



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Vancouver City Hall | Council Chambers | 415 W. 6th St.
PO Box 1995 | Vancouver, WA 98668-1995
www.cityofvancouver.us

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor

Bart Hansen • Ty Stober • Erik Paulsen • Sarah J. Fox • Diana H. Perez • Kim D. Harless

September 18, 2023

WORKSHOPS

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

Workshops were conducted in person in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, or www.facebook.com/VancouverUS.

View the CVTV video recording, including presentations and discussion, for workshops at:

https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/35911?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=7258

4:00-5:00 p.m. Workers' Compensation Insurance

Lisa Takach, Human Resources Director, 360-487-8611

Summary

Staff led Council through a discussion of Worker's Compensation Insurance.

5:00-6:00 p.m. Heights District Project Update

Amy Zoltie, Real Estate Project Manager, 360-487-7953

Summary

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Heights District Project Update.

COUNCIL DINNER/ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting with in person and remote viewing and participation over video conference utilizing a GoToMeeting platform. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/VancouverUS. Public access and testimony on Consent Agenda items and under the Community Forum were also facilitated in person and via the GoToMeeting conference call.

Vancouver City Council meeting minutes are a record of the action taken by Council. To view the CVTV video recording, including presentations, testimony and discussion, for this meeting please visit: https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/35913?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=3069 Electronic audio recording of City Council meetings are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order and Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Vancouver City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McEnerny-Ogle. This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting, including both in person and remotely over video conference.

Present: Councilmembers Harless, Perez, Fox, Paulsen, Stober, Hansen, and Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Absent: None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes - August 28, 2023

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember

Perez, and carried unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of August 28, 2023.

Proclamations: Deaf Awareness Week; National Preparedness Month; Hispanic Heritage Month; National Service Dog Month

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Teresa Stotler-Martin, Representative of Washington School for the Deaf, along with students, proclaiming September 19 - September 25, 2023, as Deaf Awareness Week.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Gene Juve, Emergency Preparedness Manager, and Geraldene Moyle, General Services Director, proclaiming September 2023, as National Preparedness Month.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Nicole Davison Leon, Executive Director, Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber, Javier Navarro, President of Southwest Washington LULAC Council, and Gabriela Mendoza-Ewing, Executive Director of Hispanic Disability Support SW WA, proclaiming September 15 - October 15, 2023, as Public Service Recognition Week.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Kitty Santiago, Representative from Canine Companions, proclaiming September 2023, as National Service Dog Month.

Community Communications

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened Community Communication and received testimony from the following community members regarding any matter on the agenda not scheduled for a Public Hearing:

- Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center, WA
- Dmitri Stoyanoff, Vancouver
- Mark Luke Jolgen, Vancouver

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed Community Communication.

Consent Agenda (Items 1-6)

Council requested items 2 and 4 be pulled for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and carried unanimously to approve items 1, 3, 5 and 6 on the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Hansen, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and carried unanimously to approve item 2 on the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Hansen, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and

carried unanimously to approve item 4 on the Consent Agenda.

1. Bid Award for the W Fourth Plain at Franklin Street Intersection Improvement per ITB 23-30

Staff Report: 174-23

This intersection is currently stop sign controlled on the north and south legs. The intersection is uncontrolled on the east and west legs. With heavier traffic, and higher speed vehicles, pedestrians find it difficult to cross along Fourth Plain without travelling further east and west to existing traffic signals. In addition, this location has ponding water at some of the corners. A traffic signal, along with drainage improvements, will improve both deficiencies.

On August 22 2023, the City received three responsive bids for the subject project. The bids ranged between \$788,232 and \$946,810. The bids are as follows:

SUMMARY OF BIDS	
BIDDER	AMOUNT
Advanced Excavating Specialists, LLC, Kelso, WA	\$788,232
Tapani, Inc, Battle Ground, WA	\$821,128
Western United Civil Group, Yacolt, WA	\$946,810
Clark & Sons Excavating, Inc.	Non-responsive
Engineer's Estimate	\$966,129

Pursuant to City policy, an Apprenticeship Program with a minimum of 3% labor hours will be required as part of this project. The Contractor intends to exceed this goal by utilizing 280 apprenticeship hours out of the total expected 2060 project hours.

Request: Award a contract for the W. Fourth Plain Blvd. and Franklin St. Intersection Improvements Project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Advanced Excavating Specialists, LLC of Kelso, WA at their bid price of \$788,232, which includes Washington State sales tax.

