

MINUTES FOR GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
Thursday, May 27, 2021 – 3:00 p.m.

Due to public health concerns, this meeting was held remotely.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: Mayor Pro Tem Abersold called the meeting to order and called roll. Those present: Councilmembers Denson, Himes, Markley, Rodenberg and Woock. Mayor Kuhn and Councilmember Franich were excused.

Staff present: City Administrator Bob Larson, Assistant City Clerk/Open Government Administrator Josh Stecker and Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm. Gordon Thomas Honeywell lobbyists Josh Weiss, Annika Vaughn and Dale Learn were also in attendance.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Federal Update: Dale Learn gave a brief update on the state of affairs in the federal government. He reported that the City's requests for capital project funding had been viewed favorably by Representative Kilmer and Senator Murray. Requests are due to Senator Cantwell on June 1.

Legislative Update - 2021 End of Session Report: Josh Weiss & Annika Vaughn presented their wrap-up report of the 2021 legislative session. The state had unexpectedly healthy revenue and adopted a robust capital budget. The City had partial success in achieving the goals of its legislative agenda including receiving \$500,000 in funding for the Sports Complex, support for funding of the top three transportation project requests if a revenue package is adopted, and the option to implement a multi-family tax exemption program.

Other updates included noting that the Open Public Meetings Act revisions did not pass and that the state's Main Street Program was given an extra \$1 million in funding.

2022 Legislative Session Priorities: Council briefly touched on ideas for the 2022 Legislative Agenda, including asking for additional support for the Sports Complex. Council discussed the possibility of asking for funding for projects related to fish culverts and pursuing Public Works Trust Fund opportunities. The Intergovernmental Affairs Committee will work with the lobbyists to further develop the 2022 Legislative Agenda at future meetings.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Joshua Stecker
Assistant City Clerk/Open Government Administrator