

BATTLE GROUND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 2, 2007

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

- PRESENT:** Mayor John G. Idsinga, Deputy Mayor Sandra Hall and Councilmembers Reinhold, Ciraulo, Ganley, Regan, and Walters.
- ABSENT:** None.
- ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager Dennis Osborn, Interim Deputy City Manager Bob Noland, Community Development Director Brian Carrico, Chief of Police James McDaniel, Finance and Information Services Director David Reeves, Executive Assistant Bonnie Gilberti, City Attorney Brian Wolfe and City Clerk Claire Lider.
- PRESS:** Brandy Slagel, The Reflector

COUNCIL SENTIMENTS

Councilmember Ganley said that, at the C-TRAN meeting, last month, there was discussion on a rate increase. He added that he would like to wait a year before implementing any rate changes as C-TRAN is currently going through route changes. He further explained that he thought that waiting on the rate increase would help to get ridership numbers up. He said that there would be a public hearing, next Tuesday, on this issue.

Councilmember Ganley noted that the "Every 15 Minutes" program that the Battle Ground Police Department helped with at Battle Ground High School was great. He said that he had Police Officer Brian Archer in his class and said that Officer Archer related well to the students and did a good job.

Councilmember Ganley said that he attended the Transportation Improvement Board meeting in Yakima. He added that, as is everyone else, projects are short on funding. He said that the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board Annual Report has been issued and then he passed the report around for the Council to see. He noted that there is information about the Small Cities Paving Program and he explained that this is something that cities under 5,000 are eligible for. He asked Mayor Idsinga to talk to the smaller city's mayors about this program.

Councilmember Ganley passed around the, "Tiger Tail", the Battle Ground High School newspaper, and noted that there was an article on the sniper threat that occurred and there was also a great article on the skate park. He said that he thought that the kids are really excited about the park.

Councilmember Reinhold gave an update on the construction on the Rose Float; he mentioned that dinner is provided every night on construction days. He noted that he heard rumors about illegal activity in the skate park and added that he hoped people would give skaters a chance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Idsinga said that Chamber President Diane Rivera conducted the first Harvest Days meeting to go over the changes for this year's event. Mayor Idsinga thanked her for this meeting and said that changes are needed as we are evolving. He said that if anyone were interested in volunteering for the event to let Ms. Rivera know.

Mayor Idsinga announced that he had spent the day at WSU during Project Citizen. He said that Project Citizen is where kids from different schools get together to discuss issues such as roads, etc. He said that they get to pick a project and determine how they would help the project. He said there was a phenomenal group of kids, which were comprised of 11 teams from the Evergreen School District.

He said that Officer Glen Erickson had a retirement party and he thanked all that attended. He said that he was an officer with the Battle Ground Police Department for 23 years.

Mayor Idsinga noted that the new Street Sweeper was parked outside. He said that the sweeper is really great to have and it will serve the City well for years to come.

Mayor Idsinga asked for a motion to appoint Marc Ratcliff to Position #1 on the Parks Advisory Board.

Moved by Councilmember Ciraulo and seconded by Councilmember Ganley to appoint Marc Ratcliff to Position #1 on the Parks Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Councilmember Walters noted that the thank you cards from Hockinson elementary students were very cute.

Mayor Idsinga added that he and City Manager Dennis Osborn spent a morning in Betsey Kenworthy's class. He said that the class built a City, from Indian teepees to a functional City. He said that she has been doing this for years. He said that they spent 10 – 15 minutes in each of the 7 classrooms who participated in the activity and it was a lot of fun.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Diane Rivera, Battle Ground Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Rivera thanked Mayor Idsinga for the recap of the Harvest Days planning meeting. She said that the event would take into account new ideas. She said that the first Community Meeting was fairly well attended and she received a lot of response. Ms. Rivera added that the permit is almost complete and she is now just awaiting a professional map. She said that she is not requesting to close Main Street and said that she thought it would be better for business and the City. She added that she wants to make sure everyone is happy and she is looking forward to the event. She said that she would have an improved carnival company this year.

Ms. Rivera thanked City staff for their help through the Fairgrounds Park changes.

Ms. Rivera said that people should contact the Chamber office if they would like to volunteer during the event.

