

TOWN OF WOODWAY

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

### ATTENTION RESIDENTS: IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY

2020 is starting out with lots of activity; the month of February contains several strategic deadlines.

#### **February 3 and 18 Code Update Meetings**

#### **Clearing and Grading, Environmentally Critical Areas, and Tree Preservation**

First, the Town is preparing to update three key ordinances: Clearing and Grading, Environmentally Critical Areas, and Tree Preservation. Last October, the Town was approached by two residents who had studied the Tree Ordinance and felt there were areas in need of improvement, especially as it related to steep bluffs and soil stability. As part of the staff review, it quickly became evident that the proposed changes to the Tree Ordinance also required updates to the Clearing and Grading and Environmentally Critical Area Ordinances. The residents privately contracted and paid for the services of local arborists and geotechnical professionals who presented Best

Available Science input and guidance. The Town staff and consultants incorporated these individuals' professional knowledge into the proposed changes.

While the Council and the Planning Commission have reviewed the drafts, there is still work to be done. We would like to share our progress with you so, on Monday, February 3, we will sponsor an informal, drop in Open House from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. before the Council meeting. I invite you to come ask all kinds of questions regarding the changes and share your opinions. There will not be any formal presentation, just one to one conversations.

There will be two Council meetings in February (3 and 18) where residents can participate as part of the formal Council proceedings.

We are asking for your help and assistance. Please take time to review and comment on these changes. Fair warning: the documents are lengthy. There are several documents:

1. The staff report that was presented to the Council on January 21, 2020, providing high level background information.
2. A chart that summarizes the proposed changes.
3. The draft ordinances with highlighted sections showing the proposed changes.
  - Environmentally Critical Areas Code
  - Tree Preservation Code
  - Clearing & Grading Code
4. A map that identifies the steep slope locations within the Town and their associated buffers.

*Continued on Page 2*

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE WOODWAY TOWN FAIR  
AUGUST 22, 2020

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## MAYOR'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

Please visit the Town's website, [https://www.townofwoodway.com/your\\_government/ordinances.php#](https://www.townofwoodway.com/your_government/ordinances.php#), to read these documents. If you would like to submit email comments, email [heidi@townofwoodway.com](mailto:heidi@townofwoodway.com) by February 14.

### February 12

#### Deadline for Comments on Point Wells Variance Requests

Blue Square Real Estate (BSRE) submitted a revised development application to Snohomish County on December 12. The application is for an Urban Center development and it includes two requests for variances. BSRE is requesting that the 90-foot height limit for buildings be expanded to 180 feet and setback restrictions be expanded to allow for building placement.

The Town has always objected to BSRE's request for taller buildings. We will be submitting an official comment before the deadline.

February 12 is the deadline for the public to comment on these variance requests. Please submit your comments to Mr. Paul MacCready, Project Manager, Snohomish County Planning and Development Services. Email: [Paul.MacCready@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Paul.MacCready@co.snohomish.wa.us). Mailing Address: 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, #604, Everett, WA 98201.

You can find BSRE's variance requests here:

[https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70728/18\\_DOCS-1287460-v1-Variance\\_Application](https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70728/18_DOCS-1287460-v1-Variance_Application)

[https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70710/19\\_2019-12-16-Zoning-Code-Variance\\_Pt-Wells](https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70710/19_2019-12-16-Zoning-Code-Variance_Pt-Wells)

You can find all of the documents, including maps showing building locations and building heights, in BSRE's resubmittal here:

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1533/Point-Wells-Submittal-Documents>

I encourage you to review those documents so that your comments to the County are relevant.



## TOWN HALL REPAIRS COMPLETE

Approximately a year ago, Town staff noticed wall and ceiling settling that seemed abnormal for a relatively new building. After extensive evaluation from civil engineers, it was determined that Town Hall's western walls needed

retrofitting for stability. That has been an extensive project but it is now complete and we are back to normal.

Starting March 1st, Town Hall will again be available to rent for private events for a nominal rental and

cleaning fee. If you have a family reunion, work retreat, or special occasion, please consider renting Town Hall. Contact Town clerks for specifics details regarding fees, occupancy limits, hours, and parking.

# 2020 BUDGET APPROVED

*By Carla A. Nichols, Mayor*

The Town Council approved the 2020 budget early last December. At the printing of this newsletter, I do not have the final numbers for the 2019 budget for comparisons (they will be in the next edition of the Whisper). This article will only focus on the approved 2020 budget and its priorities.

