

**Town of Coupeville
Regular Council Meeting
February 22, 2022
6:32 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Molly Hughes, Councilmembers Jenny Bright, Jackie Henderson, Michael Moore, Pat Powell and Rick Walti

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech

CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Council Regular Meeting of January 25, 2022 were approved as submitted.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Hughes attended a meeting sponsored by Windermere, South Whidbey, where the main topic was how inflation, interest rates, and the housing market are all interconnected.
- Mayor Hughes informed the Council that staff are busy writing grant applications for a number of projects.
- Mayor Hughes gave the Council an update on the Cistern Demolition project.
- Finally, Mayor Hughes reminded the Council that Mussel fest, March 4th – 6th, and encouraged everyone to take advantage of the smaller boat tour groups this year, to see the mussel flats.

PRESENTATION

Island County Tourism Development Director Sherrye Wyatt gave a brief presentation to the Council on the status of tourism throughout the pandemic, highlighting the different strategies the organization has implemented over the past two years to keep tourism alive, while not increasing the risk to island residents. Director Wyatt mentioned that Island County Tourism is using data from a number of well-respected research firms to drive their promotional decisions, and that the State's new tourism marketing strategy, "Experience a State of Wanderlust", works in tandem with the direction Island County Tourism promotion has been headed. Finally, Director Wyatt informed the Council that a trail guide will be published soon, which promotes the lesser know trails on Whidbey and Camano Island. Island County Tourism partnered with a number of organizations to create this guide.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of January 2022 Payroll and February 2022 A/P transactions and Warrants

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Walti, second by Councilmember Moore, to approve January 2022 payroll transactions and warrants #36358 to #36364 as attached; for a total of \$127,219.19, and February 2022 A/P #36365 to #36436 as attached; for a total of \$154,396.04. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Mayor Hughes led a brief discussion about Town Hall Staff working remotely on Fridays. Town Council expressed support for this option, but emphasized they consider this to be an administrative decision, made by the Mayor. Based on the discussion, Mayor Hughes will work with managing staff in Town Hall to implement a remote-work plan.

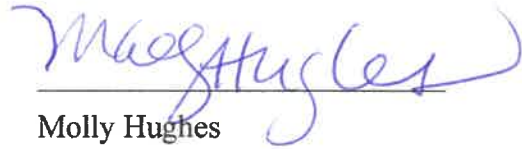
ADJOURNMENT: 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:



Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech



Molly Hughes

A complete video recording of this meeting is available upon request from the Clerk-Treasurer.