

**Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting**  
**July 16, 2019**  
**6-7:30pm**  
**Southside Community Center**

**Welcome**

**Roll/Introductions**

**Approval of May Minutes**

**Neighborhood Resource Officer Update - Bob Mossman**

- Spoke about school district 81 case where 60 yr old grandmother confronted 8-year-old about harassing her 5 year old granddaughter.
- The 8-year-old's parents wanted to press charges for touching her daughter.
- There was video of the incident and after speaking with the 60 yr old there was no intent to cause harm. Prosecutor would not take case because he could not win and the intent was not there.
- In the case of a misdemeanor a victim has up to a year to press charges.
- The questions was asked; Is unwanted touching considered assault? Answer; technically yes, but in this case not prosecutable because no probable cause.
- The parents could still bring up a civil suit. Health and welfare of children should not be deterred by concerns over assault though.

**City Council Update**

**Lori Kinnear**

- Water tower project on 31<sup>st</sup> and Napa has been delayed. Which gives us time as a neighborhood to further discuss location.
- Lori and Breann sponsored a community policing proposition to help continue increasing safety in the City, but it has been delayed.
- Lori is working on community outreach regarding a program targeting 30% tree canopy by 2030. It will have incentives for all levels including developers, single family, residential and commercial. Currently the City has a 23% tree canopy. The increase tree canopy helps with Stormwater management, reduce the heat effect. One of the biggest hurdles is keeping them alive for three years because they need a consistent water source. Neighbor told of an issue when they had to cut down a tree and the City said it had to be replaced. The City provided a list of certain arborists they had to use for removal and planting. The arborists listed did not plant trees though. Lori said these are the kind of hurdles they are working on eliminating. It should be easy to plant a tree.

**Breean Beggs**

- There was a discussion regarding the Lime scooters. Breean described current laws and Lime policies:
  - If it is a street faster than 25mph they are supposed to be on sidewalk;
  - certain areas of downtown they are to use the street;
- -In riverfront park they can go on sidewalk but they can only go up to 5mph;
- -Lime has a patrol that they are starting to do;
  - City gets 75cents per scooter per day;
  - They will by making parking corral which has an incentive to people who park their scooters there;
  - A free class is offered monthly at Riverfront Park;

- 20k to 30k rides per week;
- About 600 scooters in Spokane;
- average trip is about a mile;
- Lime will give a free helmet;
- Must be 18 to rent and ride a scooter;
- A neighbor asked about the amount of accidents; Breean said they are checking with the Emergency Rooms to track this info. Lori wanted it to be so that if you are 16 years old and eligible for a drivers license then you should be allowed to ride a Lime scooter. Neighbors said one of the biggest issues they noticed was that people are parking in sidewalks and ADA access areas. If you see this call 311 or you can email Lime directly and they come move them right away.
- School scan radar money. 3 new cameras means we will have more money for traffic calming. Getting closer to deal allowing for hire of 4 more police officers.
- Passport app on your phone highly recommend to pay for parking downtown.
- Faster broadband access. New company called TDS might come to SPK in the next few years which gigabyte speed would be.
- Commend the police department for involving the community on updating Use of Force Policy.

#### **New/draft police use of force policy - Asst Chief Lundgren**

- Printed power point slides provided.
- Collaborative reform of use of force policy started in 2013.
- Currently in final phase of getting community feedback
- Final draft expected September/October of 2019
- Bedrock case Graham vs. Connor
- New policy will become part of potential future civil law suits.
- Goes back to 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment and the sanctity of human life
- Important for officers to exhibit respect and professionalism even when force is necessary
- Use of force is needed to 100-130 times every year or once every three days.
- Use of Force Techniques
  - Compliant
  - Passive
  - Active
  - Assaultive
  - Life Threatening
- New De-escalation policy
  - Putting what has previously been trained into policy.
- Next Steps
  - Incorporate feedback
  - Publish final policy
  - Train
  - Re-evaluate
- From questions
  - All patrol officers wear vests all the time. All cops are issued at least one. Only tactical unit wears helmets.
  - Asked why they always shoot to kill, v. in foot or arm. This is because they can not depend on the suspect stopping if they get hit in arm or leg. Train to shoot at the biggest area to stop the threat.

- Typically run single officer calls, but there has been a better use of back up. There is policy on how many officers are sent according to the kind of situation it is.

#### **How to comment on Avista's proposed rate increase - Carol Wertz of SNAP**

- Avista is proposing a two-year rate plan
- Electric rate increase
  - Year 1, effective April 1, 2020 - bill increase 8.8% (\$12.68 per month for avg electric heat consumer)
  - Year 2, effective April 1 2021 – bill increase 3.3%.
- Natural gas rate increase
  - Year 1 – bill increase 10.1% (\$4.60 per month for average gas consumer.)
  - Year 2 – bill increase 4.6%.
- They have to apply to the Utility and Transportation Commission (UTC)
  - UTC checks if it is fair and reasonable
- Public hearing will probably be in August.
  - Public hearings have had less people lately, it was recommended that if neighborhood groups show up it would make an impression.
- SNAP is here to help stabilize people. Most people use resources for less than 5 years.
- SNAP offers senior discount programs on electric bills that don't have asset test on them.
- Provided handout showing other SNAP programs available

#### **Update on Water Reservoir - Dan Buller**

- Water reservoir Priority has changed on reservoirs to the ones by airport.
  - Ground construction on the 31<sup>st</sup> and Napa reservoir has been pushed out to will start groundwork in 2020 most of the construction occurring in 2021.
- Chances of it changing is not likely because conditions of height and transmission and permitting is complete.
- Local contacts will be reached out to this time next year. If it gets delayed again they will come back to council and let us know.
- Hearing examiner said they had to use the skinny base model so more sunlight in the winter months would come past the tank to neighbors home. Stem about 20' in diameter top 90' in diameter.
- Question - Is any one model safer than other, engineer said no.

#### **Perry Street Fair – Emily Wenzel**

- Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> 10am – 10pm
- Still looking for a couple volunteers to help with clean up
- New ADA parking lot

#### **Standing Updates**

- Lincoln Heights event scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Need volunteers especially for water truck.
- Asked for volunteers to place yard signs especially if located on busy streets, got a couple but could use a few more.

**Neighborhood News (noted in agenda but did not have time to discuss)**

Anyone interested in a garden box in a proposed Community Garden on the northwest corner of the Southside Senior Center parking lot in the 2020 season please contact Dennis 509-280-6854. He will speak at our September meeting.

Reminder – The Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Traffic Calming committee will meet July 31 at 5:30 pm at Forza in the Lincoln Heights Shopping Center.

Do you need repairs on your home? SNAP has available funds. See if you qualify. Call 456- SNAP ext 2421.