

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Regular Session

December 8, 2014
8:00 p.m.

Council Chamber
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Balducci and Councilmembers Chelminiak, Lee, Robertson, Robinson, and Stokes

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Wallace

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 p.m., with Mayor Balducci presiding.

2. Roll Call, Flag Salute

All Councilmembers except Deputy Mayor Wallace were present. Councilmember Stokes led the flag salute.

3. Communications: Written and Oral

- (a) Alex Zimmerman, representing StandUP-America, reiterated his ongoing request that the City Manager hold a monthly forum with citizens. He said he speaks every week and apparently he is the only person in Bellevue who wants this.
- (b) Michel Martel, Music Works Northwest, said their Board Chair spoke to the Council on November 24 to present a funding request for \$75,000 to complete a remodeling project. He said this request is important for their organization and its mission. However, he acknowledged that they are late in the budget process.

Mayor Balducci said she will consult with staff, who will get back to him in the near future.

- (c) Don Marsh, representing CENSE (Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy), thanked the Council for moving forward to hire an independent expert to review the need for the Energize Eastside project. However, he said residents are somewhat disappointed to not have had access to more information regarding the RFP process. CENSE is disappointed that the chosen consultant does not appear to have experience in new energy alternatives. Mr. Marsh said CENSE was told by a Bonneville Power

Administration (BPA) official that Energize Eastside solves three problems: 1) load for Puget Sound Energy, 2) load for Seattle City Light, and 3) grid reliability for BPA. Mr. Marsh said it is not essential for Energize Eastside to solve regional flow issues, but BPA will pay Puget Sound Energy (PSE) one-third of project costs. CENSE is interested in an open and independent investigation into Eastside-only needs and energy alternatives. Mr. Marsh asked the Council to consider not taking action yet on selecting the consultant.

- (d) Steve O'Donnell, President of Somerset Community Association, said he serves on the PSE Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the Energize Eastside project and is the President of CENSE. He expressed support for the previous speaker's comments. He wants to ensure that the City selects the best independent consultant available. He expressed concern about the scope of the consultant's work. CENSE would like an expert review on the need for the project as well as a study of alternative energy solutions.
- (e) Warren Halverson, a Bridle Trails resident, asked the Council to delay its decision on awarding the contract with the consultant for the Energize Eastside project until there is an opportunity for further neighborhood input and answers to questions. He questioned the consultant's capability to forecast demand for a community like Bellevue. He said there is nothing on the consultant firm's web site about energy alternatives. Mr. Halverson said Bellevue deserves a thorough study of future technologies.
- (f) Howard Katz, a Lake Bellevue resident, commented on the East Link light rail project and requested warning lights at light rail stations, including the Hospital Station near Lake Bellevue. He said bells are not safe enough because many citizens have hearing challenges. He suggested looking into the lights used in Washington, D.C., area stations.
- (g) Ellen Gilley thanked the City for its partnership with the East King County Coalition Against Trafficking and for the City's plans to issue the Not in My City Proclamation in January. The Coalition focuses on protecting citizens, including youth, from being coerced or forced into this activity and advocates for policy changes in the public and private sectors. Ms. Gilley said January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. She left printed materials regarding the Coalition.
- (h) Katherine Taylor, Puget Sound Energy, voiced support for the City's third-party review process. She said PSE is eager to have its studies validated by an independent reviewer. She said the City's efforts line up with PSE's efforts. PSE's Community Advisory Group (CAG) is scheduled to make its final recommendations on December 10. Ms. Taylor thanked CAG members for the extensive time they spent on this project. She said PSE has focused on having a robust conversation with cities, neighborhoods, and other community organizations.
- (i) Nickhath Sheriff, representing Cultural Conversations, presented the group's second cookbook, *The World in My Kitchen*, which was recently published with the City's support. She said this program has grown rapidly since its inception in 2009 and now has more than 300 members and an average monthly attendance of 60 women. Proceeds of \$1,700 from the first cookbook in 2012 were donated to Hopelink. This year's proceeds

will be donated to The Sophia Way women's shelter and Bellevue Backpack Meals for kids. The cookbook is \$10 and available from the Service First counter in City Hall, Crossroads Mini City Hall, and the Neighborhood Outreach office. Ms. Sheriff thanked the City for their support and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

