

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Shannon Reynolds called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Brett L. Wittner, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present. Councilmember David M. Viafore and Hunter T. George were absent during roll call. Councilmember Karen Mauer-Smith was absent and excused.

Councilmember Viafore joined the meeting virtually at 6:16 P.M. due to a computer malfunction. Councilmember Hunter T. George joined the meeting virtually at 6:28 P.M.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Parks and Recreation Director Grover presented the Centennial Committee timeline and stated that the timeline was identified as the City's legacy project. The timeline was developed using historical records and contributions from Councilmember Viafore and former Councilmember Surina. Parks and Recreation Director Grover also noted that the timeline will be incorporated into a permanent display at the Community Center. Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported that electronic copies will be distributed to the Council for their feedback. Director Grover stated that the designated wall space is limited and requested Council feedback within the next two weeks.

Parks and Recreation Director Grover also presented the draft Centennial Birthday Week schedule to include the Legacy Project dedication/Immersive Experience, Special Meet and Greet with Ralph Colyer, Tacoma Fircrest Night at the Tacoma Rainiers, Family Dance, Community Sports, and a ceremonial City Council meeting. Director Grover stated that the logistics for the ceremonial City Council meeting are still underway and would appreciate Council feedback. There was a brief discussion on the day the City's anniversary falls on, possible meeting locations, and finalizing the date to send invitations to former Councilmembers.

DEPARTMENT WORK PLAN UPDATES

City Manager Masko presented the Department Work Plan Updates and stated that this was an overview to discuss priorities, ongoing work, and any delayed initiatives.

The Administration Department work plan update included the Centennial Celebration Planning and Sponsorships, ongoing capital projects, grant funding, Planning and Building support, labor negotiations, and community outreach efforts.

The City Clerk's work plan update included promoting government accessibility, grant and contract management, public records response improvements, and serving as the Civil Service Secretary.

The Human Resources work plan update included recruitment efforts, electronic personnel records, Employee Benefits Fair, job description updates, and conducting a salary survey.

There was a brief discussion on Council training requirements under the Open Public Meetings Act. City Clerk Burkhart stated that she could assist with providing further information to the Council if needed.

The Municipal Court work plan update included the implementation of the Enterprise Justice System, court security upgrades, the traffic photo enforcement program, and updates to local court rules.

Discussions included potential use of the photo enforcement program funds to support staffing needs, the forthcoming draft ordinance for the traffic automated camera program, designated personnel to review issued citations, and the required payments to the Cooper Jones Account.

The Finance Department work plan update included policy updates, 2026 preliminary budget, cross-training, workflow improvements, and utility fund health.

The IT Department work plan update included mobile device management, Windows 11 transition, and standardization of processes.

The Police Department work plan update included maintaining relationships locally, rejoining the Target Zero program, Pedestrian Safety Plan, and Traffic Safety Camera Program support, community engagement, and upcoming labor negotiations.

There was a brief discussion regarding the transition to the Tacoma radio network and its impact on communication with University Place Police Officers. Police Chief Celis reported that officers have provided feedback on the change, and there is a shared understanding that the transition requires proactive coordination.

The Emergency Management update included the 2020-2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan update, citywide emergency preparedness, and Pierce County Emergency Management participation.

There was a brief discussion on the Police Chief's salary allocated to emergency management duties. Public Works Director Bemis stated that the emergency management duties will be shared between the Police Chief and the Public Works Director.

The Planning and Building work plan update included adoption of the middle housing regulations, developing co-housing regulations, community outreach, permitting workflow, and ongoing projects.

The Parks and Recreation work plan update included summer camp growth, new programming, youth sports growth, grant funding, Centennial activities, and increasing use of RecDesk.

There was a brief discussion on RecDesk's contact feature, and it was noted that users can opt out at any time.

The Aquatics and Parks work plan update included the pool operations and programming, as well as ongoing park projects.

There was a brief discussion on the potential impact of the YMCA and University Place partnership on youth sports participation.

The Water Utility work plan update included water service and main connection upgrades, upcoming water reservoir inspections, AMI meter exchange project, well house and sewer lift station generators, and stormwater management.

Councilmember Viafore asked why the City no longer flushes fire hydrants. Public Works Director Bemis stated that some hydrants continue to be flushed, particularly at dead ends, and that additional information would be provided at a later date.

The Sanitary Sewer work plan update included completed projects, unforeseen repairs, ongoing pipe bursting, and developing a comprehensive sewer plan. Other updates included Centennial beautification, continued staff training, and equipment replacement.

The Streets and Facilities work plan update included progress on ongoing capital projects, the replacement of the City Hall columns, the City Hall doors refinishing delay, the completion of the Fircrest Park Maintenance Facility, the installation of the Masko Park playset, and recent HVAC repairs at the Community Center.

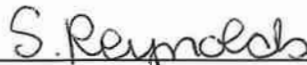
There was a brief discussion on the status of the City Hall door refinishing project and the importance of maintaining the building. Public Works Director Bemis stated that it was a contractor-related delay.

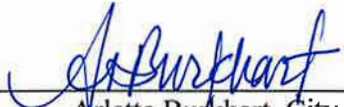
Further discussions included Umpqua Bank's rebranding back to Columbia Bank, repainting of fire hydrants, prioritization of staff professional development, staff appreciation, and the popularity of rain gauge and dog whistle giveaways at Fircrest Fun Days.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Bufford.

The Motion Carried (6-0).


Shannon Reynolds, Mayor


Arlette Burkhart, City Clerk