

WOODWAY WHISPER

ISSUE 3, 2015
NOVEMBER 2015

TOWN OF WOODWAY

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

WHAT'S NEW? WHAT DOES OUR TOWN BUDGET LOOK LIKE?

Woodway is no different than any other city or town in Washington State. Our biggest expense is public safety services. This includes our share of the South County 911 call center, our police department, plus fire and emergency med services. Collectively, these services comprise 43% (\$774,447) of our entire operating budget for 2016. While these services are first priority, the next is staff costs which comprise 22% (\$ 389,076) of the proposed budget.

As your mayor, I strive to provide a responsive and stable local government and that happens when we hire and retain solid staff members. Historically, Woodway has not been competitive with other municipalities when it comes to salary levels. And to our favor, we've been able to retain our employees in spite of the low salary base. Recently, we were tested as several employees were offered higher salaries by outside entities. Additionally, our Police Chief experienced difficulty in recruiting officers; again low salaries was cited as the primary obstacle. A salary study was conducted by comparing the experience of comparable cities. We tried to select those communities that were west of the mountains with relatively small populations.

Results have prompted a budget proposal to increase the police officers' pay as well as the rest of the staff. Overall, this represents a 13% increase over salary levels in 2015; however, that percentage varies by staff position.

The remaining budget proposals include:

- Road overlays for Eagle Lane and Kulshan Road
- Small equipment purchases for Public Works
- Renovation of Town Hall front lawn (removal of hardpan soil, install irrigation system)
- Purchase of an additional traffic radar sign

Under the heading of community and fun, I have budgeted for the annual fair in August, and have added a new event planned for July. This will be an evening social with live music and adult refreshments held on our bridge. Currently the Council is reviewing the public safety issues associated with this event.

Finally, an exciting book project is underway which will display pictures of Woodway gardens and open spaces. The book's focus is to highlight those things that make Woodway unique.

Publishing costs for the book have been added to the budget.

With many of these proposals, we solicit and receive generous donations from local businesses and individuals which helps defray the total cost.

We are getting close to the eleventh hour on our budget which is scheduled to be approved the first Monday in December. If you have issues or are supportive of what is being considered, please take a few moments to email Town Hall or talk with a Council member. We need your feedback as we move Woodway into 2016.



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COMMUNITY SERVICES HELP LINE—211

Residents in all of the communities of south Snohomish County have an easy way to access a myriad of community program. Call 211 for assistance in finding just exactly what's available in terms of emergency food and housing, access to mental and physical health services. This phone line is staffed with real people to answer questions and help you access services Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 6:00pm.



UPPER BLUFF UPDATE

By Eric Faison

There have been some subtle, yet significant changes since our last update related to the Upper Bluff which is at the westerly boundaries of the Town at 238th Street SW. First and foremost is the Town Council's approval of revised zoning for the Upper Bluff, and approval of an Annexation and Development Agreement with the Upper Bluff's owner. These changes provide for a new, 36-lot single family residential development. The lots would be somewhat smaller than is typical for Woodway (slightly smaller than most of the lots in the Woodway Highlands). But, we anticipate that the project, if developed, will be well designed and in keeping with the Town's overall high-quality character.

Annexation of this area will give the Town control over an area that will have a significant impact on existing Woodway residents. A copy of the annexation agreement, including proposed lot layouts, is located under the "Land Use" section of our website (www.townofwoodway.com).

The owner of Point Wells (BSRE) filed a lawsuit challenging our agreement with the Upper Bluff owner. Their claims, which were not well considered, alleged that the agreement would damage their property rights. After further consideration, they withdrew their appeal. Unfortunately, the withdrawal of the appeal occurred after the Town had spent over \$8,000 in attorney fees to respond to their claims. The proposed development on the Upper Bluff remains subject to a substantial amount of analysis – most importantly, a significant environmental analysis evaluating the stability of the bluff.

COYOTES COYOTES COYOTES

How do we put up with these wild neighbors of ours? A wildlife specialist from the US Department of Agriculture will be making a presentation on coyote behavior in urban settings at an upcoming Town Council meeting. Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 19th, 7 p.m. for this informative session. There will be time in the agenda for questions.

The final plat must overcome these hurdles (and potential appeals) before the Town can complete an annexation, which would be expected sometime next year.

If you have any questions on the issues related to the Upper Bluff or Point Wells, please feel free to contact our Town Administrator, Eric Faison, at: (206) 542-4443).

POINT WELLS UPDATE

By Eric Faison

There's still not a lot new to report on the proposed Point Wells development. Most of the work being conducted on the project relates to the environmental impact statement, and in particular the transportation analysis. The Town is generally aware of some of this background work, and has at times provided comment. But the work is not at a stage where the Town has legally available opportunities for input.