- (j) Lori Taylor, Bellevue Farmers Market, recalled her comments the previous week about the very successful season this year. She thanked the market's sponsors: City of Bellevue, Wells Medina Nursery, PACCAR, King County, King County Councilmember Jane Hague, Jan and Dan Van Blaricom, Overlake Hospital Medical Center, Seattle Children's Hospital, Sterling Realty Organization, Madison Marquette, Bis on Main, Matt Deasy of Windermere Realty, Bellevue Presbyterian Church, Bob and Joan Wallace of Wallace Properties, and several anonymous sponsors. Ms. Taylor thanked the Transportation Department for reinstalling permanent signs around the market sites. She noted that the market also provides community information booths including KidsQuest Museum, Newport High School culinary arts class, Green Cleaning, Sound Transit, US Forest Service, City of Bellevue Neighborhoods and Utilities, Bellevue Network on Aging, Burke Museum, SR 520 WSDOT project, Bellevue Stream Team program, Readers to Eaters, Cascade Water Alliance, and others. Ms. Taylor thanked the Council and wished everyone Happy Holidays.
- (k) Geoff Bidwell spoke on behalf of the Save the Mercer Slough Committee, which was established 28 years ago with the purpose of preserving the wetlands of the Mercer Slough. He provided copies of an April 5, 2010, technical memorandum entitled *Winters House Drainage and Groundwater Issue* prepared for Sound Transit by CH2M Hill. Mr. Bidwell obtained this document through public disclosure laws on October 20, 2014. He said the document was not provided to City staff and was not part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review. Mr. Bidwell believes Sound Transit deliberately did not make this public. He said the groundwater level of the wetlands is above the level of the light rail project alignment, and a drainage system must be implemented to resolve the issue. Mr. Bidwell said this will significantly increase project costs with negative environmental impacts. He suggested that the City demand that Sound Transit provide all documentation for the project.

4. Reports of Community Council, Boards and Commissions: None.

5. Report of the City Manager

City Manager Brad Miyake introduced staff to highlight the proposed Vasa Sewer Trunk Line Transfer [Consent Calendar Item 8(m)].

Paul Bucich, Assistant Director of Utilities (Engineering), said the City has requested that the County assume responsibility for the Vasa Sewer trunk line including ownership, operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the line. He displayed a map and described the location of the pipeline to be transferred to King County. The line serves more than 1,000 acres, making it eligible for transfer. It meets all other criteria for inclusion in the County's Metropolitan Sewerage System as well.

Mr. Bucich said the County will reimburse the City for original construction costs and assume responsibility for all future maintenance and replacement costs. It was constructed in 1993 at a cost of \$1.1 million. Transfer of the asset will relieve the City's Utility from annual maintenance obligations and the long-term replacement of the line. The sewer line serves primarily the Lakemont area, including two parks and approximately 2,000 households. Ratepayers will not see any difference in their service.

Councilmember Lee said he wants to be sure that residents will not be negatively impacted by the proposed action. He expressed support for the proposal.

Mayor Balducci said this is a somewhat unusual item, which is why more information was requested. She expressed support and noted that action will be taken under Agenda Item 8.

Mr. Miyake noted the Council's request for more information on Consent Calendar Item 8(g).

Nora Johnson, Director of the Civic Services Department, said the City has focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions since 2009 as part of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative. The program was started with a grant from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and renewed by the Council in September 2014.

Since 2009, the City has reduced its energy costs by more than \$900,000. The City has received a number of grants and rebates from PSE to replace old equipment with more energy efficient models. Ms. Johnson said Resolution No. 8848 accepts \$500,000 in grant funding from the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services as well as a rebate of up to \$260,000 when the work is completed. Projects include converting street lights to LED lights, replacing HVAC systems at Fire Stations, upgrading the aquatic center systems, as well as projects at City Hall and the Bellevue Service Center.

Ms. Johnson said the State guarantees energy and cost savings or it will reimburse the City. She thanked Emma Johnson, Resource Conservation Manager, for her management of this program. Ms. Johnson said this is a good example of the One City high-performing organization approach.

