

BATTLE GROUND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

City Clerk Claire Lider called the roll. The following were:

PRESENT: Mayor John G. Idsinga, Deputy Mayor Hall, and Councilmembers Reinhold, Ganley, Regan and Ciraulo.

ABSENT: Councilmember Walters.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dennis Osborn, Public Works Director / City Engineer Sam Adams, Finance and Information Services Director David Reeves, Community Development Director Brian Carrico, Chief of Police James McDaniel, Police Lieutenant Roy Butler, Interim Deputy City Manager Robert Noland, Executive Assistant Bonnie Gilberti, City Attorney Brian Wolfe, and City Clerk Claire Lider.

PRESS: Brandy Slagle, The Reflector

Moved by Councilmember Ganley and seconded Deputy Mayor Hall to excuse Councilmember Walters as she is at a class in Eastern Oregon for Fred Meyer that is mandatory for her job. Motion carried.

COUNCIL SENTIMENTS

Councilmember Reinhold said that the Rose Float is now having construction on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. He also added that dinner is provided to volunteers. He then added that in addition to the Skate Park Grand Opening on June 2nd, the Portland Rose Float Princesses will be touring the Rose Float barn at 11 a.m. in the same area, Fairgrounds Park.

Deputy Mayor Hall thanked the Council for giving herself, Mayor Idsinga and City Manager Dennis Osborn the opportunity to go to Washington D.C. for the National League of Cities Conference. She said that there were a lot of good classes and networking opportunities and brainstorming. She said it was a good trip with good weather, up until Friday.

Councilmember Ganley said that there is a legislative bill, #5854, regarding utility liens that staff may want to look at. He noted that he had another door flyer on his door. He then passed around pictures of Battle Ground High School from 1984. He noted that there were some pictures of him and Bob Brown from the 1990's. He then passed them around for the Council to see, and noted that he would like to have more historical photos kept at City Hall.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Idsinga said that he and City Manager Dennis Osborn went up to Olympia today for the Transportation Alliance Day. He said that they spoke to Doug McDonald and policy advisors for the Governor, as well as the chair for the senate transportation committee. He discussed briefly the impacts of Initiative 912.

Mayor Idsinga noted that the bid for the interchange has been accepted. He added that, on April 12 there will be an open house for the interchange at the west end of 219th.

He commented that, while he was in Washington D.C., it was stated that there is such a deficit in the trust fund, which funds transportation nationwide, that they cannot even listen to earmarks at this time.

Mayor Idsinga commented that the Art Alliance does a lot and gives a lot back to our community.

City Manager Dennis Osborn introduced Interim Deputy City Manager Robert Noland and the new Executive Assistant, Bonnie Gilberti.

The Council welcomed Mr. Noland and Ms. Gilberti to the City.

Mayor Idsinga said that the Department of Transportation is holding its second community open house to collect further information about the Highway 502 corridor. The open house will take place from 4 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 27, in the Battle Ground High School cafeteria.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

With no public comment, Mayor Idsinga closed this portion of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed below are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests specific items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion prior to the time council votes on the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

1.

- A.** Payroll Vouchers 03/05/2007 #24854 to #24871 for \$42,895.04 and DD \$165,706.28
- B.** Claim Vouchers 02/08/2007 #49873 to #49664 for \$470,644.76
- C.** Claim Vouchers 02/16/2007 #49965 to #50133 for \$473,795.76
- D.** Claim Vouchers 02/28/2007 #50134 to #50237 for \$326,498.03
- E.** Minutes of the February 5, 2007 City Council Meeting
- F.** Minutes of the February 20, 2007 City Council Meeting
- G.** Minutes of the February 26, 2007 City Council Study Session
- H.** Battle Ground Little League and Highlands Little League Fairgrounds Park Contract

Moved by Councilmember Ciraulo and seconded by Councilmember Ganley to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Parks Foundation Report: Presentation

Mayor Idsina noted that this item will be moved to a future meeting due to presenter Phyllis Goldhammer being ill.

Library Presentation by Fort Vancouver Regional Library: Presentation

Mayor Idsinga introduced Fort Vancouver Regional Library Executive Director Bruce Ziegman who would be presenting an update on the library's efforts.

