



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

**MEDINA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
Medina City Hall, Council Chambers
501 Evergreen Point Road, Medina
SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014
9:00 AM

MAYOR
MICHAEL LUIS

DEPUTY MAYOR
DAVID LEE

COUNCIL MEMBERS
PATRICK BOYD
JAY DECKER
JOHN MAFFEI
ALEX MORCOS
CURT PRYDE

CITY MANAGER
MICHAEL SAUERWEIN

CITY ATTORNEY
KARI SAND

CITY CLERK
AIMEE KELLERMAN

MINUTES

1. SPECIAL MEETING - CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Luis called the Special Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Boyd, Decker, Lee, Luis, Maffei, Morcos, and Pryde

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sauerwein and Kellerman

ACTION: Motion by Boyd second by Pryde and carried by a 7:0 vote: Council suspended the recording of the Council Retreat and rely on Minutes taken by City Clerk Aimee Kellerman.

2. SPECIAL MEETING ITEM

Mayor Luis introduced John Howell as the meeting facilitator for the 2014 City Council Retreat.

John Howell gave Council a brief overview of the agenda for the day.

2.1 Introductions and Getting to Know One Another

Council participated in a group activity two truths and a lie, in which they went around the table and told two things about themselves that other Council Members did not already know about them, and one thing that was a fabrication.

Topic: What are you passionate about helping the city accomplish?

Council went around the table telling why they joined the City Council beginning with Council Member David Lee. Council Member Lee wants to tie in the community and wanted to get to know the community, learn the Eastside history, contribute back to the community, as well as learn ideas and ideals from the Community.

Council Member Patrick Boyd felt it was his time to join the City Council and saw that normal people from Medina's past had a vision for the community and he is passionate about continuing the vision. He wants to make Medina better than we found it.

Council Member John Maffei wants to see a highly efficient Council get things done and move things forward.

Council Member Jay Decker agreed with Council Member Maffei and joined the City Council to contribute back to the community.

Council Member Curt Pryde wants to bring a sense of stability back to Medina and wants to be an example for future Council Members and the community.

Council Member Alex Morcos felt that serving on the City Council is a noble service to the community.

Mayor Michael Luis wanted to carry on the family tradition of serving. He has worked with local government his whole career and has a high interest in Medina's public space. His passion is to make Medina a proud place to walk around.

Topic: Identifying Possible New City Initiatives

Council Member Maffei's initiatives include a budget review of city services to see where we may be overspending and look for effectiveness. Look at a zero based budgeting review approach in reviewing the entire budget. He would also like to see user friendly technology on the city's website, like "how to" YouTube videos for things such as, how to apply for a passport and the process for building permits. Last, he would like to evaluate how to use the budget surplus i.e. affordable housing, return to citizens or evaluate the cost and implementation of Wi-Fi for all of Medina.

Council Member Decker would like to see what level of services Medina is getting from King County. He wants to engage in a dialogue with citizens about the level of services received from King County.

Council Member Morcos wants to improve communication with citizens, specifically looking at social media.

Council Member Boyd's initiatives include a complete overhaul of city technology and to create a strategic direction. He would like the city to bring in a consultant to evaluate what we need. He would also like to evaluate the viability of staff to provide postal services for citizens.

Mayor Luis wants to rebuild Evergreen Point Road with 6 to 8 feet wide roads, hide the power lines underground, and have cut out parking. He also proposed that if Evergreen Point Road redone, then he would like to see a large contribution go to affordable housing on the Eastside from the city's large fund balance. Last, he would like to evaluate the current policy of homeowners with respect to use and the responsibility of public right-of-way.

Council Member Pryde's initiatives include enlarging parks and connecting public spaces in Medina. His vision is to create plans for walkable pathways such as Medina Park to Evergreen Point Road to the 520 lid. He wants to make Medina a safe community. He would also like to see a new or update code of conduct for Council operations.

Council Member Lee wants to improve the overall communication within Council, staff, and the community by establishing a town hall and education institutions.

At this point (10:33 a.m.) Council took a brief recess. The full Council reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Topic: Identifying Priorities for Possible New Initiatives

Council narrowed their list of initiatives down to their top four. The following items were agreed upon to move forward with in 2014:

Make Medina Walkable – Develop a Plan

- Create a Plan that will enhance the walking connections in Medina. The Plan could have two parts:
- Explore the potential to redesign and rebuild Evergreen Point Road
 - Emphasizing safety and aesthetics
 - Sidewalks and Bike Paths
 - Design will include “Good, Better, Best” approach
- City Parks
 - Explore current and potential connections between Parks and City Neighborhoods. Analysis should also include exploration of the connections to the new 520 lids.
 - Future actions could include upgrading current trails or potential acquisition of New Parks Land

City Budget Process

- Analysis of City Budget Surplus
 - General Fund Surplus (Unrestricted)
 - Other Funds Surplus (Restricted). What are those restrictions?
- Discuss large City Budget items i.e. Police Services, Fire Services Contract, Legal Services, Capital Projects. Consider a zero based budgeting approach
- Re-examine current contracts for service in all City Departments

Communication

- Social Media
 - Cultivate a reputation for being open to the public and citizen feedback (City Council and City Staff)
 - Consider a new policy for use of social media i.e. Facebook and websites. Explore examples from other cities (i.e. Bellevue, Kirkland, etc.)
- Community Outreach
 - Quarterly (3) Town Hall Meetings (rotate City Council Members)
 - Quarterly City Manager Report to the City
 - Contract with a public relations firm to get good communications advice for major issues
- City Council Meetings
 - Develop and implement a policy to facilitate communication between City Council Members and the public at meetings
 - Respond to factual questions from the public during City Council Meetings
 - Allow City Council Members to ask clarifying questions of the public
 - Possibly limit the number of speakers on an agenda topic (needs more discussion)

Post Office

- Recognize that the Post Office is an important City amenity
 - Consider alternatives options. Pros and cons

Topic: Soliciting Public Input and Advice

Council discussed new approaches of soliciting public input with the goals of improving city staff and Council reputation of open government, giving citizens access to government, and educating citizens about how local government works. Communication strategies include:

- How to better use social media (Personnel Committee will bring to Council an analysis of utilizing social media, such as pros and cons of using Facebook and Twitter)
- Quarterly Town Hall meetings (Council Member Maffei and City Manager Sauerwein agreed to organize and host first town hall meeting)
- Finalize plans for City Manager Quarterly Newsletter
- Ability to have a dialogue with citizens at Council meetings during Public Comment
- Help staff improve communication (personal communication) with citizens

Topic: City Council Guidelines

Council reviewed and discussed the City Council guidelines. No changes were requested at this time.

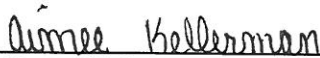
3. ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the Special Meeting at 2:10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Luis", is written above a horizontal line.

Michael Luis, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aimee Kellerman", is written above a horizontal line.

Aimee Kellerman, City Clerk