

ORIGINAL



**CITY OF EDGEWOOD**

**COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING SUMMARY**

Tues., July 29, 2014 – 7:00 PM ♦ City Hall – 2224 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue East ♦ Edgewood, WA



**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Eidinger called the study session meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Eidinger led The Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Daryl Eidinger, Deputy Mayor Steve Cope, Councilmember Donna O'Ravez, Councilmember Paul Crowley, Councilmember Stephanie Shook, Councilmember Tyron Christopherson. **Absent:** Councilmember Luke Meyers.

**Staff Present:** City Manager Mark Bauer, Assistant City Manager Eric Phillips, Acting City Clerk Jane Montgomery, Police Chief Ed Knutson.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**Traffic Impact Fees- Council/Staff Discussion/Questions/Background Information.**

City Manager Bauer reviewed the agenda item and he explained that staff had discussed Traffic Impact Fees at the Council meeting on July 22, 2014. At that meeting Staff presented an Ordinance to extend the current traffic impact fees until the end of 2014. This came as a result of a request from the Economic Development Advisory Board. Council had asked to move the agenda item to a study session so they would have more time to review the issue. The reduced rates sunset on July 26, 2014. The rates had been reduced in 2011 when a developer made a request to have the traffic impact fees lowered. City Manager Bauer explained how each City is very unique and does their own analysis of traffic impact fees and he explained how these fees are calculated.

Further discussion took place between the Council and Staff. Some topics discussed were: Traffic Impact Fees in relation to development, the long term impacts of Traffic Impact fees, history of Traffic Impact Fees, how long and if rates should be extended.

Councilmember Cope referenced the graph that was presented by Staff and the comparison chart between cities. He expressed concerns that the City of Edgewood's fees were too high. He felt the City's rate should be equivalent to the rates of Pierce and King County.

City Manager Bauer explained the reason why Pierce and King County were lower. City Manager Bauer also expressed concern if the lower rates were to be extended beyond the end of the year. He informed the Council that they could re-evaluate rates at any time and that these fees are set at the pleasure of the Council. Other topics he discussed were:

- An ordinance to amend the current rates downward for some designated period of time.
- The possibility of letting rates stand for residential and changing them for commercial.
- That Traffic Impact fees are based on trips generated.
- What the impact of reduced Traffic Impact Fees has on the City.

Assistant City Manager Phillips discussed the impact of the fees being lowered for too long a period of time, and the responsibility of the City to balance things out.

**AUDIENCE COMMENT**

The Council allowed for audience comments to be made.


Rose Hill- 8824 33<sup>rd</sup> Street East, Edgewood

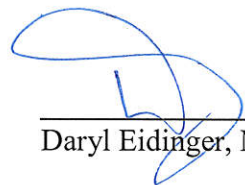
Ms. Hill discussed the Developer that had spoken to the Economic Development Advisory Board and his request to keep the Traffic Impact Fees lowered.

Staff was directed to prepare an ordinance to be brought back before Council.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

  
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Jane Montgomery, Acting City Clerk

  
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Daryl Eidinger, Mayor