

**City of Cosmopolis  
Workshop Minutes  
October 5, 2016**

Mayor Frank Chestnut presided

Councilmembers Present: Jim Ancich, Debbi Moran, Carl Sperring and Kyle Pauley

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Julie Pope, Public Works Director Darrin Raines, Fire Chief Jerry Schreck and Attorney Stephen Hyde

**Transportation Benefit District**

Mayor Chestnut stated that the City is looking into setting up a Transportation Benefit District. Public Works Director Darrin Raines stated that there are two scenarios to provide the funds. One of the methods is adding a flat fee to all licensed vehicles within the City limits. This would not require voter approval. The other one is raising the sales tax within the City and does require voter approval. Increasing the sales tax would have a 10-year sunset clause, but would give the City more funding than raising the car tab fees by approximately \$30,000 per year. Also, the second one would mean that all people who purchase taxable items in the City would be contributing. With the first option, the State would keep one percent of all funds collected. The funds would be limited to streets, sidewalks, ADA ramps, and other street related projects. The City would have to create a Transportation Benefit District Board and all items must be itemized and approved by the Board. There is a checks and balances system in place to make sure the funds are being spent correctly. The Board can be the City Council. It must have at least 1 elected official and have 5 members. In order to get this on the February ballot, it must be submitted by December. It will only require a simple majority of votes to pass. There will be a public hearing on November 2, 2016 at 7 p.m.

**Naming of Public Park**

Public Works Director Raines suggested that we designate the area next to the parking lot a Dog Park Area and yearly raffle off the naming. He suggested that we require leashes. He also stated that vinyl lettering for the signs is a low cost to the City. He will send the information to the Planning Committee.

**Consolidation of Essential Services**

Mayor Chestnut read a letter signed by the Mayors of Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Cosmopolis. This letter is asking for Council permission to begin talking about the Consolidation of Essential Services. Mayor Chestnut stated that this is NOT talking about merging the cities into one. This is simply a feasibility study to see if we can consolidate essential services to save money for each of the cities. We can list the items that we would not want to consolidate. Per Mayor Chestnut, nothing is binding at this point. This will make it public record.

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Deputy Clerk

Attest

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Mayor