

Poulsbo City Councilmember Henry commented that individuals on the two Councils can cooperate and find ways to make businesses come to you. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Franz said that the commute is hard on families in both communities, and both Councils could address economic development together to encourage local businesses. She also recommends collaborating on grants and mentioned that we are currently collaborating with other communities to fund a resource conservation manager. She added that Kitsap County has an Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan which will generate new jobs. Poulsbo City Councilmember Berry-Maraist said that lobbying together is important because multiple jurisdictions have more power. She added that tourism in North Kitsap is very different from other areas in Kitsap because they have distinct communities separated by green space. She recommended they coordinate open space and bike trails as well as collaborate on water quality and stormwater issues. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Brackett agreed that watershed management in North Kitsap is key because all the systems are interrelated. She looks forward to future discussions with the Suquamish Tribe. Poulsbo City Councilmember Sterns said that he discussed the agenda with Chairman Forsman and the Suquamish Tribe will be interested in participating in future discussions although they had conflicts with tonight's meeting. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Franz recommended collaboration in land use ordinance development. Bainbridge Island Councilmember Peters suggested working together with KPUD to bring a fiber optic broadband network to the community. Mayor Erickson said that she would like to get into specifics in future discussions on collaboration. She mentioned that Poulsbo formed a coalition with their hotel/motel funds and wondered if a joint effort with Bainbridge would be a possibility. She recommended that they compare lists of Public Works equipment. She will forward a list of priorities to Interim City Manager Lee Walton. Kitsap County Commissioner Bauer commended the Councils for holding this meeting and asked that they include Kitsap County in future discussions to further promote the efficient sharing of resources. Mayor Scales said that a number of great ideas have been suggested that need to be prioritized. He suggested the respective administrations could examine these ideas, return to their Councils with suggestions and then joint committees could be formed to explore these ideas further.

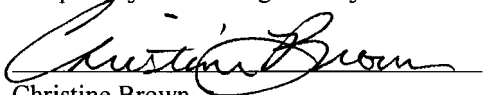
5. CLOSING COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:

Mayor Erickson thanked staff of Poulsbo; the City of Bainbridge Island, especially Interim City Manager Lee Walton and Interim Deputy City Manager McNutt, and Bainbridge Island staff. She said she looks forward to continuing these conversations. She closed by saying that down economies can bring great opportunities.

Mayor Scales thanked Mayor Becky Erickson for initiating this meeting, Poulsbo City Councilmembers and staff from both cities who have been working together on the municipal court project.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

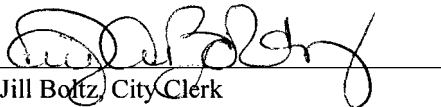
The special joint meeting was adjourned at 9:22 PM.



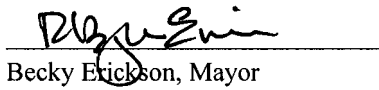
Christine Brown
Paralegal/Deputy City Clerk



Bob Scales, Mayor
City of Bainbridge Island



Jill Boltz, City Clerk



Becky Erickson, Mayor
City of Poulsbo

4. BUSINESS AGENDA:

A. JOINT MUNICIPAL COURTS: Stan McNutt, Bainbridge Island Interim Deputy City Manager, began a presentation, “*The Joint Court Alternatives Study*” for the joint decision path for possible merger or contracting of court services. He presented the chronology of the process to date, the joint administrative team, possible Bainbridge Island alternatives and policy objectives. Mayor Erickson then summarized Poulsbo’s alternatives and policy objectives. She said that both communities are experiencing declining resources and need to do better with less while maintaining levels of service. She said they will need to do careful analysis to make sure this is a benefit to both communities, and there needs to be political will to make this happen. Interim Deputy City Manager McNutt then introduced Dave McCoy, Bainbridge Island Performance Manager, who summarized the study’s objectives, the data collection phases and the court analysis draft implementation schedule.

