# WOODWAY WHISPER

Town of Woodway

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE OPEN COUNCIL POSITION UPDATED APPLICATION DEADLINE & INTERVIEW DATE

Councilmember Andrew DeDonker announced his resignation at Council's March 6 meeting. "It's been a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve my community, and I'm grateful for the trust that voters placed in me," he stated. Andrew has been involved as a volunteer in Town government for the past eight years, including five years as a Planning Commissioner and the last three years as a Councilmember. We will miss his perspective and his passion.

The Council has finalized the selection process for Andrew's replacement. *The submittal deadline and interview dates have changed from those listed in the postcard mailed to all residents.* Interested residents who meet the requirements need to submit a letter of

## Beat Brackett 5K on July 4

The traditional Edmonds July 4 – Beat Brackett 5K Run/Walk will again route through your beautiful Town of Woodway. This year, roads will be closed to through traffic from 7:45 to 10:00 am.

On July 4, set-up begins around 6:00 am. Volunteers will be stationed at several points along the running route to help guide traffic and runners. The race begins at 8:00 am; all participants are anticipated to finish by 10:00 am. Many runners will be wearing the "Beat Brackett" race shirts for easy visibility.

As a special thank you to Woodway residents we are offering 10% off your registration to run in the Beat Brackett 5K. Use code "WOODWAYRUNS" at interest by Thursday, April 27. Council will review the applications and hold interviews at a special meeting on May 8, 2023, beginning at 5:15 pm. The new member selected by Council will serve until this November's election is certified. This position will be up for election in November 2023. The winner of the election will serve from that date until the end of the year, plus a full four-year term.

In addition, two other Council positions will be included in the 2023 election cycle. For more information, visit our website: <u>https://</u><u>www.townofwoodway.com/your\_government/</u> election\_appointment.php

mike Que

checkout. Registration is ONLINE ONLY. No day-of registration. Deadline to register is June 25. For more info and to register, visit www.BeatBrackett.com.

Thank you!

Alicia Moreno, Edmonds Chamber of Commerce

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: HOUSING

The State Legislature has been working diligently on several bills this session that likely will have significant impacts on Woodway. These bills have a goal of overriding locally adopted zoning laws to increase housing density in single-family residential neighborhoods across the state.

The bill that has garnered the most attention this session is HB 1110. There have been and continue to be changes to this bill, with significant differences between the House and Senate versions. The current version of the bill, which is more modest than has previously been proposed, would require the Town to allow two houses on every lot. The bill would not affect lots that are subject to covenants restricting development to one house per lot. We fully expect some version of the bill to pass, and it will have a major change to the Town's zoning laws.

Changes also will result from another bill, HB 1337. This bill has passed the Legislature and awaits the Governor's signature. This bill requires cities to allow two accessory dwelling units on every lot. As a result of these two bills combined, every lot in Woodway will essentially provide for multi-family housing in our traditionally single-family residential community.

We will continue to monitor these bills and provide an update via my e-Newsletter after we have analyzed the final versions that are signed into law by the Governor. If you are not signed up for my e-Newsletter, you can do so here: <u>https://www.townofwoodway.com/</u> how\_do\_i/email\_notifications.php.

## GREAT HORNED OWL



Woodway is lucky enough to have a pair of Great Horned Owls nesting in Deer Creek Park. While more than a dozen species of owls live in Washington,

the Great Horned Owl (Bubo virginianus) is the most widely distributed owl in both Washington and North America, occupying dense forests, open woodlands, clear-cuts, deserts, and urban environments, including golf courses, cemeteries, and parks with adjacent woodlots.

Recently, owlets have hatched and will soon start to take flight. Public Works staff have placed signs in Deer Creek Park asking visitors to stay on the trail and be mindful of the newly hatched birds of prey.

## GIVE 'EM A BRAKE

#### By Terry Bryant, Public Works Director

As spring and summer approach, your Public Works crew will be out mowing, line trimming, weeding, and providing general maintenance in the Town's rights of way. Town staff work hard to maintain visibility and beautify the rights of way throughout the town. To keep everyone safe, we urge motorists to slow down in work zones. Please pay attention to warning signs and "give them a brake".