Mr. Ziegman said that the largest grant was just received for the library by the Meyer Trust. He then explained how the library has \$2.9 million dollars and they need a total of \$3.4 million to reach their goal. He said that there is a major effort to finish this project off. He said that the plan is to build a 13,000 square foot library. He noted that there will be land adjacent to the building, so there will be room for future expansion. He said that, in the interim, Dennis Pavlina would build out the future area with landscaping and parking.

He then showed pictures of the building. He explained that the interior design has made a lot of progress. Mr. Ziegman showed a picture of the floor plan and noted that the library has tried to incorporate all the community input that they have received. He said that the library will hold 70,000 books, over 20 computers, study rooms, and have seating for 60 people.

He said that there is currently only seating for 12 people.

Mr. Ziegman said that their groundbreaking goal is October 2007. He said that the library will do everything they can to achieve this goal and that the Meyer Grant has gotten them a lot closer to meeting this goal.

Ms. Jane Higgins clarified that grants are very "tricky". She said that they do not get the grant money until they have every penny of the rest of the money. Ms. Higgins explained that the sooner they get the rest of the money, the sooner they can put the additional grant money in the bank and start generating interest.

Ms. Higgins then gave an update on their fundraising process.

Councilmember Ciraulo inquired as to whether or not the goal included furnishings and books

Mr. Ziegman said that the furnishings and books would be moved from the old library, and added that this effort is focusing on "bricks and mortar", as books are easier to get.

Mayor Idsinga told the Friends of the Library and the Fort Vancouver Regional Library that they have done an awesome job and that the new library would be an asset to the community. He thanked them for the presentation.

Proposed Adjustment to the Transportation Impact Fee to Reflect the Additional Costs for Rasmussen Boulevard: Presentation

Community Development Director Brian Carrico gave a PowerPoint Presentation entitled, "Rasmussen Traffic Impact Fee Program Amendment":

- Introduction
 - Transportation plan includes Rasmussen Boulevard from Parkway Avenue to SR 503 as an improvement.
 - Because of the system wide benefit, it is also reflected in the Traffic Impact Fee Program.
 - The current TIF program uses a cost of \$500,000.
 - The plan also includes \$350,000 for the signal at 503 and Rasmussen but it is not included in the TIF program.
- Proposed Amendment
 - The developer of the Cottonwood Terrace obtained an estimate of \$865,325 for constructing the roadway along the project frontage. This represents 58% of the total project but exceeds the total amount used in the plan and TIF.
 - Utilizing the estimate as a basis staff calculated a total project cost of \$1.4 million.
 - This would increase the TIF by \$4.75 per trip.
 - If the intersection improvement was increased to \$500,000 and included in the TIF program, it would increase the TIF by an additional \$2.64 per trip.
 - Current TIF rate is \$285.40 per trip and \$2,731.28 for a single family residence.
 - The revised TIF would be \$292.79 and \$2,802.
- Map showing the recommended Street Functional Classification System.

He explained the options that the Council could take, as presented in the City Council packet.

It was the consensus of the City Council to move ahead with the impact fee amendment and to direct staff to come back with a Resolution for the Council to consider.

Ordinance No. 07 – 02, Cross Connection Control: Presentation

City Clerk Claire Lider read Ordinance No. 07 – 02 by title.

Public Works Director / City Engineer Sam Adams said that this is the fourth time that this item has been before Council. He said that because it has been before the Council on multiple occasions, he would not go into detail on the matter, but he would answer any questions that the Council had brought up during the last time this was discussed.

Mr. Adams said that the last time, the Council had brought up the question of putting a program into place to help the elderly, those on a fixed income. He said that, in talking to Finance and Information Services Director, David Reeves, this would be a program similar to the utility program that the North County Food Bank Administers on behalf of the City. He said that the other way this program could be managed would be to have the program be facilitated in-house.

Moved by Councilmember Ciraulo and seconded by Councilmember Ganley to approve Ordinance #07 – 02 as presented.

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Councilmember Reinhold said that he thought that the program would be better run through the food bank.

There was discussion about the wording of Section A, the last sentence which allowed additional inspections at the Public Works Director's discretion.

There was discussion about people refusing services and how to take the steps to manage these instances.

There was discussion on lawn systems that were installed without a permit.

Call for the vote: Ayes, Councilmembers Ganley, Reinhold, Regan, Ciraulo, Deputy Mayor Hall and Mayor Idsinga. Nays, none. Motion carried.

