East Bellevue Community Council
Summary Minutes of Regular Meeting

July 1, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Lake Hills Boys & Girls Club
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Chair Capron, Councilmember Hughes, Councilmember Hummer, Councilmember Kasner

ABSENT: Councilmember Gooding

STAFF: Eric Miller, Capital Programming Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. with Chair Capron presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

The Deputy City Clerk called the roll. Councilmember Gooding was absent.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Chair Capron led the flag salute.

4. COMMUNICATIONS: WRITTEN AND ORAL

None.

5. REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(a) Community Council Business and New Initiatives

Councilmember Hughes met with the owner of the new car dealership in Eastgate. They are knocking down the old Candy Cane Motel and are refurbishing the old Bally's. They will paint the 3-story parking garage. The project is well underway. The Nissan dealership on NE 8th will be relocating to the new Eastgate location. Also, the Infinity dealership in Kirkland will move to the former NE 8th Nissan location.

Councilmember Hughes went on to discuss an email he received from Mindy Garner, President of the Lake Hills Neighborhood Association. They are putting together a website and she wants someone to write a description of what EBCC does and how the council was formed. Councilmember Hughes feels this is a good sign that they want to work with the EBCC.

Councilmember Hughes mentioned that *It's Your City* publication went out with his article regarding Spiritwood. He also discussed an email received from a Bellevue College student that he responded to. Also, Councilmember Hughes discussed the fact that the Planning Commission made recommendations for Council regarding the sale of marijuana.

Councilmember Hummer has been to several meetings. She was at Bellevue Essentials and let them know she wanted to go through the course in the fall. Stephanie Walter was appointed to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Hummer also attended a meeting last Wednesday regarding Bellevue College development. Andrew Kidde, Carol Hamlin, Paul Inghram, 3 people from Bellevue College and 8 households in her neighborhood were in attendance. The College has been buying up properties for the past several years. The College now owns 19 homes in Sunset Ranch. Councilmember Hummer and her neighbors wanted to know what the plans were and so the meeting focused on future development. The College is currently planning to build a dormitory in about 18 months, which will contain 300 rooms. They will also improve the soccer field and install lights to have night games. In addition, they will demolish 3 more houses. Councilmember Hummer reported that the neighbors asked Bellevue College to leave some vegetation when they demolish future homes. She informed the EBCC that the College can build anything they want on their property so long as they receive an initial permit. They still have to meet building codes and obtain SEPA reviews. Councilmember Hummer mentioned the lawsuit in 1985 where the City sued the college. The Judge ruled that the College can place whatever type of building they want once they purchase the property and it becomes state property. Overall, Councilmember Hummer felt that it was a great meeting.

Councilmember Hughes questioned how the College determines what to pay for the properties they are purchasing.

In response, Councilmember Hummer stated that they get appraisals and comps and offer you fair market value. During the meeting, one neighbor asked if she could place an apartment building on her property. Councilmember Hummer mentioned that it might be something the Planning Commission wants to look at as far as rezoning.

Councilmember Kasner was at the Eastside Transportation Alliance. City Councilmember Wallace was in attendance. The folks in the room were not happy. There was a large discussion about the money split between transit and roads and the percentage of people who use the roads. The federal folks were not in agreement.

Councilmember Kasner met with the City Manager, Brad Miyake, and talked about number of issues. The next public hearing at Planning Commission is July 9 to discuss what needs to be in the room rental ordinance. The public hearing in front of EBCC will be on August 5. Councilmember Kasner also met with Councilmember Robinson who was interested in recreational marijuana and making sure it is done properly.

Councilmember Kasner also noted some issues he has with repaving throughout the city. Years ago the paving was put back the way it was before projects were started. He has noticed that recently little patches are cut out and replaced. He feels it looks like a checkerboard in his neighborhood because of this issue. Councilmember Kasner also noted the City Council July 7 public hearing on the budget.

Chair Capron noted that he was at a meeting with Councilmember Kasner and the City regarding traffic. He felt it was more about process rather than actual traffic solving. Chair Capron spoke with Mark Poch today and asked for an update on the crosswalk between the apartment buildings. It appears to be in the process right now, but it takes time. Chair Capron also met with Brian Franklin from Kelsey Creek center and asked what was going on at the NW corner of the property. It was indicated that the developer is still working with the City on the development. It appears to be a parking issue right now. There was no indication as to what type of tenant would be going in. Chair Capron noticed a sign last weekend at the large strip mall noting that an Auto Zone store will be going in that particular space. Chair Capron noted the Special Meeting of EBCC in June at City Hall. It was a mandatory training class for elected officials.