## POINT WELLS UPDATE

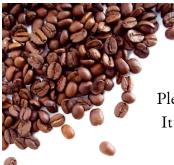
Since January, at each Council meeting, Council has provided residents with an opportunity to discuss the Town's potential annexation of Point Wells. It's been a good discussion. We've received clarification on a number of issues, answers to a number of questions, and we've identified areas needing additional research/ analysis.

The Town Council continues to pursue two options that would provide the Town with the right to annex Point Wells. The first option is to negotiate an agreement with Snohomish County, Shoreline, and Olympic View that would allow the Town to annex Point Wells without the property owner's permission. The second option is to negotiate an agreement with the property owner whereby the property owner would request to be annexed by the Town. The conversations with the relevant parties regarding these agreements are ongoing.

If either of these negotiations is successful, Council would then have the right to begin the annexation

process by adopting a resolution authorizing the filing of a "notice of intent" with the Boundary Review Board. The filing of a notice of intent does not mean that an annexation will take place. Even if the Board authorizes an annexation, the final decision to annex belongs to the Council, who will need to adopt an ordinance to finalize an annexation.

Depending on the progress of these two options, we intend to host an open house that will provide additional opportunities for residents to learn more and provide feedback. You will receive a postcard in the mail when the date has been finalized. If you have any questions or comments in the meantime, but you're unable to attend a Council meeting, please feel free to email me at mayor@townofwoodway.com. The Point Wells Q&A, located on our website, is also a great o f information: source https:// www.townofwoodway.com/Documents/point% 20wells/Website%20--%20Point%20Wells% 20Annexation%20Q&A%20-%20Feb%202023.pdf.



## COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR June 10 | 9 - 10:30 Am

Please join Mayor Mike at Town Hall for the next Coffee with the Mayor session. It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and to talk with the Mayor and a Councilmember over coffee and doughnuts.

Looking for a way to give back to our community? Volunteer for the Woodway Town Fair! Contact Heidi at <u>heidi@townofwoodway.com</u> for details.



## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

#### By Jason Valentine, Police Chief

In many cities across our region, police agencies are coping with critical staffing shortages and are struggling to fill their ranks. Recruiting remains a significant challenge for most departments. As you know, in the Town of Woodway, we employ certified police officers from surrounding police departments. These dedicated officers commit their off-duty time to patrol the streets of Woodway, ensuring that public safety is maintained within the town.

A professional police department should endeavor to sustain a positive, collaborative relationship with the community it serves. Effective community-oriented police departments are responsive, accountable, and transparent. Your Woodway police officers feel respected and tremendously valued by this community, which certainly has made a positive impact on our recruiting efforts. Consequently, your police department achieved a full staffing level in December 2022, after the hiring of Officer Robert Nichols.



Officer Robert Nichols with his family

Officer Nichols currently works for Lynnwood the Police Department and has been a police officer for over two years. He served in the United States Marine Corps before becoming a

police officer. Officer Nichols grew up in the Marysville area and enjoys spending his time off with his family. We are excited to welcome Officer Nichols to Woodway! Please stop and introduce yourself if you see him out during his patrols. Another impressive accomplishment involves Woodway Officer Eugene Shin. Officer Shin recently received a prestigious award from the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission. In December, he was awarded the Snohomish County Target Zero "Traffic Officer of the Year." This award was based on his vigilant, proactive work in traffic safety and DUI patrols throughout the year. We are very proud to have Officer Shin working for the Town of Woodway and appreciate his commitment to traffic safety.



Officer Eugene Shin accepting his Officer of the Year Award

Traffic safety is, indeed, a top priority for the Woodway Police Department and our officers remain committed to that effort. We have sought to be responsive to the concerns of community members in specific neighborhoods, while also deploying officers into the areas where traffic volumes are highest (such as Woodway Park Road).

We will continue focusing our efforts where needed and truly look forward to the opportunity to continue serving and protecting our community. Please feel free to contact me, or any Woodway police officer, with questions or concerns. We look forward to hearing from you!

## HELP PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MAIL THEFT

#### By Jason Valentine, Police Chief

In December, our community experienced a rash of mailbox break-ins. The break-ins were repeated, and most happened at night. In response, we had officers modify their schedules to work overnight shifts, patrolling the town during the hours of darkness. During those shifts, officers encountered several suspicious vehicles. The occupants of one vehicle immediately fled upon seeing the officer, rapidly leaving the Woodway area. The officer obtained a vehicle description and investigated.



