corner of the field. To further integrate improvements to blend into the cultural landscape, the backstop color will be green and the bleacher seating green or brown, as recommended by the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.
- Trees and Landscaping: The conclusion of the City's Tree Protection plan is that no trees need to be removed to install ballfield improvements. Tree protection measures will be implemented during construction in accordance with recommendations in the Tree Protection Plan. State Park staff may remove any retained trees in the future if they are determined to be hazard trees in accordance with the State Park hazard tree policy such as posing a danger to structures or field users. Based upon a recommendation from the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation a mix of native conifers and shrubs will be planted adjacent to the north side of the field. The new plants will be installed to screen the ballfield, while still retaining some views of the ballfield and adjacent forest.
- Cultural/Historic Landscape: In addition to the measures described above as recommended by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to integrate ballfield improvements into the cultural landscape, several cultural landscape restoration mitigation measures would be undertaken at the Nun's Garden, The Orchard and The Grotto at St. Edward State Park. Restoration measures will be consistent with treatment recommendations outlined in the 2006 Cultural Landscape Inventory prepared for St. Edward State Park prepared by the National Parks Service. If the project does not include field lighting, then restoration mitigation measures could also change.
- Shoreline Restoration: The current lease negotiations also include a proposal for a future shoreline restoration project at St. Edward State Park Lake Washington. While not a mitigation measure required for the ballfield project, some shoreline restoration may be pursued by the City of Kenmore in partnership with Washington State Parks, as a future project phase, dependent on grant funding. Additional SEPA review will be completed at the time of Shoreline Permit review. A preliminary project scope proposes to remove large angular boulders that form a bulkhead and three groins along the state park shoreline and fill remaining voids and depressions with gravels and sands that match the

natural lakebed substrate. Enhancement of shoreline vegetation by planting additional coniferous trees and shrubs would also be a likely component of the project.

BACKGROUND:

- 11/9/15 Council meeting, Council consensus directing staff to consider what is necessary for the City to assume control of the uses, improvements and maintenance of the ballfields, including potential costs.
- 12/14/15 letter from the City Manager to the Director of Washington State Parks, proposing to work on a long-term lease agreement
- 1/11/16 ballfield concept design presented to Council.
- 1/22/16 Contract 16-C1507 Memorandum of Understanding between the City and State Parks for preparing a long-term solution, likely a lease with final approval by the State Parks Commission whereby the City improves, manages and maintains the ballfields.
- 2/23/16 open house, presenting ballfield design concept.
- 3/31/16 presentation of ballfield design concept to the Park Commission.
- 5/23/16 Council authorizes the City Manager to execute Contract No. 16-C1561, the SEPA lead agency agreement assigning lead agency responsibilities for the proposed ballfield project.
- 8/8/16 Staff submitted SEPA application 16-0097 and a Public Agency Utility Exception (PAUE) permit application PAUE 16-0098
- 8/31/16 status update to the Park Commission real estate committee.
- 9/9/16 SEPA notice issued providing a 21-day comment period.
- 10/31/16 Staff submitted revised documents to address SEPA comments and PAUE review comments.
- 11/16/16 status update to the Park Commission.
- 11/28/16 Growth Board decision on an appeal of the PAUE ordinance 16-0418, invalidating the ordinance and remanded it back to the City for action. As of 11/28/16 the PAUE application was therefore also void.
- On 5/8/17 the Council adopted Resolution 17-295 confirming that the PAUE regulations as existed prior to the adoption of Ordinance 16-0418.
- 1/26/17 status update to the Park Commission.
- 5/17/17 status update to the Park Commission.
- 5/22/17 status update to Council.

Council and staff engaged in a discussion.