Responding to Councilmember Robinson, Ms. Johnson said cost savings are reinvested in other energy conservation measures.

Councilmember Lee said the City does a good job in conservation and environmentally friendly programs. He expressed support for accepting the grant and continuing with the program.

Mayor Balducci thanked Councilmember Lee and staff for highlighting this item.

6. Council Business and New Initiatives

- (a) Appointment of Transportation Commission.

Mayor Balducci noted two action items before Council reports.

Councilmember Lee said there were more than 20 applicants for the Transportation Commission vacancy. All were very qualified and 10 were interviewed by the Transportation Chair, Vice Chair and Mr. Lee.

→ Councilmember Lee moved to appoint Clifford Chirls to fill the position on the Transportation Commission vacated by David Jokinen, with a term expiring on May 31, 2016. Mr. Chirls will be eligible for reappointment to a full four-year term. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Balducci thanked Councilmember Lee for his involvement in the extensive interviewing process.

(b) Appointment of new City Representative to the Hopelink Board

Mayor Balducci said the Council has been asked to appoint Terry Lukens as the new City representative to serve on the Hopelink Board. Mr. Lukens, former Bellevue Mayor, will replace longtime member Mike Nesteroff.

Councilmember Chelminiak said Mr. Lukens will be an excellent member for the Hopelink Board of Directors.

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to appoint Terry Lukens to the City of Bellevue position on the Hopelink Board. Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Mayor Balducci said the Hopelink Board position for a City representative is somewhat unusual outside of the Boards and Commissions appointed by the City Council. Other community entities with City representation include the Library Board, the Financial Oversight Committee for the Bellevue Convention Center Authority (BCCA)/Meydenbauer Center, Probation Advisory Board, and the County's Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Oversight Committee.

Councilmember Robertson referred to recent public comments to the Council regarding Sound Transit, the East Link project, and the Mercer Slough. She asked the City Manager to review the documents submitted by those citizens and to provide a summary to the Council. With the holiday break coming up, Ms. Robertson asked the City Manager to update the Council on the East Link project later in the month in writing in lieu of the regular monthly reports during Council meetings. Councilmember Robertson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Stokes reflected that there have been many opportunities and challenges throughout 2014, and he looks forward to the new year. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Robinson reported that she toured the new Impact Hub Bellevue incubator facility at the City-owned Lincoln Center building and went ice skating at the Magic Season ice arena in Downtown Park. She wished everyone a good holiday season and encouraged residents to visit Snowflake Lane nightly at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Chelminiak attended the 3rd Annual Global Partnership meeting co-sponsored by the Trade Development Alliance and the City. He attended the annual get-together of the Human Services Commission and the Parks and Community Services Board. Mr. Chelminiak attended the meeting of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Growth Management Policy Board. Councilmember Chelminiak wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Lee said he attended a Bellevue School District report on global competitiveness, where he learned that Bellevue schools are ranked second in the world. He attended the Jubilee Reach fundraising auction. Mr. Lee met with the Consul General from Malaysia, who is stationed in San Francisco.

Mayor Balducci noted that Councilmembers have been attending numerous other meetings on behalf of the City. However, they are shortening their comments in order to allow adequate time for the remaining agenda.

Mayor Balducci said she and Councilmember Chelminiak attended the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust annual dinner, where the City was honored for its efforts to complete the trail between the Factoria area and Issaquah.

Mayor Balducci attended a fundraising event hosted by a group called Expressions to support the fight against human trafficking in India and here in the United States.

Councilmember Stokes asked to add the nature of Council Business reports for discussion during the annual Council Retreat. He observed that the level of detail provided in the reports is a bit uneven, and he suggested talking about the appropriate amount of time to spend for this agenda item.

7. Approval of the Agenda

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the agenda, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve the agenda carried by a vote of 6-0.