Richard Gamble, Senior Traffic Engineer, 360-487-8251

Motion approved the request.

2. Amend Contractual Amount with Outsiders Inn for Safe Stay Communities 1 and 3

Staff Report: 175-23

An estimated 500-600 individuals reside in tents or vehicles within the City of Vancouver, which poses significant health and safety risks to the

individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, as well as the rest of the community and the environment. At this time, our community does not have an adequate supply of shelter or housing options to meet the growing need. This Council has observed that many individuals who live outdoors on public property do so, not by choice, but due to a lack of financial means to afford adequate shelter. These individuals are adversely mentally and physically impacted by outdoor habitation. Single female encampment occupants experience a disproportionately high incidence of violent crime as compared to other people. Families with children who live outdoors as a result of a lack adequate shelter are also disproportionately adversely impacted through risk of physical danger and impediments to childhood education.

Simultaneously, Council has also observed that the City's sensitive ecological areas are adversely impacted by secondary impacts of outdoor habitation. The City's sensitive waterways, water treatment facilities, stormwater and wastewater facilities are particularly vulnerable to impacts of illegal dumping and improper disposal of human waste. Additionally, individuals living outdoors in greenways and wooded areas, who utilize fire as a source of heat, or to cook with, increase the potential for wildfire in those areas, particularly during our dry/summer months.

In an effort to reduce the aforementioned negative impacts of unsheltered homelessness, provide for greater safety, stability, and access to needed services for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and to remain in compliance with Martin v. Boise, this Council has approved the establishment of city-sponsored Safe Stay Communities in designated areas. These Communities are managed and supported by a contracted service provider who works to ensure safety and sanitation within and immediately surrounding the designated Community, assist Safe Stay Community residents with obtaining stability, accessing needed resources, and transitioning into a more permanent housing situation, and proactively engage with the surrounding neighborhood(s) to mitigate potential negative impacts to the neighborhood, facilitate neighborhood participation and volunteer opportunities within the designated Community, and encourage participation in neighborhood/community events, neighborhood association meetings, etc. amongst Safe Stay Community residents.

This field of work, both locally and across the country, has struggled to maintain the workforce capacity necessary to meet the growing need. Organizations experience high rates of turnover and consistent unfilled job openings, largely due to employee burnout and inadequate pay. It is very common for outreach workers, case managers, and Peers to need the very same resources or supports they assist their clients with accessing due to the continually rising cost of living.

Outsiders Inn is not only a direct service provider, but they've also been

working to provide training and low-barrier re-entry employment opportunities to individuals with lived experiences with homelessness, mental health, substance use, justice involvement, and recovery, as well as increase our local workforce capacity in this field. The Washington State legislature, also recognizing this need, passed new legislation last year to create an actual profession of certified Peer Specialists vs. a simple certification, in an effort to address the workforce shortage and expand access to Peer services. A committee was created to make recommendations regarding implementation, and those recommendations include ensuring that organizations employing Peers are paying their Peers a living wage and creating a variety of certification types.

Additionally, while intended to provide greater opportunities for individuals with lived experience, some of the impacts of this legislation include doubling fees for licensing, adding a requirement for continuing education, which there will be fees for, and adding experience requirements of between 1000-1500 supervised hours for full certification. In preparation for the rollout of these requirements, Outsiders Inn has created a tiered pay structure for employees re-entering the workforce and building their skills and experience (hours they will eventually need for certification). Their new pay structure, included in the proposed contract amendment, is needed to attract and retain entry level employees, retain long-term/more experienced Peers that assist with training new staff, and come into alignment with what the new Peer requirements will be. Along with a more competitive and living wage, Outsiders Inn is looking to offer more meaningful healthcare/insurance benefits than they've previously been able to offer as a smaller, but growing, organization.

Other budget amendments, while not significantly changing the total amount requested, are the addition of a Client Housing Support Fund, and reallocation of unutilized or underutilized line items from the prior budget. For example, not knowing if contracted security would be needed, it has historically been budgeted for. After nearly two years of operating, Outsiders Inn is confident that contracted security is not needed. However, they have experienced challenges and delays in getting people into housing, or addressing some barriers to housing, due to the limited availability of funding for things like move-in costs/deposits, application fees, utility debt, etc. In the current housing market, having immediate access to those funds can be the difference between obtaining housing and remaining in shelter for a significantly longer period of time.