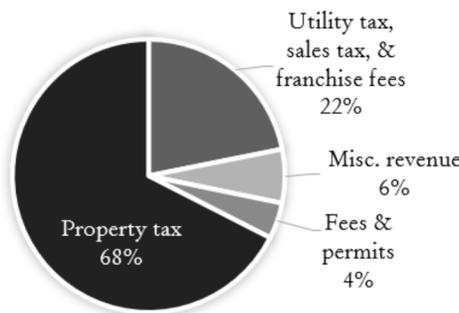
Revenues total \$1.71M and expenditures total \$1.91M. The difference between revenues and expenditures will be covered by the Town's reserve funds. This necessity has been in practice for the past 11 years as our major expenses such as public safety services are contract-based and continue to rise by 3% annually while property tax revenues are capped at 1% increase annually. 3% vs. 1% causes our budget shortfall each year and the reserves have made up the difference.

An important conclusion is that our budgets have not held any "surprises" and, based upon current financial estimates, we will likely not have a vote to increase the levy rate until 2022. Annual budget shortfalls can be addressed with Reserve funds. Originally, we estimated that a vote would come much earlier, so I'm pleased to report that our conservative

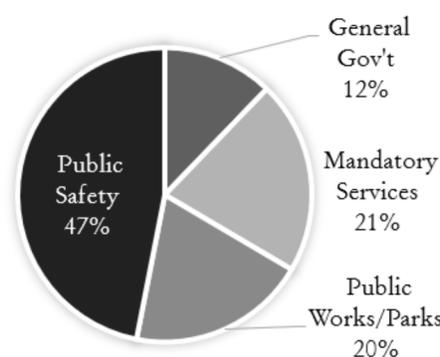
estimates and management of the budget have paid off.

The projections for 2020 revenues are consistent with previous budgets. The individual revenue categories' percentage of the overall budget have generally remained consistent. Annual fluctuations have been 3% or less. Utility taxes and Fees & permits have fluctuated by that 3% mark, but both of these categories are dependent upon individual household utility usage and the amount of building activity in Town (Fees & permits). These are categories that are beyond the control of Town government.

**OPERATING REVENUES - \$1.71M**



**OPERATING EXPENSES - \$1.91M**



Looking at the 2020 budget, the operating expense categories remain proportionately the same as previous years.

Highlights and priorities for the 2020 budget include:

- Salary increases for Town staff as first priority for retention of qualified and committed staff.
- Improvements to permit processing via purchase of a technology platform. This will reduce staff processing time and allow for improved information sharing.
- Asphalt overlay of roads in the Woodway Highlands neighborhood.
- Repair of stormwater culvert in Twin Maples neighborhood (project jointly conducted with Olympic View Water & Sewer District).
- Update Stormwater Comprehensive Plan. Evaluation of utility rates to assure that utility is fully funded.

## DEER CREEK PARK DEDICATION

*By Carla Nichols, Mayor*

A very special occasion occurred on a Saturday morning in October when Town officials hosted an informal ceremony to open the last phase of Deer Creek Park. With funding provided by Verdant Health Commission, the Town was able to design and install two walking trails that link the lower park with the upper meadow. These new trails include switchbacks and wood rails for safety. Verdant funding also covered additions to the upper meadow, including two new picnic benches, garbage receptacles, and an outdoor exercise area designed for older, active adults.

The Town's Public Works crew were introduced and recognized for their dedication and hard work installing all of the new features to the Park. Their special attention to detail and efforts to create a unique outdoor space were celebrated by the audience.

Verdant officials were in attendance as well as our County Council representative, Stephanie Wright. A special focus of the dedication ceremony was the presence of

thirteen members of the Krebs family who had originally owned the lands that are now part of the Deer Creek Park. Dr. Richard Krebs was the family spokesperson who shared family history, what it was like to grow up on these lands, and the importance of community values, especially the importance of land and its legacy. The oldest of the six Krebs siblings, MaryAnn, did the honors of cutting the ribbon for the Park. Dr. John Bush constructed a rustic trellis that created the main entrance to the meadow, and as a surprise to the Krebs family, a naming sign was presented. The meadow is officially known as "Krebs Meadow."

If you haven't visited the Park, be sure to plan a visit. The Park is accessed from the parking lot near the bridge on Woodway Park Road or at the western end of North Deer Drive. This is a walking park so come prepared! There are two very distinct trails, one of which includes demanding switchbacks with steep elevation. Once you arrive at the meadow, the area is generally flat with picnic facilities and the exercise area.

We have future plans for the Park that include installation of trail maps, additional signs requiring visiting dogs to be on a leash, one or two more "resting benches", and one additional exercise station.