One example of locking Woodway mailboxes that were pried open by thieves.

Here are several mailbox safety tips:

- Promptly retrieve delivered mail and deposit outgoing mail close to pick-up time, if possible.
- Consider purchasing a locking mailbox. Although locking mailboxes might provide a deterrent effect to some, motivated criminals often employ tools to defeat locking mechanisms. Consider consultation with the United States Postal Service to ensure that your mailboxes meet the highest standards of security.
- When mailing something important, consider requesting Signature Confirmation<sup>™</sup> for the intended recipient. For further information, contact the United States Postal Service.

- Inquire promptly about any overdue mail. If you do not receive a check, credit card, or other valuable mail you're expecting, contact the sender as soon as possible.
- Consider purchasing surveillance camera systems, installed near community/private residential mailboxes. There are many affordable systems on the market offering advanced features, such as motion detection, night vision, high resolution, and cloudbased storage options.
- Report any suspicious activity to 911. If you can safely take note of a vehicle's license plate, please provide that information to dispatchers when you call. If the suspect is walking, take note of their direction of travel and clothing description. This will help our officers know what to look for while responding into the area.

In the event that you suspect mail theft has occurred, please call 911 to have a police officer respond. You will receive a case number from the Edmonds Police Department. You should also call the United States Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455. Did you know that tampering with a mailbox is a federal offense? Mail theft is prohibited by state statutes as well, which means that our officers take this crime very seriously!

Officers from the Woodway Police Department will remain vigilant in our patrols, seeking to interdict criminal activity and improve public safety in the Town of Woodway. Additionally, we will continue working with our law enforcement partners throughout the ensuing investigation, to hold accountable those who seek to victimize our hard-working residents.

## WHEN IS A PERMIT REQUIRED?

### By Tom Phillips, Building Official, and Terry Bryant, Public Works Director

Everyone knows a building permit is needed to build a new house, but what about smaller projects? Is a permit required every time a nail is pounded into a piece of wood? Well, not quite. Generally, a building permit is required whenever a wall or roof is built, altered, replaced, or removed. Moreover, every addition to an existing house requires a permit. Interior remodel projects usually require a permit as well, even if only non-bearing walls are built or altered. This may surprise people who believe the building code is all about how to build things so they are structurally sound. But besides structural integrity, the building code also regulates life/ safety requirements such as; minimum room size, ceiling height, stair size, light, ventilation, energy code, bedroom escape windows, safety glazing, handrails and guardrails, and the firewall between a house and garage. The following are additional permit requirements and permit exemptions for specific types of work.

Fences. A permit is required for any fence installed in a building setback or on a property line, regardless of the height. A permit is not required for an interior fence (not located in a setback) that does not exceed six feet.

**Decks.** A permit is required for a deck if it is more than 30 inches above ground. No deck can be located in a building setback and if it is more than 18 inches high, it must be included in the maximum allowable lot coverage.

Sheds. A garden shed requires a permit if it is greater than 120 square feet or will be located in or near a critical area. Sheds are not allowed in building setbacks.

**Retaining walls and rockeries.** These walls require a permit when the exceed four feet in height, are in a setback, are in a critical area, or are supporting a surcharge, such as the weight of an adjacent driveway.

**Plumbing & Mechanical Appliances.** If you will be replacing fixtures or appliances related to plumbing, natural gas, or ventilation, you may need a permit.

Electrical Work. All electrical work in the Town is permitted and inspected by the WA State Dept. of Labor & Industries - Visit their website for details. <u>https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/electrical/electrical</u> -permits-fees-and-inspections/

**Right-of-Way.** All work in a Town Right-Of-Way requires a permit. Contact Public Works Director Terry Bryant with questions.

**Tree Removal.** The removal of trees requires a tree permit per Section 16.12.040 of the Woodway Municipal Code. Contact Public Works Director Terry Bryant with questions.

**Clearing and grading.** A clearing and grading permit is required whenever the thresholds in Section 16.08.070 of the Woodway Municipal Code are exceeded.

#### Minor projects that do not require a permit include:

- Roofing replacement, provided the new roofing is not heavier than the original roofing and not more than 10% of the roof sheathing is being replaced.
- Painting and wallpaper
- Installation of carpet and other flooring
- Installation of thermal insulation
- Cabinets and counter tops
- Window replacement as long as the windows are the same shape and size (must comply with the energy code and safety glazing requirements).