PUBLIC HEARING

Land Use Streamlining Project - Proposed Changes to the Land Use Terminology Used in the Zoning District Charts and Other Sections of the Zoning Code - Lauri Anderson, Senior Planner

Senior Planner Anderson explained that at the Council meetings on April 17 and May 8, staff reviewed proposed changes to the Zoning Code to provide more flexibility in land use interpretations and to simplify the code for applicants and permit review staff by consistently implementing a standardized set of land use terms. The streamlining project goal is to consolidate more than 200 existing land use definitions down to about 50, and to use these definitions in the zoning district charts and other code sections with as little change to the policy direction or intent of each zone as possible.

After the close of the public hearing, the City Council may direct questions to staff. City Council deliberation and consideration of ordinance adoption will occur at a future City Council meeting.

Councilmember Curtis opened the public hearing at 9:16 p.m.

There Were no comments from the audience.

Councilmember closed the public hearing at 9:16 p.m.

This ordinance will come back to a future meeting for adoption.

Discussion of Paid Parental Leave Policy for City Employees - Sarah Bingham, Graduate Intern

Intern Bingham explained that at the January Council Retreat, the Council discussed establishing a paid parental leave policy for City employees. At the retreat, the Council requested that Staff research the possibility of a paid parental leave policy for future discussion. While the City is not under any legal obligation to provide such a policy, several other governments in the surrounding area, including King County, the City of Seattle and the City of Shoreline, have recently established paid parental leave policies. Paid parental leave policies have been associated with positive health outcomes, reduced gender and economic disparities, and reduced employee turnover¹. At the retreat, the consensus of the Council was to look into the possibility of providing around six Weeks of paid parental leave.

Council and staff engaged in a discussion.

The consensus of the Council was to go with Option 2 presented: All eligible employees will receive six Weeks of paid parental leave regardless of their leave balances. An employee may then choose to take up to six more additional Weeks of leave from their other accrued paid leave reserves. Eligible employees are permitted to use the six Weeks of paid parental leave before other paid leaves. Additionally, the employee may choose to take less than six Weeks of paid parental leave.

Based on that consensus, a resolution formalizing a parental leave policy will be brought forward on a later date.

Authorize the City Manager to Enter into Assignment of the Intellectual Rights for Cartoon Character Hank Heron with an Amount not to Exceed \$7,500 - Sarah Bingham, Graduate Intern

Intern Bingham explained that community-building expert Peter Kageyama came to Kenmore in 2015 and spoke at a “For the Love of Kenmore” event. This training has inspired the community, including our very own co-workers at City Hall, to look for fun and creative ways to engage citizens and show love for the City. Kent Vaughan, the City’s Senior Civil Engineer, developed the fun and family-friendly cartoon bird character of “Hank Heron,” who has been incorporated into a number of City projects and communication pieces. Hank Heron can be seen throughout Kenmore on construction signs and other City announcements, and is also featured throughout our 2017-2018 biennial budget document, including the cover.

Up until this time, Kent has received no compensation for his cartoon work; he has simply donated his own time and effort to produce Hank Heron cartoons for the City. Due to Hank Heron’s prevalence throughout different projects, staff feels it is necessary for the City to purchase the rights to Hank Heron from Kent at a fair price. After purchasing the rights to Hank

Heron, the City would then pay Kent, as an independent contractor, for any additional Hank Heron cartoon work for City projects. The agreement would also allow Kent to continue using Hank Heron as a character in Kent's other non-city-related comic strips.

The 2017-2018 Budget has allocated \$47,456 for marketing and media relations in 2017. Purchasing the rights to Hank Heron will cost the City \$7,500. Kent will also be given 25% of any profits the City makes by selling Hank Heron merchandise in the future. However, this will be unlikely because the City does not seek to make a profit and generally sells items at cost value. An additional agreement is being reached to pay Kent \$50 an hour for any further cartoon work he does on behalf of the City. This work would be performed on his own time outside of his regular work hours for the City.