The Krebs family at the dedication

## EMERGENCY STORMWATER CLEAN-OUT

On December 20, 2019, Woodway experienced urban flooding due to a large storm that passed through the area. In anticipation of the storm, the Public Works department had personnel and equipment on standby. The Director received a call from dispatch that water was running over the roadway on Whitcomb Place. Around midnight,

a culvert had been plugged by debris that washed down from a small stream. The debris-laden water then crossed the roadway and covered a catch basin further exacerbating the situation. The Director dispatched crew member Collin Harlow to the scene. In the middle of the night, Collin was able to clear both the culvert and catch basin within a few

short hours. The Director also dispatched Scott Wynne to arrive to work earlier than normal to finish cleanup of the roadway before the morning commute. Because of the crew's flexibility and their expertise, this stormwater emergency was corrected and cleaned up before the morning commute.

## NEW PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT

*By Terry Bryant, Public Works Director*

We all remember the snow event in February 2019 where Woodway received over 13 inches of snow. The only snow removal equipment we had at the time was a small Kubota side by side with a 4-foot blade. We were unable to keep up with the snow fall and had to contract out for additional snow plowing and ice melt/sanding, at a cost of \$50,000.



After the event, we held a debriefing and decided there was a

more efficient way of keeping the roads free from snow and ice. We requested that the Council authorize replacement of our aging fleet vehicle, a 2003 Ford Ranger, with a larger truck equipped with a plow and sand spreader. We purchased a 2019 F250 with an 8-foot snow blade and a sand/ice melt spreader through the state contract, saving money.

The new equipment has already paid dividends. In our most recent snow event, the new truck was easily able to plow all the roads in Woodway and apply ice melt at hills and intersections, all with only one operator and without the need for contracting for help. The public works crew modified its schedule allowing for 24-hour coverage. Woodways roads were some of the

clearest and safest in the area. All of this was accomplished without having to hire a contractor, thus saving the Town thousands of dollars.



With this piece of equipment, and our highly trained crew, we are confident that we can handle a snow event even larger than last year without contracting out for assistance and that the equipment will pay for itself with one or two more snowstorms.

## 2019 SHOP WITH A COP EVENT

In December, Woodway's Police Chief Doug Hansen participated in the 2019 Shop with a Cop event, held at the Target store in Lynnwood. Each year, several children from local schools are selected to receive a gift card to be spent on a holiday gift for themselves. Fundraising is coordinated by local businessman Shaun Richards. The students get to

spend time with a police officer from their community and pick out a treat that their family may not otherwise be able to afford.

Chief Hansen shared that he has participated in numerous Shop with a Cop events over the years. The children's choices have ranged from the toy of the season to buying a present for a sibling or a parent

to getting essentials, like shoes and socks.



Thank you, Cobb Family, for your holiday bridge decoration! The Woodway community looks forward to this festive annual tradition. Your dedication of time and resources is appreciated by all who drive through our town.

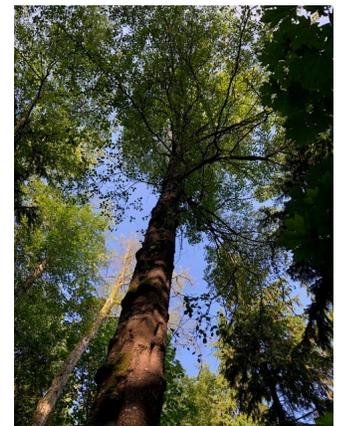
## WOODWAY'S HIDDEN FOREST TREASURES

Woodway residents Randy & Rebecca Pritchett have a hidden gem on their property; an arborist who surveyed their property discovered one of the largest documented dogwoods in Washington State! When they took these photos last summer, their



heritage Dogwood had a 103 inch girth, which is approximately 34 inches in diameter. While most of us think of a Dogwood as a tidy landscaping tree, the native varieties can grow up to 90 feet tall and live nearly 150 years.

The Pritchetts don't know how old their Dogwood is; they simply hope to have many more years to enjoy its gnarly beauty.



## REMEMBERING BOB SCHILLBERG

The Honorable Robert E. Schillberg passed away in August 2019. Bob was born in Minneapolis and grew up in Wisconsin. After serving four years in the Air Force, he finished his undergraduate degree and married Winn, the love of his life. Bob attended University of Washington Law School, class of 1958. Their two daughters were born in 1961 (Valeri) and 1962 (Kim).