8. Consent Calendar

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve the Consent Calendar carried by a vote of 6-0, and the following items were approved:

- (a) Motion to reject bid for Bid No. 14091, Factoria Reservoir Coating Repairs and Overflow Modifications Project, CIP Plan No. W-69, and rebid at a later date.
- (b) Ordinance No. 6211 relating to the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Bellevue, consistent with the state Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW), adopting the City's 2014 amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.
- (c) Ordinance No. 6212 relating to the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Bellevue, taking action consistent with the state Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW) to adopt annual amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.
- (d) Resolution No. 8847 authorizing execution of a Professional Engineering Services Agreement with HNTB Corporation in the amount of \$186,189.27, to provide structural engineering design services for walls and railings on the proposed Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail along the north side of SE 36th Street from Factoria Boulevard SE to the vicinity of 150th Avenue SE for the Mountains to Sound Greenway Project (CIP Plan No. PW-W/B-78).
- (e) Motion to award Bid No. 14132, 161st Avenue SE and SE 33rd Place Crosswalk (Spirtridge Park), to Trinity Contractors, Inc., as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, in the amount of \$ 94,459.70 (CIP Plan Nos. PW-M-2, PW-M-7).
- (f) Motion to approve payment of claims and payroll for the period November 1, 2014 through November 30, 2014.
- (g) Resolution No. 8848 authorizing the execution of a performance-based energy services Interagency Agreement with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,972,472, and authorizing acceptance of a Washington State Department of Commerce Energy Efficiency Grant in the amount of \$500,000.
- (h) Resolution No. 8849 authorizing execution of a technical services agreement in an amount not to exceed \$182,885 plus applicable taxes, with QueTel Corporation for hardware, software, consulting, configuration, and programming services for the installation of a physical and digital evidence management system for the Police Department.
- (i) Motion to award Bid No. 14104 for Sanitary Sewer Replacement - Downtown Park (2014) to Shoreline Construction, as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in the amount of \$710,123.93 (CIP Plan No. S-66).

- (j) Resolution No. 8850 authorizing the execution of a one-year administrative services agreement with Premera Blue Cross, in the amount of \$610,000 for 2015 medical and prescription drug third party administrative services.
- (k) Motion to award Bid No. 14127, 108th Avenue NE/Main Street Bike Facility and Medians to Kamins Construction, as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, in the amount of \$147,892.61 (CIP Plans CD-22 and PW-R-176).
- (l) Resolution No. 8851 authorizing execution of the Fourth Amendment to the Lease agreement between Terranomics Crossroads Associates LP and the City for the Bellevue Police community substation at Crossroads Shopping Center.
- (m) Resolution No. 8852 authorizing execution of documents transferring ownership of the South Vasa Sewer Trunk Line from the City to King County.
- (n) Resolution No. 8853 authorizing execution of a professional services agreement with Parametrix, Inc. for engineering services for the West Tributary Kelsey Creek DMP 165 Wetland Restoration project in the amount of \$81,523.73 (CIP Plan No. D-86).
- (o) Resolution No. 8854 authorizing execution of a professional services agreement with HDR Engineering for engineering services for the Lake Heights Wastewater Pump Station Rehabilitation Predesign and Permitting project in the amount of \$272,500 (CIP Plan No. S-16).
- (p) Resolution No. 8855 authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Association of Firefighters, IAFF #1604, representing Firefighters to resolve an issue concerning Appendix A.7.6 - Paramedic Trainee Stipend.
- (q) Ordinance No. 6213 approving the vacation of a portion of right-of-way adjacent to 2227 Blarney Place SE.

9. Public Hearings

- (a) Public hearing on Ordinance No. 6180 extending interim zoning controls, adopted by Ordinance No. 6133 B-1 and amended and extended by Ordinance No. 6156, regulating recreational marijuana uses.

Lori Riordan, City Attorney, said this is a public hearing on Ordinance No. 6180, which was adopted by the Council on October 18. That ordinance extended the applicability of prior ordinances outlining interim zoning controls for recreational marijuana land uses. The purpose of tonight's hearing is to take public comment regarding the extension of the interim zoning controls until permanent regulations are adopted. The ordinance is in effect through April 18 or until the Council adopts permanent regulations.

Ms. Riordan recalled that the Council provided direction on November 10, 2014, for additional amendments to the permanent regulations. Staff will bring those back to the Council early next year for further discussion.

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to open the Public Hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

No one came forward to comment.