Councilmember Hummer spoke about the graffiti in her neighborhood. She took pictures and emailed them to the City. She mentioned publicstuff.com where you can register and send information directly to the City of Bellevue.

Councilmember Kasner attended the public meeting, as a private citizen, for PSE and the big power line. There were 43 speakers and over 210 pages of testimony.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Kasner moved to modify the agenda. He would like to add section b) to discuss councilmembers absences and section c) to discuss CIP report and how to proceed, in new business.

Councilmember Kasner moved to approve the modified agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hughes and passed unanimously.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

(a) 2015-2021 Capital Investment Program Update – Preliminary Transportation Capital Budget Proposal Array

Chair Capron introduced Eric Miller. Mr. Miller gave his presentation on the CIP.

Mr. Miller stated that the city has a biennial process that is well under way. Half of the budget process is the capital budget or CIP. The CIP is a seven year plan that is updated every two years, adding two new years each time. The next CIP period is 2015-2021.

The city has a budgeting for outcomes based process. The process kicks off in January with a budget survey. This is the third cycle of the Budget One process. There are seven outcomes and transportation submits most proposals to the Improved Mobility outcome.

Chair Capron question what the city's total budget is.

Mr. Miller responded that it is somewhere around the billion dollar mark for operations. CIP budget is more around a quarter of a billion dollars. Then other areas have their own operating and capital budgets, such as Utilities.

Councilmember Kasner asked if Utilities fund their own CIP. Mr. Miller responded that yes, Utilities has their own CIP funded by rates.

Linda Igoe spoke and asked what happens if the city has collected more money than it needs.

Mr. Miller responded that most funds have reserves. The reserve money is used if a need arises. The reserves were tapped during the recent recession.

Mr. Miller continued his presentation and spoke about the council identified priorities. The second public hearing on the budget is July 7. Any member of the public is welcome to come and speak on anything budget related. The council will continue to review the budget through July. The final public hearing will be on November 17 and the final budget is typically adopted at the first meeting in December.

Councilmember Kasner questioned the total number of projects currently in the pipeline.

Mr. Miller stated that there are 39 projects or programs in the transportation CIP.

Chair Capron questioned what would happen if traffic signals were funded on 148th. He asked if it would be money to replace those signals or whether it would just be maintenance. He also asked if it would be an enhancement to the traffic control system.

In response, Mr. Miller stated his understanding is that the adaptive signal system has already been implemented along 148th corridor. Therefore, in terms of traffic there will not be a huge improvement.

Councilmember Kasner noted that the road sensors are not functional anymore.

Councilmember Kasner stated that during the meeting with city staff, one thing that was learned was the biggest impact to the flow of traffic at 148th and Main is pedestrians hitting the signal to cross the street. He also noted that the light at 148th and Main went all the way to bid and the bid was $85k more than engineers estimate and therefore the project went away.

Councilmember Hughes questioned whether the software was already installed at the lights and there would be no further improvement or if Councilmember Kasner's comment about the sensors not working is actually correct.

Mr. Miller responded that the signal system is called SCATS and it has already been installed. It takes over from the sensors most times of the day. But at night, the light will stay green until someone comes up on a side-street to hit the sensor.

Chair Capron mentioned that he learned the length of the time set at a crosswalk is set by ADA standards.

Councilmember Kasner questioned what percentage of the quarter billion dollars is debt service.

Mr. Miller responded that he does not have that number right now but can find out.

Mr. Miller continued his presentation and spoke about 12 brand new projects being proposed, which come from the 12 year facilities plan. It includes all CIP projects and is financially constrained.

Councilmember Kasner spoke about the Eastgate area and how King County should have taken care of the Newport Way sidewalk issue, but now the city is having to deal with it.

Mr. Miller noted that the sidewalk is a new project proposed for placeholder for design. There is an estimate for the Cadillac project, including sidewalks on both sides, bike lanes, etc. for $10m. However, the Council does not necessarily want that. They need something to serve the purpose. In this process, $1.1m has been proposed to work with the community to find out what their priorities are and then start the design. Then, theoretically, two years from now the projects would be back with a proposal for what it might cost.

Mr. Miller continued and stated that transportation department is proposing approximately $150m in new transportation investments, but the CIP only has $35m to $45m dollars left after the existing projects are re-costed and inflation is accounted for. That is why Council is having conversations about new revenue sources, and also Transportation Benefit Districts which could impose vehicle licensing fees. Mr. Miller's noted that his group is responsible for the transportation grant program. They have brought in about $10 million dollars in grant funding this year.

