

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

DECEMBER 5, 2005

1. Call to Order – The special meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chairperson - Present: Dist. 1 – Lynda Ring Erickson; Cmmr. Dist. 2 – Tim Sheldon; Cmmr. Dist. 3 – Jayni L. Kamin.

2. Public Hearings

- 2.1 Public Hearing to consider the adoption of the 2006 budget for Mason County (including the 2006 property tax levies).

Ione Siegler, Budget & Finance Director, noted there are three handouts (preliminary budget; a comparison of revenues and expenditures; and a summary of inclusions in the preliminary 2006 budget)

The budget includes property taxes. The Current Expense Fund and Road levy are at 101%. The legal 1% increase. There is \$402,200 of the Road levy diverted to the Current Expense Fund.

It was noted the budget includes a waste increase (cost-of-living-allowances (COLA) for union and non-union employees. Adjustments in salaries were approved ranging from 2.5% to 5.9%.

Employer contributions to medical/dental insurance benefits for union and non-union employees increased in the amount of \$40 each month.

District Court and Superior Court judges received wage increases as set by the state salary commission.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that health insurance has been a big issue. He questioned if this is a \$40 across the board increase for each employee.

Ms. Siegler responded, yes, the employer contribution is increased \$40 per employee this year.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson noted that additional positions in the Community Development Department will be off set by an increase in fees. Will any of the other additional positions supported by funds from another source.

Ms. Siegler noted that Elections had additional revenue, the Clerk had additional revenue and the Lake Cushman deputy are supported by additional new revenue.

Al Brotche, Auditor, thanked the board for supporting the increase in staffing levels for the Auditor's office. He noted the Board also increased staffing levels in 2005.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson thanked all the elected officials and department heads for answering questions to help the Board during this budget process in developing the public services for 2006.

Pat Swartos, Superior Court Clerk, expressed appreciation to the board that there is a balanced preliminary budget at the time of the first budget hearing.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Sheldon moved and seconded to close the public hearing to take testimony and to consider the adoption of the 2006 budget for Mason County. Motion carried unanimously. K-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.

It was announced the board is scheduled to adopt the budget on Tuesday, December 13, 2005.

- 2.2 Public Hearing to consider amendments to the Mason County 6-year Capital Facilities Plan as contained in the County Comprehensive Plan.

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Steve Goins, Planner, explained this was part of the Comprehensive Plan update. The Growth Management Act (GMA) allows the county to update the Capital Facilities Element independent of the annual Comprehensive Plan amendment if it is tied to the budget adoption. That is the process that is being followed. The last chapter of the Capital Facilities Plan is the finance plan where different facilities and elements being planned for are given six-year and 20-year plans for the various items. There was a new chapter introduced that addresses public facilities for Public Works which they anticipate will go under more review and refine it next year. In addition, they are in the process of analyzing some significant county facilities, such as the courthouse and the fairgrounds. They anticipate another revision will occur next year as they refine those plans. The Comprehensive Plan update was approved by the Planning Advisory Commission.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to close the public hearing to consider amending the 6-Year Capital Facilities Element of the Mason County Comprehensive Plan. Motion carried unanimously. K-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.

3. Adjourned – The special meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Jayni L. Kamin, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Lynda Ring Erickson, Commissioner

Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

Tim Sheldon, Commissioner