The Town has worked with the City of Shoreline to evaluate costs and revenue associated with annexation of Point Wells by either City. This analysis reviews several different annexation scenarios, based on a project size that includes 3081 residential units (as proposed by BSRE), 2600 units and 1500 units. A draft of the analysis shows that the Town will have significantly more revenue than expenditures in all of the scenarios in which the Town annexes the property, even after accounting for substantial improvements in police and fire services for existing residents.

The Town would realize no new revenues if Shoreline were to annex the property. We hope to have the final study completed and available on our website early next year.

If you have any questions on the issues related to the Upper Bluff or Point Wells, please feel free to contact our Town Administrator, Eric Faison, at (206) 542-4443).

GARDEN COMMITTEE

By Chris Cantu

The Woodway Garden Book Committee wants to thank residents who have responded so enthusiastically to our idea for a book, and who have allowed us to take photos of their lovely gardens. We are lucky to have such beauty surrounding us! If you are interested in possibly being included, please contact a committee member listed below. We are happy to answer your questions.

In case you have been held back by concerns over your privacy, we can assure you that your address will not appear anywhere in the book, and that you can remain completely anonymous if that is your wish.

Chris Cantu:
2cantu@comcast.net

Shelley Dreyer-Green
dreyer-green@msn.com

Meeting Reminders

- Council meeting to approve the 2016 budget.
December 7, 2015. 7:00PM
- Coyote Meeting.
January 19, 2016. 7:00PM

2015 ANNUAL COMMUNITY FAIR



BIKE PARADE



YOUR COMMUNITY LEADERS AT WORK!



While it seems like a century since last August, we wanted to share some pictures from the Fair. While we don't have any official count of attendees, we've estimated the total to be 300. This year's highlights included John Bush's woodworking corner (constructing bird feeders) and the children's entertainer which kept the kids focused and giggling! The usual favorites such as the delicious BBQ lunch, live Dixie land music, and bike parade were enjoyed by all. A new activity, the photo booth, proved to be very popular. Stop by Town Hall and see the scrapbook of photos created during the Fair.

OBITUARY

Ann B. Rhodes



Ann passed away in the comfort of her home on August 5, 2015. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Jack. She graduated from Everett High School class of 1957 and University of Washington in 1961 with a Bachelor's degree in business from the Foster School of Business. Her academic success was recognized early by the University of Washington Honors Committee for excellence in scholarship in her sophomore year. Ann also was elected a member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society.

Throughout her college days and beyond, Ann was a loyal and contributing member of her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma. While living in southern California she was awarded the Kappa Province Loyalty Award. Later the Kappa Province established the "Outstanding Service to a House Board Award" and named this recognition the Ann Loken Rhodes Award in her honor. In her soft, dedicated manner Ann has quietly enhanced the lives and careers of young women for more than 50 years.

She and Jack were a dedicated team in life and in business. They lived and worked in Washington, Virginia, New York/Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts and California. In 1981, the couple founded Rhodes and Company, a sales and marketing firm. After a successful eighteen years they sold the firm to employees and returned to their native Seattle area.

Words that have been used by friends to describe Ann are: kind, sweet, smart, loyal, determined, fighter, dedicated, honest, angelic, classy and many more.

More than anything else, Ann believed that a positive contribution was much more important than any recognition. That is how she lived her life, and that is how her legacy will live on in the lives she touched and enhanced.



TOWN OF WOODWAY

23920 113th Place West

FALL 2015
NEWSLETTER



Chrisanne Lundquist & Victor Adams

23613 Woodway Park Road

Woodway, WA 98020

TOWN INFORMATION

TOWN HALL DIRECTORY:

Class	Code City
County	Snohomish
Population	1307
Business Hours	9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1-4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Phone	206.542.4443
Town Hall Fax	206.546.9453
Town Hall Email	townhall@townofwoodway.com
Website	www.townofwoodway.com
Public Works Dept Phone	206.542.0183
Public Works Dept Email	publicworks@townofwoodway.com
Police Dept Email	m
Permit Email	police@townofwoodway.com
Mayor	permits@townofwoodway.com
Council Meets	Carla A. Nichols

TOWN HALL STAFF:

Town Administrator	Eric A. Faison
Clerk Treasurer	Joyce Bielefeld
Deputy Clerk/Permit Technician	Heidi K. S. Napolitano
Admin Asst/Permit Coordinator	Austen Wilcox
Public Works Director	Terrance R. Bryant, Jr.
Public Works Crew	Jarrold Romine Scott Wynne
Town Attorney	Wayne Tanaka
Building Official/Plan Checker	Tom Phillips
Building Inspector	Scott Dorrance
Police Chief	Doug Hansen
Fire Marshal	Todd Malo
Town Planner	Bill Trimm
Town Engineer	PACE Engineers

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Bill Anderson, Tom Howard, Elizabeth Mitchell, Kent Saltonstall, Tom Whitson

LOCATIONS OF THE TOWN BULLETIN BOARDS:

Woodway Park Road at Algonquin Road
North end of Chinook Road

Bella Coola Road west of Makah Road
Timberlane Road at 240th Street S.W.