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to close the Public Hearing, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

10. Land Use: None.

11. Other Ordinances, Resolutions and Motions

(a) Resolution No. 8856 adopting the Bellevue Diversity Initiative: Diversity Advantage Plan

Mayor Balducci indicated that the Council recently received a fairly extensive presentation on the Diversity Initiative.

Chris Salomone, Director of the Planning and Community Development Department, said the Diversity Initiative originated after the 2010 census which demonstrated the significant change in the community's demographics. He said the City's Leadership Team has provided guidance and insight across all departments in support of this project. He thanked the Council for approving budget allocations for this work.

Patrick Foran, Director of Parks and Community Services, said the Diversity Advantage Plan represents numerous actions and programs for the City and the community.

Mike McCormick Huentelman, Neighborhood Outreach Manager, thanked the Council for their leadership with this initiative. He recognized the efforts of Kevin Henry, Diversity Program Coordinator; Camron Parker, Senior Planner; Andrew Kidde, Mediation Program Manager; Julie Ellenhorn, Community Relations Coordinator; and Victoria Hollerbach, Program Administrator. Mr. McCormick Huentelman thanked the community for participating in interviews and focus groups.

Mr. McCormick Huentelman noted that diversity refers to culture, language, class, race, ethnic background, ability, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and other aspects of differences. He said the purpose of the initiative is to keep Bellevue growing as a culturally competent community and economy.

Mr. Henry reported on outreach activities since September which have involved the City's Boards and Commissions, City staff, media, and other local stakeholders (e.g., corporate, Bellevue School District, nonprofit organizations, and the City of Redmond). He talked about the need for ongoing conversations about complex issues and layers of diversity and needs within the community. Mr. Henry invited everyone to the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day celebration at Crossroads Shopping Center on January 19.

Mr. Parker highlighted elements of the first-year work plan including internal actions and training within the City organization, continued work with community groups, developing strategies to lower barriers to volunteerism among diverse populations, and establishing citywide standards for interpretation, translation and accommodation for publications and public meetings.

Mayor Balducci thanked staff and the community for their work on this plan.

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to adopt Resolution No. 8856, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Lee referred the Council to the desk packet document reflecting his suggested revisions to the resolution.

Mayor Balducci observed that Mr. Lee's revisions highlight and enhance key points in the resolution.

→ As an amendment, Councilmember Lee moved to approve the revisions reflected in Resolution No. 8856(B) as provided in the Council's desk packet. Councilmember Chelminiak seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councilmember Stokes reiterated his support for the main motion.

Councilmember Lee expressed support for the motion. He said Bellevue is fortunate to be growing and increasing its diversity. He said this country is strong due to its diversity. Mr. Lee thanked staff for their work on this initiative and plan. He thanked the Council for being proactive in initiating and supporting this program. Mr. Lee said it is important to identify and actively implement elements of the plan.

Councilmember Robertson said the community has changed a great deal over the past 12 years that she has lived in Bellevue. She said the City has constantly been working to find better ways to interact with the changing population. She said she is pleased to support the diversity plan, and she thanked staff and the community for their work in this effort. Ms. Robertson said this is a good way to end the year.

Councilmember Chelminiak concurred that approval of the plan and program is a good way to end the year. He concurred with Councilmember Lee regarding the importance of accomplishing action items. Mr. Chelminiak said he has heard concerns from the community regarding certain residents being followed and/or questioned about their purpose for being in a certain neighborhood. While the Police Department encourages everyone to report suspicious activity, this of course should not be based merely on one's clothing or the color of their skin. Councilmember Chelminiak said it is important to reflect the Council's vision that this community welcomes the world.

Councilmember Robinson thanked Mr. Henry for his longtime work in addressing diversity within the community. She expressed support that the definition of diversity extends beyond race and religion to include age, ability, and other factors.

Councilmember Stokes complimented Councilmember Lee for strengthening the resolution with his revised language regarding discrimination and social inequity. Mr. Stokes noted that caring for and respecting everyone makes the entire community stronger.

Mayor Balducci said it has been a long-term objective of the Council to update the City's diversity plan to appropriately reflect the rapid changes within the community. She looks forward to periodic updates on the implementation of action items.

→ The motion to adopt Resolution No. 8856, as amended, carried by a vote of 6-0.