Request: Approve the amendment of a professional services contract with Outsiders Inn of Vancouver, WA, and to authorize the City Manager, or their designee, to execute a contract for delivery of supportive services and site management at city-sanctioned Safe Stay Communities 1 and 3.

Jamie Spinelli, Homeless Response Manager, 360-487-

8610

Motion approved the request.

3. Professional Services Agreement for Water Station 14 Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Treatment System Preliminary Design (RFQ 32-23)

Staff Report: 176-23

Water Station 14 is on a 3.35-acre parcel and has been a municipal water facility serving our community with safe clean drinking water since 1980. The site contains three groundwater wells with a combined capacity of 3,200 gallons per minute, an air stripping tower for pH adjustment, a booster pump station that boosts water into the distribution grid, an emergency back-up generator, disinfection and fluoridation systems. A Water Station 14 site map is attached for reference.

PFAS represent a group of thousands of synthetic chemicals that are prevalent in commercial products and applications. These chemicals do not readily degrade and thus build-up in people, animals and in the environment. Studies reported by the EPA have proven that exposure to high levels of specific PFAS compounds can have adverse health effects. In response, federal and state agencies have proposed regulations to limit the concentrations of specific PFAS compounds in drinking water. In 2022, the Washington State Board of Health established state action levels (SALs) for five PFAS compounds. Additionally, the EPA has proposed a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation to establish maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for six PFAS compounds. A final rule is expected from the EPA in early 2024. Sampling results in 2020 were the first to detect PFAS concentrations in the Water Station 14 wells. Continued sampling has shown consistent levels at or above the implemented SAL and above EPA's 2023 proposed MCL for PFOS and PFOA – the two most prevalent PFAS compounds. Pilot testing is currently underway at Water Station 4 as a means to evaluate PFAS filtration technologies and to acquire data to provide to Washington Department of Health (WDOH) for approval of full-scale filter implementation. The City's water quality monitoring program has included a proactive approach to monitoring PFAS at all the system's water stations. Water Station 14 sampling has consistently been the highest of all water stations and has been at or exceeded the above-mentioned state and federal regulations, and as such, was identified as a priority for treatment. The new PFAS treatment system will allow the water utility to continue to meet the community's expectation of safe, reliable water service.

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ 32-23) for the Water Station 14 PFAS Treatment System Design was issued on April 21, 2023. The scope of work for the professional service's identified in the Request for Qualifications has been divided into two parts to streamline the project scoping; Phase 1 will

include the preliminary design and associated initial permitting tasks and Phase 2 will include final bid-ready plans and specifications for construction. The attached contract is for the scope of work identified as, 'Phase 1: Water Station 14 PFAS Treatment System Design Project'. This portion of the work is expected to take seven months to complete. The completed preliminary design will then be used as the basis for the final design. 'Phase 2: Water Station 14 PFAS Treatment System Final Design' work will follow under a separate contract and approval request to City Council expected next year.

In response to the Request for Qualifications, three engineering firms submitted proposals with statements of qualifications. Brown and Caldwell was selected through the City's evaluation process, and if approved by Council, will act as the design lead while working closely with City staff in the development of the preliminary design.

The City was awarded with \$12.7 million in Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) funding for this project in the form of a forgivable loan (grant). The water utility is currently awaiting the final contract from WDOH that will be presented to Council for approval within the next two months. Once the DWSRF contract is approved by council, the City will be required to have a Water Station 14 construction contract awarded within 18 months. Therefore, it is important to get the design started. As this project will be federally funded, the professional services work is scoped to follow federal loan requirements. The major design element for the Water Station 14 project is the installation of the new PFAS treatment units. Much of the associated design work with the new treatment system is dependent on the selection of the PFAS treatment technology, which will be either ion exchange or granular activated carbon filters.

Brown and Caldwell has proposed an approach that provides a collaborative effort between City staff and their experienced team. They have proven qualifications with the completion of similar municipal water projects of this size and complexity.

Request: Authorize the City Manager or designee to execute a professional services agreement between the City of Vancouver and Brown and Caldwell for an estimated amount not to exceed \$718,700.00.

Mehrin Selimgir, Civil Engineer, 360-487-7128

Motion approved the request.