Questions from Councilmembers. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Brackett said that an analysis of transit connections to the court facilities would be helpful. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Franz asked if various alternatives would be considered, and Interim Deputy City Manager McNutt confirmed that a number of combinations were possible. Poulsbo City Councilmember Lord commented that it is an aggressive timeline, and it will be important to stay on task. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Knobloch said the state of the Bainbridge Island court facilities is an added reason to consider cooperation. He inquired about the facility for the North District Court. He added that there could be space at City Hall for limited court services such as passports and payment of parking tickets. Poulsbo City Councilmember Berry-Maraist recommended that the administrative team look at the Port Angeles and Sequim court model as they have recently collaborated. She also expressed concern about the impacts of an increased court presence on neighbors. She inquired about the next opportunity for the Councils to meet on this issue, and Interim Deputy City Manager McNutt said that May 18, 2010 was the date to form a joint task force. Interim City Manager Walton said that one of the tasks of the joint task force would be to keep the respective Councils informed. Mayor Scales said the two Cities have different but complementary interests. He continued that the City of Bainbridge is faced with a remote and inadequate court facility while the City of Poulsbo has a brand new facility that could bring in revenue if the courts were combined. Mayor Erickson said that there is a main commuter bus within one block of the new City Hall. She added that Kitsap County North District Court will also be located there. She emphasized that any arrangement must be mutually beneficial. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Lester approved the idea of shared resources and the public participation aspect. Poulsbo City Councilmember Henry commented that this would be a big challenge, but Councilmembers have worked on large projects together in the past. Poulsbo City Councilmember Bauman said that finances are a major factor but level of service considerations are also important. He said they should contemplate long-range options as well, such as a combined police/court facility. Poulsbo City Councilmember Rudolph said that there is extra space in the building, and they are actively seeking tenants to augment their finances. He added that the court space is envisioned as future expansion space, and he is also concerned with parking impacts. He reported that Poulsbo merchants were promised 40 new parking spaces and would not like to see them occupied by court visitors. He also expressed concern about the impact on judges and suggested that they may want to continue to have two judges. He commented that they need to address impacts on facility space from a combined court. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Barry Peters agreed that the relationship of a judge to the community is important. He said that he would like to have seen a presentation on the optimal ways the cities can cooperate, and believes they jumped to the conclusion that the merging the courts is the best way to cooperate. He said that the personal service that a court provides, particularly with domestic violence issues, should not be ignored. Bainbridge Island City Councilmember Franz asked how they are valuing the criteria and when would Council look at these issues. Performance Manager McCoy replied that Council will see this information in the first report after Phase 1 and that evaluating the subjective information will be a challenge.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Scales called the special joint meeting of the Bainbridge Island City Council and the Poulsbo City Council to order at 7:01 PM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS:

A. Mayor Scales introduced Bainbridge Island City Councilmembers Kirsten Hytopoulos, Hilary Franz, Kim Brackett, Bill Knobloch, Debbi Lester and Barry Peters.

B. Mayor Scales made opening remarks and welcomed Mayor Becky Erickson and the Poulsbo City Councilmembers. He thanked Mayor Erickson for initiating and organizing the meeting. He said Bainbridge Island and Poulsbo are neighbors that share many of the same interests and face many of the same challenges. He continued that as neighbors, there are ways they can work together for the benefit of both of their communities. He said that tonight they will look at ways to pool their resources to improve services and reduce costs for their respective communities.

C. Mayor Erickson introduced Poulsbo City Councilmembers Dale Rudolph, Jeff Bauman, Jim Henry, Linda Berry-Maraist, Connie Lord and Ed Stern.

D. Mayor Erickson made opening remarks and thanked the City of Bainbridge for hosting the meeting. She believes it is long overdue for the two North-end jurisdictions to come together to share their common interests and common resources. She hopes it will be the first of several meetings and invited the Bainbridge Island City Council to a second meeting at Poulsbo's new City Hall.

E. Mayor Scales introduced Interim City Manager Lee Walton and participants from other agencies:

- Commissioner Steve Bauer, Kitsap County
- Executive Director, Mary McClure, Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council
- Executive Director, Dick Hayes, Kitsap Transit

3. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Barbara Chandler-Young, legal advocate with the YWCA, read a letter from the Linda Kay Joyce, YWCA Director of Kitsap County, about the important connection between the Bainbridge Island Municipal Court and the YWCA domestic violence program. She added that it is very important to have a YWCA domestic violence office on the island to assist families with emergency situations.

Charles Schmidt, 10677 Manitou Park Boulevard, talked about the many changes over the years to transportation on Highway 305 and the importance to the Bainbridge Island community of the trees that screen the highway. He handed out an editorial from the Bainbridge Review.

Don Willott, Chair of Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Commission, North Kitsap Trails Commission Board member, and member of Kitsap County Coordinating Council's Trail Committee, commented on the Sound to Olympics Trail and said it makes sense to put it along Highway 305 on Bainbridge and find a way to share the right-of-way. He believes Dick Hayes will be instrumental in putting this together and hopes they will create a truly integrated system when planning road improvements.

Jean Pearson, Finch Place, commented on public transportation and the needs of disabled citizens and said she hopes the Access bus service will be restored to its former level.

Mimi Stewart, Lovell Avenue Northwest, asked the Bainbridge Island City Council to address no parking signs between Grow Avenue and Lovell Avenue that prevent residents from parking in front of their homes.