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to extend the meeting to 10:15 p.m., and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

- (b) Resolution No. 8857 authorizing execution of a Professional Services Agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, with Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc. (USE) for an independent technical analysis of Puget Sound Energy's proposed Energize Eastside electrical utility facility project.

Mr. Miyake opened discussion regarding proposed action on the hiring of a consultant to assist the City with regard to Puget Sound Energy's Energize Eastside project.

Mike Brennan, Director of the Development Services Department, said the community continues to be concerned about the Energize Eastside project, and specifically about the need for the project. He said the Council received a number of emails over the weekend from citizens interested in the scope of work proposed by the agreement with Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc. (USE).

Mr. Brennan said the scope of work for this initial step is targeting the purpose of and need for the Energize Eastside project. The later Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review will address alternatives for meeting the Eastside's energy demand. Separate consultants will assist in that effort at the appropriate time.

Nicholas Matz, Senior Planner, said the City solicited 14 firms for proposals to complete this initial work and two firms were interviewed. He said staff recommends Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc., (USE) based on their experience in the independent, technical evaluation of electrical facility infrastructure in the Western interconnection; the ability to convey complex and technical issues to lay audiences; and the ability to convey the impact of, and the relationship between, land use growth forecasting and load growth forecasting. Mr. Matz said these criteria focus on the key issue of determining the need for the Energize Eastside project.

Mr. Matz said USE demonstrated a clear understanding of the scope of work, clearly articulated the process for a work plan to accomplish the scope of work, and stayed focused on the task of assessing the core need for the project in a timely manner, ahead of the EIS process. Staff saw a depth of technical expertise in fulfilling the independent evaluation and review of the needs assessment (PSE's document for Energize Eastside), and has staff resume information for the consultant's employees. USE demonstrated a general understanding of the public process and stakeholder involvement as well.

Mr. Matz said USE demonstrated an understanding of electrical distribution systems, electrical reliability, and the data used in the industry for this type of work. The consultant showed a strong understanding of federal, state and local regulations pertaining to electrical infrastructure. They are current in new technologies and industry alternatives, and have clearance to obtain access to proprietary data from PSE.

In terms of their relationship to the general electric industry, Mr. Matz said the selection committee found that all four firms submitting proposals included industry electrical engineering, and power engineering veterans. The benefit to the City of this energy connection is that USE demonstrated previous work with the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, which is the regional forum that manages the Western interconnection, and with the Columbia grid. Other firms did not have that key experience.

Mr. Matz said there is room in the contract in the near-term for exploring further issues at the Council's direction. There are check-back points built into the work plan as well to provide opportunities for the City to determine whether more work is needed.

Mr. Brennan said staff is seeking Council direction to proceed with initiating the contract with USE in order for the work to be completed in advance of the EIS scoping process that will start in late February.

Councilmember Robinson summarized concerns of the community. She questioned whether the study will include an analysis of the peak capacity of the Energize Eastside project as proposed by PSE. Mr. Matz said the study will look at the basis on which PSE has suggested that Energize Eastside is the solution to the demand forecast. One element of this basis is to meet load growth and peak usage, which the consultant will independently evaluate. In further response, Mr. Matz restated that the study will look at what PSE stated as the basis for the Energize Eastside proposal.

Councilmember Robinson asked whether the City can obtain an analysis of alternative projects that would serve only the Eastside's needs. Mr. Brennan said alternative solutions will be part of the first phase of the EIS process. Ms. Robinson questioned whether this will take into consideration the momentous changes that are reshaping the utility industry. Mr. Brennan said yes, the consideration of alternative solutions will include exploring changing technologies. He acknowledged that the Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy (CENSE) has compiled information on alternative technologies and that information will be welcome as part of the EIS record.

In further response, Mr. Brennan said the scoping process invites stakeholders to provide suggestions for what should be included in the EIS, as well as questions that should be answered. This is all considered by the consultants as well as City and PSE staff.

In further response to Councilmember Robinson, Mr. Brennan said the EIS process will be managed by the Development Services Department. The Energize Eastside project will require a formal permit process, with the EIS as the first step of that process. He acknowledged that the City and the Council will have more specific interests as well and will monitor the project as it moves forward.