Beth Weston, 314 NE 3rd Avenue, Battle Ground, WA

Ms. Weston said that she would first like to say that she is a Laidlaw bus school driver, and that the Battle Ground Police Department did an awesome job during the school threats. She commented that they did a great job staging the kids. She then asked if the Council was familiar with Adrienne DeDona, who had worked with her, and when she called the City she was told she was no longer there. She stated her concern that there would be no City personnel to help address her concerns.

Ms. Weston was directed to Executive Assistant Bonnie Gilberti to address her concerns.

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 03/20/2007 #24874 to #24883 for \$7,005.00 and DD \$47,925.00
- B.** Claim Vouchers 03/02/2007 #50258 to #50332 for \$430,557.79
- C.** Claim Vouchers 03/09/2007 #50333 to #50406 for \$245,001.65

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

Ordinance No. 07 – 07, An Ordinance Amending the Traffic Impact Fee in the City of Battle Ground, Washington: Consideration

City Clerk Claire Linder read Ordinance No. 07 – 07 by title.

Community Development Director Brian Carrico said that this item first came before City Council in March, in an effort to reflect the revised costs of increased construction costs for the Rasmussen Boulevard Phase 1 project and the inclusion of the SR 503 and Rasmussen Boulevard intersection improvements. He said that at that time Council had directed staff to effectuate that change.

He explained that the proposed projects are included in the revised Comprehensive Plan and are system benefits that are eligible for inclusion in the traffic impact fee program. He said that the current TIF program includes the roadway as project 14, Rasmussen, SR 503 to Parkway, with a current project cost of \$500,000. The TIF program calculates that 47.9% of the project will benefit new growth and is TIF eligible resulting in the TIF funding \$239,5000 of the project.

Staff estimates that the total project will be \$1.4 million dollars. He noted that inclusion of the signal at Rasmussen and SR 503 is on the Capital Facilities Plan but not the TIF project. He said that this would have a system wide benefit and is included in the plan as \$350,000, but it is proposed to increase to \$500,000.

If both projects were included the TIF would increase by \$7.39 per trip, which would increase the TIF to \$292.79 per trip.

There was discussion about SR 503 and Onsdorff.

Moved by Councilmember Ganley and seconded by Councilmember Reinhold to approve Ordinance #07 – 07 as presented. Call for the vote: Ayes, Councilmembers Ganley, Walters, Reinhold, Regan, Ciraulo, Deputy Mayor Hall and Mayor Idsinga. Nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 07 – 04, A Resolution Setting the City of Battle Ground Traffic Impact Fee: Consideration

Finance and Informational Services Director David Reeves said that this resolution would set the new traffic impact fee previously discussed during Mr. Carrico's agenda item, effective May 1, 2007.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hall and seconded by Councilmember Reinhold to adopt Resolution No. 07 – 04 as presented. Motion carried.

Update on Proposed Tukes Mountain Annexation: Presentation

Community Development Director Brian Carrico explained that, on previous occasions, the Council had expressed a desire to pursue annexation of the Tukes Mountain neighborhood located north of Main Street and directly east of the present municipal boundaries. He said that staff has had a number of discussions with members of the homeowners associations and would like to brief the Council on the status. He noted that a formal annexation request has not been received as of yet.

The potential annexation request includes approximately 29 acres consisting of 20 parcels containing 19 residents. The Comprehensive Plan designates the area as Urban Low residential. The pre-annexation zoning is R3. The property is predominately developed with an average parcel size of 1.4 acres.

Mr. Carrico said that staff has met with the homeowners association to discuss concerns they have with the annexation. He then reviewed the list of conditions that the City may want to consider in making the annexation as follows:

1 – The area to be annexed shall be inclusive of the area indicated above. The City may not increase the area to be annexed for this proposal.

2 – The zoning of the annexation area shall be R3. The City will allow development consistent with this district.

Options: No additional development.
 Some levels of development but not at R3 density.

3 – The Tukes Mountain Homeowners Association currently owns and operates the water supply system serving the development. The City agrees that the annexation of the property will not result in the ownership or operation of the water system being transferred to the City. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to affect the existing agreement between the City and the water system owner to provide emergency water supplies. Should the City and the water system owners decide that transferring ownership and operations to the City would be mutually beneficial, it shall be accomplished under a separate agreement.

4 – The roads within the proposed annexation are to be private, unless it is mutually beneficial to the association and the City.

5 – The agreement shall be in full force and affect for ten years. After such time, the general rules governing all property within the City shall apply.