No Parking Ordinance Update: Presentation

Public Works Director / City Engineer Sam Adams said that this topic has been discussed administratively and it is now coming back for the Council's review. He explained that the main focus is SE Grace Avenue along the Operations Center (west). He showed a map of the no parking area and summarized the area in accordance to the City Council packet. He said that this is just a discussion item to see if Council wanted to move forward with this item, he added that he thought that some of the problems may go away after Grace Avenue is widened.

There was discussion regarding SE Grace Avenue along the Operations Center.

Mr. Adams said that he would bring back the width of area in front of 3 Kings as per Mayor Idsinga's request.

Mr. Adams said that the next no parking proposal is on SW Scotton Way, which he added is a short area. He said that when events are taking place, it is very difficult to see, due to the fact that there is a lot of additional street parking.

He then showed a map of SE Clark Avenue from SE Rasmussen Boulevard to SE 10th Street (east). Mr. Adams said that he thinks this area is having issues because it is close to no parking areas so the parking has shifted to this area. He noted that 500 vehicles travel down this road daily. He said that he would recommend that the Council have them do a petition drive since some neighbors want this, in an effort to gauge if neighbors would like to see this area become a no parking zone.

Mayor Idsinga suggested looking at width standards in relationship to high traffic areas.

There was discussion regarding no parking on SE Clark Avenue from SE Rasmussen Boulevard to SE 10th Street, as to whether it was a safety issue or not.

Mr. Adams noted that they could look at "no truck parking" versus "no parking" by the Public Works facility.

There was continued discussion regarding no parking on SE Clark Avenue from SE Rasmussen Boulevard to SE 10th Street as to whether it was a safety issue or not.

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Mr. Adams said that there was not a high accident rate in this area.

There was discussion regarding the future of Grace Avenue.

There was discussion about where parking might move if no parking were to be placed in some areas.

Mayor Idsinga also suggested reviewing parking standards.

Mr. Adams noted that “spill over” is mostly due to special events.

Mayor Idsinga summarized the thoughts of the City Council:

No Parking Area #1 – the Council is comfortable with limiting trucks and allowing cars.

No Parking Area #2 – this area should be a no parking zone and it should be painted red.

No Parking Area #3 – the Council did not believe it should be a no parking zone, as it would just displace the cars into another area.

Mr. Adams said he would report back to the Council in April about this issue.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief of Police James McDaniel announced that Police Officer Glen Erickson, a 22-year veteran of the Battle Ground Police Department, will retire this month. He noted that he will be replacing Brent Gullickson’s vacated position at the Battle Ground School District. He said that Mr. Erickson would like to have a “low-key” retirement party. He said that the event will be held on the last Friday of the month. He noted that we currently are reviewing 3 entry-levels and 1 lateral, so we may fill all vacancies in the Police Department soon.

Councilmember Ciraulo gave accolades to the Police Department for their efforts in helping out the Old Town area of Battle Ground.

Public Works Director / City Engineer Sam Adams gave an update on the Battle Ground Sports Complex.

Mr. Adams said that he had asked staff to start looking at sites to store Public Works equipment and material. He said that the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has a 5-acre site on West Main, on south side of Main Street, and the City has started having discussions on using the site for storage. He said that they are conducive with letting the City use site. He said that WSDOT may consider the area as surplus, and he is continuing to research this as a potential future site for storage.

Mr. Adams then gave an update on Ridgefield’s options with Clark Regional Waste Water District as well as other options that were before Ridgefield relative to sewer. He said that he would keep the Council apprised of what the City of Ridgefield’s options, decisions, etc. are.

Mr. Adams then gave an update on Clark Public Utilities and a potential water lines trade.

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City Manager Dennis Osborn said that now that the Skate Park's concrete work is finished, people are skating in the park, he noted that this is an issue management will be addressing.

Moved by Councilmember Reinhold and seconded by Deputy Mayor Hall to enter into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition for 15 minutes, with a potential for possible action. Motion carried.

There was a 3-minute break at 8:07 p.m.

Executive Session began at 8:10 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.

INFORMATION

Public Works Operations monthly report
Information only.

Finance Department monthly report
Information only.

Engineering Department monthly report
Information only.

Police Department monthly report
Information only.

Fire Department monthly report
Information only.

Community Development Department monthly report
Information only.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

John Idsinga,
Mayor

Claire Lider,
City Clerk

Meetings of the Battle Ground City Council are recorded on audio tapes. These tapes are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six (6) years.