Mr. Matz noted that the City's electrical facilities planning web site has more information on the project, including a clarification of the role of the City and other entities and contact information for specific issues.

Responding to Councilmember Robertson, Mr. Matz said the consultant has been asked to independently analyze the growth forecast and load forecast and to determine whether those warrant the Energize Eastside project.

Ms. Robertson recalled past Council discussion about the ability of the consultant to be flexible and to expand the scope of work if new questions arise. Mr. Matz said the proposed contract focuses specifically on determining the need for the project. However, optional work (e.g., new modeling efforts) could be added in the future. Councilmember Robertson would like to retain the flexibility for addressing new questions and issues if needed.

In further response to Ms. Robertson, Mr. Matz said the consultant will: 1) analyze anticipated growth and demand on the electrical system, and 2) independently evaluate whether Energize Eastside is the correct solution.

Councilmember Robertson questioned whether staff will seek Council input on the scoping of the EIS. Mr. Brennan suggested that Councilmembers share their concerns and input before the EIS is initiated in late February.

Ms. Robertson noted that some community members requested that the Council delay a decision on the consultant. However, she is comfortable with moving forward knowing that the contract is flexible and scalable.

→ Councilmember Chelminiak moved to extend the meeting to 11:00pm, and seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Councilmember Chelminiak noted that Bellevue is the lead for the EIS and will be working with other stakeholders. However, he questioned how Bellevue-specific issues will be addressed. Mr. Brennan said the City is closely following PSE's work with its Community Advisory Group (CAG) to understand how the route options would impact Bellevue.

Mr. Chelminiak asked staff to comment on the consultant's access to proprietary data. He said CENSE is concerned that citizens are not getting relevant data. Mr. Matz said PSE has base case studies which involve proprietary data used to establish and model the base cases. The City will gain access to that data through the contractual relationship with the City's consultant.

Councilmember Chelminiak said he wants to be sure this is an actual independent evaluation and not a peer review of PSE's work. Mr. Matz said the scope of work is somewhere in between completely redoing PSE's entire process and a peer evaluation. The consultant will independently evaluate the basis on which PSE made its decisions.

Responding to Mr. Chelminiak, Mr. Brennan said the programmatic phase of the EIS extends from 2015 into early 2016. PSE has provided, in writing, that it does not anticipate applying for the conditional use permit until late 2015 or early 2016. The final EIS is scheduled for late 2016.

Councilmember Chelminiak said Don Marsh has offered to present the CENSE plan, and Mr. Chelminiak would like to see that scheduled for a Council meeting. Mr. Chelminiak suggested that perhaps the plan will be incorporated as an alternative to be studied within the broader EIS. Mr. Brennan said staff will work on coordinating the presentation.

Councilmember Lee thanked staff for their work and said he wants to be sure the work is addressing the public's concerns. He appreciates staff's clarification about the specific purpose of the scope of work for this initial contract, as well as how the EIS will address remaining issues and incorporate and respond to citizens' concerns.

Mr. Brennan said the project will receive a thorough evaluation throughout the initial needs assessment and the EIS process. The City will have two consultants with deep expertise to address the questions that will emerge as the City continues to learn about the project, alternative solutions, and mitigation for the final solution.

Councilmember Stokes said he appreciates the information. He observed that staff did a good job of laying out the selection process and what the consultant has to offer in terms of an independent analysis. The Council has committed to the public that the City will complete an independent study of this complex issue. Mr. Stokes commended the community for their work and research. He said there is a great deal at stake for both PSE and the community.

While some individuals want the Council to delay the selection of the consultant, Councilmember Stokes said he concurs with Councilmember Robertson about moving forward now. Mr. Stokes believes the process will ultimately come up with the best solution. He wants to be sure the work is completed in a timely manner to be able to have a more informed EIS process.

Mayor Balducci observed that consultants often want to give the client what they want to hear. She said the contract needs to be clear that the City wants a thorough, critical study. She suggested asking the consultant to assign ranges of risk related to options for meeting energy needs. She wants to be sure the consultant understands the community's high interest in considering alternative energy solutions. While she wants to be innovative, solutions must be reliable enough to ensure adequate energy for the community's needs into the future.