Bob found his legal calling in the Snohomish County Prosecutor's office starting in 1962. In 1965, he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney and ran unopposed until 1978. In 1982 Bob was elected Snohomish County South District Court Judge, where he remained until retiring in 1994. In retirement he continued to serve on the Woodway City Council for many

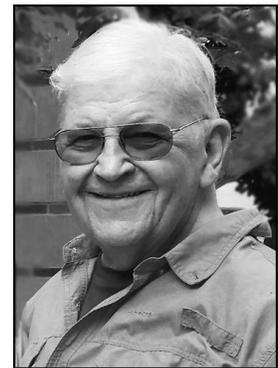


years until the effects of a 2003 stroke became too much.

Travel was a passion of Bob's. He visited all 50 states and over 35 countries on all seven continents. Shortly after the breakup of the Soviet Union, Bob traveled to Latvia and Estonia to help those nations establish new court systems. When not travelling, Bob and Winn enjoyed gardening in his small Woodway orchard, visiting with neighbors, bowling on multiple leagues, and attending local and Seattle theater.

Bob worked hard while his daughters were growing up, but becoming a grandfather changed him. A kid at heart, he excelled at grand-parenting and his grandson and granddaughter dearly loved their "Bobba."

Bob will be remembered in Woodway for his long history of service and thoughtful guidance to the Town, both on the Planning Commission and the Town Council.



### ARE YOU KEEPING UP?

The Mayor has instituted a monthly email message sent to all residents who are interested. It is not a long message, but one designed to hit the big issues and to alert residents to upcoming activities and/or decisions scheduled for Town Council action. This does not replace the Whisper but it is certainly more timely and frequent.

If you would like to be part of this email audience, sign up at our website:

[https://www.townofwoodway.com/how\\_do\\_i/email\\_notifications.php](https://www.townofwoodway.com/how_do_i/email_notifications.php).

It is important to note that being a member of this list means that your email address may be released if a public records request were submitted.

Currently, we have approximately 140 people on this list. Emails are a quick and efficient method for information sharing. Woodway is full of thoughtful residents and we are a stronger community when everyone is aware and informed. I urge you to join our email list.

## FALL 2019 ELECTION RESULTS

The fall 2019 election brought a few changes to Woodway's government. Councilmember Elizabeth Mitchell was re-elected for a four-year term. Councilmembers Mike Quinn & Brian Bogen, who had been appointed to vacant positions, were elected to complete the remaining two years of their appointed terms. Councilmember Tom Howard's seat was won by Planning Commissioner Andrew DeDonker.

At the last regular Council meeting of the year, Mayor Nichols and the Council held a short reception to honor Councilmember Howard. Mayor Nichols thanked him for his many years of service on the Planning Commission and Town Council and his fellow Councilmembers expressed their

appreciation for his thoughtfulness and careful stewardship of the Town's resources.

### *Introducing Andrew DeDonker, Newly Elected Councilmember*

After serving two terms as a Town of Woodway Planning Commissioner, Andrew was elected to Council Position #4 in January of 2020. Andrew was born and raised in Edmonds and moved to the Twin Maples neighborhood of Woodway in 2013 with his wife and daughter. Andrew is the Director of Marketing at a local, globally-recognized brand, specializing in consumer and enterprise technology enablement. He's a Cornell University trained Marketing Strategist and received his undergraduate degree from Seattle Pacific University.

Andrew's goals for the Town of Woodway include keeping Woodway quiet, clean, and safe; reducing traffic speed; maintaining traffic volumes; enhancing the social community within our town; bringing resident's concerns to the Council; and encouraging future generations to participate in the local government of our amazing town.



*Welcome, new Councilmember  
Andrew DeDonker*

## PLANNING COMMISSION NOTES

*By Jill McCammon, Deputy Clerk/  
Permit Technician*

Throughout the late fall, Town Planner Bill Trimm and the Planning Commission have been working with Town Council on revisions to tree preservation and management, environmentally

critical areas, and clearing and grading codes.

In early January, the Council confirmed Mayor Nichols' appointment of John Brock to the Planning Commission to fill Andrew DeDonker's vacated position.

Additionally, the Town Council confirmed the Mayor's reappointment of two Planning Commissioners whose terms expired at the end of 2019, Per Odegaard and John Zevenbergen.