MOTION: Councilmember Herbig made a motion to authorize the City Manager to Enter into Assignment of the Intellectual Rights for Cartoon Character Hank Heron with an Amount not to Exceed \$7,500, Councilmember Denuski seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 (Mayor Baker and Deputy Mayor Van Ness absent)

STAFF REPORT

Utility Box Art - Sarah Bingham, Graduate Intern

Graduate Intern Bingham explained that the City is looking into decorating several traffic utility boxes with vinyl wraps. This project expands on the "For the Love of Kenmore" effort to provide emotional connections between members of the community and the City.

Utility boxes are an essential part of the City's infrastructure, and yet the actual metal boxes are quite unattractive, and can often be the target of graffiti. Covering these unappealing boxes in fun and interesting images would be a great way to create love notes for the community and provide a unique way for citizens to connect with the City. When community-building expert Peter Kageyama visited Kenmore, he taught that when citizens can connect emotionally with their City, they become more invested in all aspects of improving the community.

Many other cities throughout the country and region have successfully developed utility box art programs. Examples of decorated utility boxes can be found in the Appendix. These projects have received a positive response from the public, and have also helped to discourage and prevent graffiti. Some cities have artists paint directly on utility boxes, while others print images of paintings or drawings on vinyl wraps. Our contact from WSDOT recommended vinyl wraps because paint can seep into cracks or vents and compromise the utility box. Vinyl wraps should last three to five years before needing to be removed.

Many of the utility boxes in Kenmore are owned by PSE or WSDOT. Currently, neither organization has given the City permission to decorate their utility boxes in Kenmore. However, after recent communication, both organizations seem open to some type of pilot program in the future. The City owns several traffic signals throughout Kenmore, and the accompanying utility boxes. This project will start with the City-owned boxes, and hopefully expand to other boxes in the future.

The first utility box staff is planning to decorate is located on the northeast corner of Juanita Dr. and 170th St., on the edge of Rhododendron Park. Edward plan to cover this box with a photograph (actually taken at the park) of rhododendron flowers. Covering the box with a photograph is a simple way to tie the box to its surroundings and beautify the area. In addition, the City is working with Kent Vaughan, the City's Senior Civil Engineer, to create a Hank Heron cartoon scene to cover a utility box located in front of City Hall.

Staff is also coordinating with the Arts of Kenmore to develop a plan to hire local artists to design wraps for other City-owned traffic boxes in the future. This program could potentially include a community feedback element where citizens vote on different art options. This would present a great opportunity to increase engagement and community ownership of the project.

The costs of this project will come from paying artists for their designs, and printing and installing the vinyl wraps. Providing payments for public art projects attracts more professional and higher-quality submissions. However, the payments for this project do not need to be extremely high because artists would get to keep their original work. Other cities with similar programs have paid artists \$500 to \$1,000 for each piece used. The photographer who has taken photos for the box at Rhododendron Park has requested around \$300 for the use of his photo.

Vinyl printing and installation will be done by a sign company. The City is waiting to hear back from four different sign companies on quotes for the utility box at Rhododendron Park. Based on the quotes staff have received so far, printing and installing the vinyl should cost around \$800 to \$1,000.

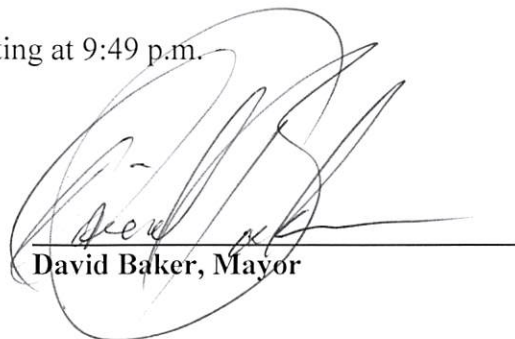
The City plans to proceed with decorating the first two boxes in the near future. This project will not only help promote the image of Kenmore, but also provide citizens with a chance to appreciate a part of the City they have likely overlooked in the past.

Council loved the concept and encouraged staff to proceed with the project.

City Manager Karlinsey reported on the aquatic vegetation plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Curtis adjourned the meeting at 9:49 p.m.



David Baker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kelly M. Chelin, City Clerk