Ms. Balducci said she is pleased that several firms submitted proposals. She thanked Mr. Matz for highlighting the selected consultant's specific qualifications earlier in the meeting. Mayor Balducci wants staff to be able to state that the USE team has expertise and experience in critiquing power forecasts. She observed that the firm's web site did make it look like they work for the energy industry, primarily to help guide private utilities through government processes.

Mr. Matz said two of the firm's power systems engineers have the specific expertise suggested by the Mayor.

Councilmember Lee concurred with the importance of ensuring that the consultant has the breadth of experience and knowledge to complete the needed analysis.

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to adopt Resolution No. 8857, and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

- (c) Ordinance No. 6214 repealing Chapter 9.16 (False Alarms) of Title 9 (Health and Safety) of the Bellevue City Code; (Ordinance 5577, 2004 and Ordinance 2474, 1977 as previously amended by Ordinance No. 2843, 1980; Ordinance No. 4237, 1991; Ordinance No. 4819 § 5, 1995; and Ordinance No. 4978 § 26, 1997) ; restating Chapter 9.16 of Title 9 (Health and Safety) of the Bellevue City Code relating to false alarms; and establishing severability and an effective date.

Mr. Miyake opened discussion regarding proposed changes to the City's False Alarm code.

Interim Police Chief Montgomery recalled a presentation to the Council on March 17, 2014, regarding proposed changes to false alarm regulations and the administration of the false alarm program. Ordinance No. 6214 proposes Code changes to address the high incidence of false alarms that unnecessarily utilize Police resources.

Chief Montgomery introduced Major Pat Spak and Detective Amanda Jensen, who will be responsible for managing the ordinance provisions and the firm hired to manage the false alarm

program.

Major Spak said the Police Department responds to an average of 3,300 false alarms annually. The proposed ordinance requires that citizens register their alarms and pay a small annual fee. It requires alarm companies to make two phone calls to a citizen to determine whether the alarm is genuine. He said vendors that manage false alarm programs reduce false alarms by 40-80 percent. Reducing the volume of false alarms allows Police Officers to respond to other calls and/or to engage in crime prevention efforts.

→ Councilmember Stokes moved to adopt Ordinance No. 6214, and Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.

Mayor Balducci expressed support for the motion. She appreciates the provision for a warning before residents are fined for repeat violations.

→ The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

12. Unfinished Business

Mayor Balducci introduced Charlene Kwon, an Interlake High School senior who will be working as an intern with the Mayor.

13. Continued Oral Communications

- (a) Bill Popp, an Enatai resident, distributed copies of drawings related to the East Link project along the Mercer Slough and the South Bellevue Park and Ride. He expressed concerns regarding the removal of a large volume of soil and the installation of hundreds of stone columns for stabilization. He is concerned about traffic impacts during construction and about the width of the construction work zone along Bellevue Way.
- (b) Lisa Compton thanked for City for adopting the Diversity Initiative, which she hopes can set an example for the region. When her family first moved to the Old Main neighborhood of Bellevue 15 years ago, her son, a musician, was followed daily as a teenager by police officers. She said her heart was warmed by the things said and acknowledged this evening. She expressed support for the definition of diversity as presented by City staff. Ms. Compton said individuals of the majority race, religion or other groups are often the ones who need to speak up. She said her five-year-old granddaughter, who is now in Kindergarten, was in the Boys and Girls Clubs preschool which had no racial or ethnic majority, and only two children spoke English as a first language. She commended the Bellevue School District for the challenges it faces in dealing with many languages and cultures, while maintaining some of the best schools in the country. Ms. Compton wished everyone Happy Holidays and thanked the Council for its work.

Mayor Balducci acknowledged the success of the Newport High School and Bellevue High School football teams this year and in past years.

Councilmember Chelminiak said a number of students at Eastside Catholic School, which beat Bellevue High School for the 3A football state championship this year, are Bellevue residents.

14. New Business: None.

15. Executive Session: None.

16. Adjournment

At 10:54 p.m., Mayor Balducci declared the meeting adjourned.

Myrna L. Basich, MMC
City Clerk

/kaw