Our website, <u>www.townofwoodway.com</u>, includes many permit resources, including informational handouts, application forms, and Woodway Municipal Code. If you're still not sure if your project requires a permit, please send me an email at tom@townofwoodway.com.

## Town Council Corner

#### General Government:

- Adopted Ordinance 2022-645: 2022 Budget Amendment.
- Approved Resolution 2022-444: Payment Procedures.
- Approved Resolution 2023-445: Surplus Property.
- Approved Resolution 2023-446: Fee Schedule.
- Reviewed the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022 Finance Report.
- Councilmember Andrew DeDonker resigned.

#### Land Use & Planning:

- Confirmed the reappointment of Planning Commissioners Lisa Marquart and John Rettenmier.
- Directed the Planning Commission to consider various options to "plan for and accommodate" affordable housing, including a potential amendment providing for the development and rental of ADUs.
- Authorized the Town Administrator to execute the grant contract with Washington State Department of Commerce for the first year (fiscal year 2023) of the GMA Periodic Update Grant.

• Held several discussions and took public input at every meeting in 2023 on the possible annexation of Point Wells.

#### Public Works & Lands:

- Approved Ordinance 2022-647: Compost Procurement.
- Reviewed a stormwater overflow issue in Twin Maples and decided to wait to see how the bioswale plantings would help before authorizing additional work.

#### Public Safety:

- Authorized the mayor to execute the amendment to Prosecution Services Contract with Zachor, Stock, & Krepps, Inc., P.S.
- Heard a report from Fire Chief Matt Cowan.
- Approved Resolution 2023-448: Mayors and Business Leaders for Public Safety Agreement.
- Heard a report from Police Chief Jason Valentine.
- Authorized the installation of traffic turtles in Twin Maples.

The Council values communication with residents and has many ways to share information with you. In addition to this newsletter sent in the mail, the Town has an electronic newsletter that goes out once each month. To sign up, visit our website: <a href="https://www.townofwoodway.com/how\_do\_i/email\_notifications.php">https://www.townofwoodway.com/how\_do\_i/email\_notifications.php</a>. You will find tons of exciting resources on our website, including contact information for staff and Town officials, walking maps, back issues of newsletters, a brief history of Woodway, and much more.

## Planning Commission Notes

The Planning Commission is currently working on the Housing Element in the Comprehensive Plan update. The Housing Element is one of five elements that the Commission will be reviewing and updating. Before the final Comprehensive Plan updates are implemented, residents will have several opportunities to share their opinions regarding the draft Comprehensive Plan. You are welcome at the Planning Commission's monthly meetings where the changes are discussed in detail and at the Council meeting where the recommendations will be reviewed and acted on.



Town of Woodway

23920 113<sup>th</sup> Place West Woodway, WA 98020



SAVE THE DATE! Woodway Town Fair | Saturday, August 19, 2023

## TOWN INFORMATION

#### TOWN HALL DIRECTORY:

#### Class Code City Town Administrator Eric A. Faison County Snohomish Clerk-Treasurer Dep. Clerk-Treas./Permit Tech Population 1325 Business Hours Public Works Director 9 am to 1 pm | Monday-Thursday See website for details Public Works Crew Permit Counter Hours Town Hall Phone (206) 542-4443 Public Works Phone (206) 542-0183 Town Attorney Website www.townofwoodway.com Building Official/Plan Checker Email addresses See staff & elected official contact **Building Inspector** information on our website Police Chief Fire Marshal Mayor Mike Quinn 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 6:00 p.m. Council Meets Town Planner Planning Commission Chair Per Odegaard Town Engineer Planning Commission Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Town Hearing Examiner John Galt EMERGENCY

#### Heidi K. S. Napolitino Kim Sullivan Terrance R. Bryant, Jr. Scott Wynne Collin Harlow Greg Rubstello Tom Phillips Tony Hamilton Jason Valentine Rvan Burgess Bill Trimm **PACE Engineers** 911

TOWN HALL STAFF:

#### **TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Brian Bogen, John Brock, Elizabeth Mitchell, & Rajeev Thakur

LOCATIONS OF THE TOWN BULLETIN BOARDS:

Woodway Park Road at Algonquin Road Woodway Park Road at Deer Creek Park 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