Councilmember Hughes noted that when you see big projects, the capital estimate is a certain amount but then on these projects the actual amount spent is 50 to 100% more and it keeps going up. He questioned how close the city is to estimating projects compared to what is spent.

Mr. Miller stated that even before a project gets funded, contingencies are built in for unknowns. The earlier in the planning, the more the contingencies can add to the cost estimates.

Councilmember Hughes said it seems like a road is finished and it's perfect and then within a short time it's dug up again for some other project. For example, Lakehills Boulevard was nice and smooth and now there's patchwork all over. It seems to Councilmember Hughes that projects could be coordinated better. If a road is already being dug up, maybe more than one thing can be accomplished. Also, Councilmember Hughes would like to see some signage that states what the projects are or why a project is being completed.

Ron Merk spoke about adding sidewalks and questioned whether anyone does a cost benefit analysis or pedestrian walk way flow analysis. He understands the need for sidewalks, but questions why sidewalks are needed on both sides of the street when they are not highly utilized. Then on other arterials there are no sidewalks at all.

In response, Mr. Miller said that those things are analyzed. He mentioned that the City Council spoke to this exact issue at their meeting last night. They made the point that they would rather

have sidewalks on one side of all streets, than sidewalks on both sides for some and none for others. Proposals will have scalability written into them. It's an incremental cost sometimes and does not cost twice as much to build on both sides. There is no golden rule that always applies, but it's not always double the cost.

Councilmember Hughes commented that he has been a biker for years, and can understand a bike lane on south side, but he does not believe than any biker would ride up the hill side on SE 16th.

Councilmember Hummer mentioned that her husband was on the CAC for the SE 24th section between 145th and 148th. Her husband's understanding was that there would be a sidewalk on the north side of the street because that is where kids and other pedestrians walk to the bus stop. She questioned how that project could be added to the list.

Mr. Miller suggested that people send an email. People can also speak to the Transportation Commission regarding recommendations.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

9. **RESOLUTIONS**

None.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

(a) Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Kasner questioned when the Kelsey Creek project is scheduled to come before EBCC.

Chair Capron noted that he had spoken with Brian Franklin and there was no specific date as to when the project would be ready for review. He also noted that the recreational marijuana public hearing will come before EBCC in September.

(b) Council Absences

Councilmember Kasner noted that if you miss a meeting you should ask to be excused. If you do not receive an excusal then it is deemed unexcused. He noted that at the May EBCC meeting

there was a councilmember absent who is also absent tonight. Councilmember Kasner requested to have both absences deemed unexcused.

Council discussion.

Councilmember Hughes noted that he will be absent from the EBCC meeting in August. Chair Capron moved to excuse Councilmember Hughes from the August meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Kasner. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Capron is not willing to rule on whether Councilmember Gooding's absences should be unexcused until he sees the Rules of Procedure regarding EBCC attendance.

Councilmember Kasner moved to consider Councilmember Gooding's absences for May and July unexcused. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hughes. Councilmember Kasner and Councilmember Hughes voted yes. The motion failed with Chair Capron and Councilmember Hummer not voting.

(c) CIP Discussion

Councilmember Kasner noted that the EBCC can contribute to the public hearing on Monday at City Council. He also noted that the only project that is currently funded in the EBCC jurisdiction is double sidewalks on SE 16th, but other items of interest can be discussed.

Chair Capron noted that he would rather see single sidewalks on SE 16th to 156th and a single sidewalk from 156th to Phantom Lake school.

Councilmember Hummer noted that it would be good for the Lake Hills Neighborhood Association to discuss these issues and get a consensus of the neighborhoods.

Councilmember Hummer moved to authorize Councilmember Kasner to represent the EBCC at the City Council public hearing on Monday regarding the projects around SE 16th , 148th and also the deteriorating sidewalks in East Bellevue. Councilmember Kasner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

13. CONTINUED COMMUNICATIONS

Ron Merk spoke about the significant degradation of the Lake Hills area. He thinks that some of the councilmembers should drive 156th and see the areas that people have talked about. He noted that the Lake hills neighborhood needs to get involved.

Councilmember Hughes noted that the way to get things done is to get organized.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

15. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(a) Summary Regular Meeting Minutes - May 6, 2014

Councilmember Kasner moved to approve the minutes. Councilmember Hummer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilmember Kasner would like to see a copy of the Settlement Agreement between the City of Bellevue and Bellevue Community College.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Capron adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Charmaine Arredondo
Deputy City Clerk