Mr. Carrico stated that the annexation process has not been initiated. He said that there are a number of ways that this could occur:

- Election method initiated by 10% petition;
- Election method initiated by City Council resolution;
- 60% petition method initiated by 10% petition;
- Alternative petition (50/50) method initiated by 10% petition.

Mr. Carrico said that this item is for information only.

There was discussion on:

- Sewer.
- Department of Natural Resources lands in relation to this area.
- Assessed value of the area.

Mr. Carrico said that the assessed value of the land is a “hair under \$8 million dollars” he said that the average parcel is worth about \$400,000.

There was discussion on:

- The water system.
- The homeowners association maintaining the roads.

Mayor Idsinga asked if the Council should initiate a resolution.

Page six

Mr. Carrico said that the Council does not need to decide right now. He said that the best way to get consensus is through the 60% annexation method.

Steven Laws, 22014 NE 150th Avenue, Battle Ground, WA

Mr. Laws introduced himself as the Treasurer for the Tukes Mountain Homeowners Association. He thanked staff for their efforts. He said that the HOA is looking to get together to protect property rights, and that this has been addressed more than satisfactory. He explained that discussions have taken place at the HOA meetings and members have been polled about this issue and he thought that it might be moving forward. He said that they would have a vote to continue talking to the City to come to a preannexation agreement at the April 29, 2007 annual meeting. Mr. Laws said that he felt that the "ball is in their court" and they are going to look to expedite matters and he would like to get details solidified and agreed upon.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee: Presentation

Finance and Informational Services Director David Reeves explained that this presentation is designed to refresh the Council on the requirements of the Lodging Tax. He noted that it has come up as it is time to take action, but before they can action, they have to appoint a Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Mr. Reeves said that the City of Battle Ground has elected to levy 4% for years. However there has been no hotel to levy the tax from and with the opening of a new hotel, the committee will need to be appointed. He said that the committee must have at least five members, appointed by the City. Two representatives of businesses that are required to collect the hotel-motel tax, two people who are involved in activities that are authorized to be funded by the tax, and one City official who serves as the chairperson of the committee.

He noted that the City has received an application from a hotelier, Mr. Alkesh Patel, which is included in the Council packet. He said that the appointing of the committee is at the Mayor and Council's discretion.

Councilmember Reinhold stated that he is still interested in an elected official position on the Board.

Mayor Idsinga said that he would like to do the motion all at once. He added that he thought Mr. Patel and Doug Quinn would be good members on the board. He said that the City would need to find two additional members. Mayor Idsinga said that this item would be brought back.

Mr. Reeves briefly explained what the lodging tax funds could and couldn't be used for, he said that he would research what Longview has used the funds for and report back to the Council.

Councilmember Ganley asked if the funds could be used for signs.

Mr. Reeves said he would look into this.

Page seven

Administrative Reports

Community Development Director Brian Carrico gave an update on the Old Town Battle Ground Merchants Association and said that in May they might be looking into putting on a Fun Run.

Councilmember Ganley suggested Battle Ground High School's head track coach Kevin Donovan would be a good contact.

Mr. Carrico noted that the City has been receiving a lot of permits for special events. He said that he might have a list for next Council meeting for the Council to review.

Mr. Carrico noted that there was potential for a mural to be done at the Andersen Dairy site.

Chief of Police James McDaniel announced that Police Officer Chris Crouch has been selected as the City's canine officer. He noted that he is hoping to put together training for Officer Crouch. Chief McDaniel said that, hopefully in the next week or so, he hoped to go down to Southern California to get a dog picked out.

City Manager Dennis Osborn asked which Councilmembers would be attending the Association of Washington Cities Annual Conference.

It was noted that Mayor Idsinga, Councilmember Reinhold and Ciraulo would be attending.

Mr. Osborn announced that Mr. Doug Fico from the Columbia River Crossing would be coming to a future City Council meeting to present alternatives.

He then said that he had a conference call with the Prothman Company at the end of last week. He said that he has a good pool of applicants for the Deputy City Manager position, and that he is looking forward to going through the applications.

Executive Session

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hall and seconded by Councilmember Ganley to enter into Executive Session for 5 -10 minutes on property acquisition with no action to follow. Motion carried.

There was a 5 – minute break at 8:00 p.m.

Executive Session began at 8:06 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:17 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

John G. 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.