- 4. Agreement between the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) for VPD member services for Basic Law Enforcement Academy**

Staff Report: 177-23

VPD supports the newly created Southwest Washington Regional Basic Law Enforcement Academy, which will enhance the City's ability to recruit and train future law enforcement officers from Vancouver and nearby communities by removing the barrier for new applicants to travel to Burien, WA to attend the BLEA. The first Southwest Washington Regional BLEA class will begin in early 2024.

VPD has agreed to provide the services of a VPD Lieutenant and Sergeant for the SW Washington Regional BLEA. The VPD Lieutenant will manage and supervise training staff, as well as participate in the implementation, coaching, and evaluation of recruit training. The VPD sergeant will administer and present the Washington State Basic Training Academies held at the Southwest Regional Campus. VPD may also provide to CJTC the part-time services of additional qualified VPD personnel to provide academy instruction and instructional support.

For each of the VPD members assigned to work at the BLEA, CJTC will reimburse the City for the full salary and overtime the VPD member worked in service to the CJTC, including all benefits and all increases to the salary or benefits. The Agreement between VPD and CJTC authorizes such reimbursements.

Request: Authorize the City Manager or their designee to execute the Agreement with CJTC and take all necessary actions to enforce the Agreement terms.

Jeff Mori, Police Chief, 360-487-7421

Motion approved the request.

5. MFTE Code Clean-up

Staff Report: 178-23

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Vancouver relating to changes to the City's Multifamily Housing Tax Exemption Program (MFTE); adopting corrections to recent updates; amending Sections 3.22.020, 3.22.030, and 3.22.040 of the Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) to clarify code language and maps as well as the ownership tax exemption option and associated requirements; providing for severability; and setting an immediate effective date.

On July 3, 2023, City Council adopted substantial changes to the MFTE program. Following the adoption of those changes it was determined that additional clarification language was needed in certain areas of the ordinance. Staff added clarifying language as indicated in the attached ordinance document.

Additionally, the ownership option language was added after the initial code change stakeholder meetings were held in March of 2023. Another stakeholder meeting was held on September 29, 2023, to seek additional comment and answer questions specifically related to the homeownership option language.

Request: Following the September 18, 2023, introduction first reading of the ordinance amendment, proceed on October 2, 2023, to hold a public hearing, consider testimony, deliberate and vote to adopt the proposed amendments to VMC 3.22.

Bryan Monroe, Associate Housing Project Coordinator, 360-487-7958

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Motion approved the request.

6. Approval of Claim Vouchers

Request: Approve claim vouchers for September 18, 2023.

Motion approved claim vouchers in the amount of \$14,769,476.01.

Communications

A. From the Council

B. From the Mayor

C. From the City Manager

Complete Street - SE 34th Street Safety and Mobility Project

Emily Benoit, Senior Transportation Planner, discussed the Complete Street - SE 34th Street Safety and Mobility Project.

Adjournment

7:19 p.m.

DocuSigned by:
Anne McEnerny-Ogle
6C89D9089EC5424...
Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Natasha Ramras

BCF0734E40E94AE...

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

The written comments below are those of the submitter alone and are not representative of the views of CVTV or the City of Vancouver, its elected or appointed officials, or its employees.

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: CHD-TV | Childrens Health Defense
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 10:33:27 AM

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<https://live.childrenshealthdefense.org/chd-tv/events/fluoride-report-or-systematic-review-of-the-science-or-may-4-or-12-30pm-et/fluoride-report-systematic-review-of-the-science-may-4/>
send to council members and MELNECK. Put on public record and confirm that you did.
Thanks from Wynn

Delapena, Amanda

Subject: FW: Watch "The COVID Clots: A Full Measure Town Hall" on YouTube

From: Wynn Grcich [REDACTED] >

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2023 5:27 PM

To: Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>; Dollar, Sarah <Sarah.Dollar@cityofvancouver.us>

Subject: Watch "The COVID Clots: A Full Measure Town Hall" on YouTube

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https://youtu.be/KVGf-XZ3Y_s?si=ST3D5W5JVKvh8wLU .please send to council members and MELNECK. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn.