## TOWN COUNCIL CORNER

### General Government:

- Ratified and confirmed the Town Hall repair contracts with McMillen Jacobs Associates and Landau Associates, Inc.
- Approved Resolution 19-415: Surplus Property.
- Approved Ordinance 19-601: Business & Home Occupation Code Updates.
- Approved Ordinance 19-602: Assessment of Penalties in Stormwater Utility Billings.
- Authorized participation in a consortium to review the Northwest Fiber purchase of Frontier's assets, including Woodway's cable franchise.
- Reviewed the 2nd quarter and 3rd quarter 2019 financial reports.
- Ratified and confirmed the recognition awards to several key Town Fair volunteers.
- Held several discussions of the Snohomish County Housing Affordability Task Force.
- Authorized the Mayor to sign the agreement with Snohomish County to install a ballot drop box at Town Hall.
- Approved Ordinance 19-604: Amending WMC 3.24.040 – Renaming Real Estate Excise Tax Fund to Capital Projects Fund.
- Held Public Hearings on the 2020 Revenue Sources, preliminary 2020 Budget, and the final 2020

Budget.

- Approved Resolution 19-416: 2020 Property Tax, approving a 1% property tax increase for 2020.
- Held a joint meeting with the Planning Commission to hear a presentation of proposed changes to the Tree Preservation code.
- Heard a presentation by Nancy Furness, Snohomish Health District's Prevention Services Director.
- Approved Ordinance 19-605: Change of Control of Frontier Communications Northwest, Inc.
- Considered a contract to hire a lobbyist.
- Councilmembers Brian Bogen, Mike Quinn, Elizabeth Mitchell, and Andrew DeDonker took their oaths of office.
- Approved Resolution 19-417: Town Administrator Compensation.
- Approved Ordinance 19-606: 2020 Budget.
- Approved Ordinance 19-607: 2019 Budget Amendment.
- Approved Ordinance 19-608: WMC 2.16.010 - Salary Schedule.
- Approved Ordinance 19-609: WMC 1.04.010 - Holiday Schedule.
- Recognized Councilmember Tom Howard's years of service and thanked him for his contributions.
- Reviewed the Town's clean audit

from the State Auditor's Office.

- Discussed proposed changes to the three chapters of the Woodway Municipal Code: Environmentally Critical Areas, Tree Preservation, and Clearing & Grading.
- Held a discussion with Senator Jesse Salomon.

### Land Use & Planning:

- Held two public discussions of the Settlement and Interlocal Agreement with the City of Shoreline and authorized the mayor to sign the Agreement.
- Confirmed the reappointment of Planning Commissioners Per Odegaard and John Zevenbergen and the appointment of John Brock.

### Public Safety:

- Approved Ordinance 19-603: Impoundment of Vehicles.

### Public Works & Lands:

- Ratified and confirmed the Mayor's signature on a settlement agreement related to tree removal.
- Authorized the purchase of a new public works vehicle out of the Replacement Reserve Fund.
- Authorized the purchase and installation of the lighted crosswalk signs as part of the Deer Creek Park improvements.

### Building & Municipal Services:

- Appointed Tom Phillips as the Town's Building Official.



# TOWN OF WOODWAY

23920 113th Place West  
Woodway, WA 98020

## WINTER 2020 NEWSLETTER



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### TOWN INFORMATION

#### TOWN HALL DIRECTORY:

Class	Code City
County	Snohomish
Population	1350
Business Hours	9 a.m.—1 p.m. Mon. through Thurs.
Permit Counter Hours	Walk-ins on Tues.   Appts on Wed.
Town Hall Phone	(206) 542-4443
Public Works Phone	(206) 542-0183
Website	<a href="http://www.townofwoodway.com">www.townofwoodway.com</a>
Email addresses	See staff & elected official contact information on our website
Mayor	Carla A. Nichols
Council Meets	1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Chair	Per Odegaard
Planning Commission Meets	1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

#### TOWN HALL STAFF:

Town Administrator	Eric A. Faison
Clerk-Treasurer	Heidi K. S. Napolitano
Deputy Clerk/Permit Tech	Jill McCammon
Public Works Director	Terrance R. Bryant, Jr.
Public Works Crew	Scott Wynne Collin Harlow
Town Attorney	Greg Rubstello
Building Official/Plan Checker	Tom Phillips
Building Inspector	Scott Dorrance
Police Chief	Doug Hansen
Fire Marshal	Derek LaFontaine
Town Planner	Bill Trimm
Town Engineer	PACE Engineers
Town Hearing Examiner	John Galt
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>911</b>

#### TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Brian Bogen, Andrew DeDonker, Elizabeth Mitchell, Mike Quinn, & 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 240<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
114<sup>th</sup> Avenue W. at 239<sup>th</sup> Place S.W.  
Willowick Road, north side