From: [The Epoch Times](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: Reminder: [REDACTED] shared this with you
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:00:38 AM

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The Epoch Times



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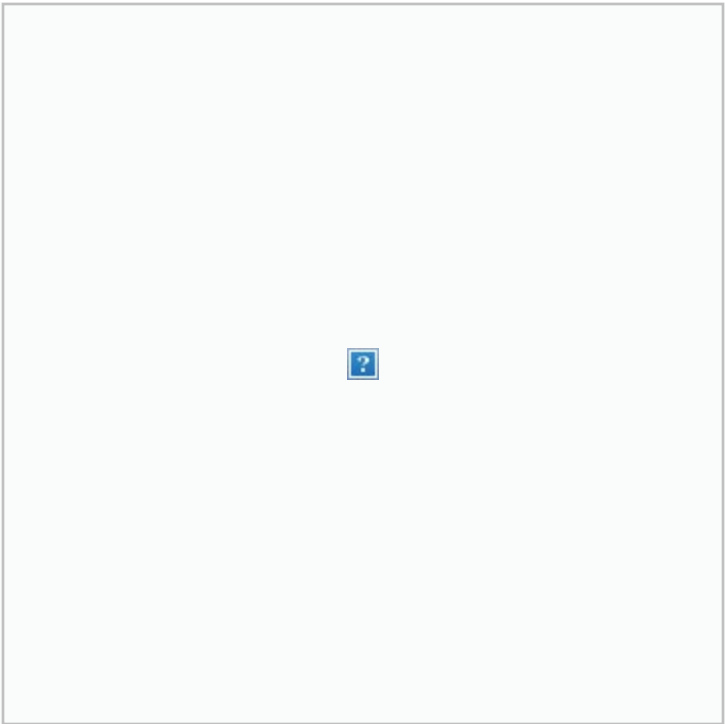
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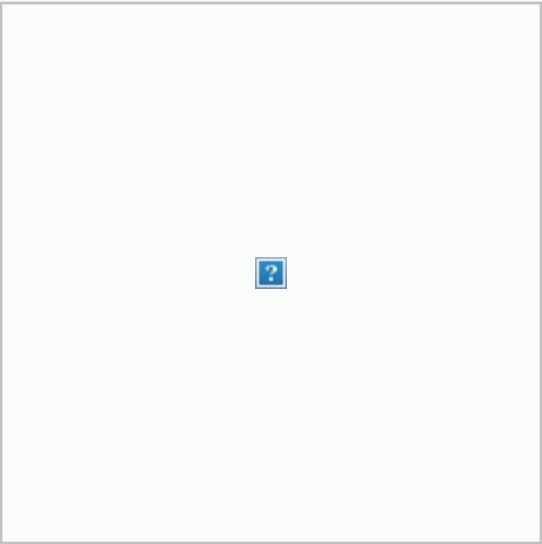
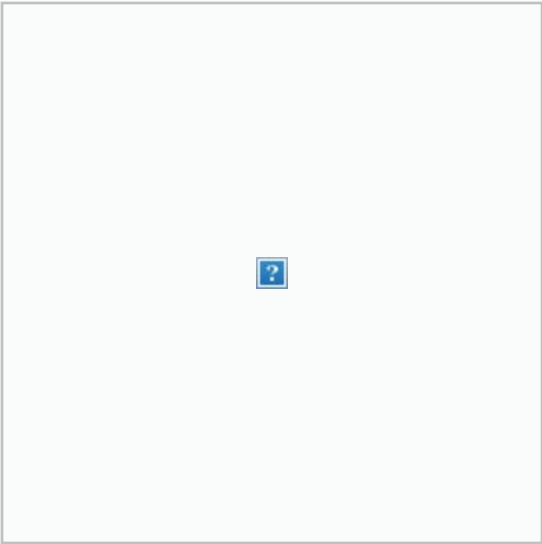
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The Reader's Turn



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From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: Watch "CDC Is Concealing Vital Vaccine Safety Info, Says Brian Hooker w/ Dr. Kelly Victory – Ask Dr. Drew" on YouTube
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 4:51:29 PM

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<https://www.youtube.com/live/SypiFu5OLUM?si=zoYnl6cwkw4Re0ov> please send to council members and MELNECK. Put on public record and confirm that you did. thanks from Wynn
Racism in health care starts with the MMR vaccine that should not be given to young black children. That group of young women at one of the health board meetings studying Racism never brought this up.

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: Watch "Serious adverse events" on YouTube
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:38:09 PM

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<https://youtu.be/vsh5xNjc1Fs?si=D-5sHPaFHmuWFIhd> please send to council members and MELNECK. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn