



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

April 16, 2007

Monday, 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Asay called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Present were Councilmember's Beaudry, Borek, Drotz, Heddlesten, Neal, Sirack and Whalen.

STAFF PRESENT: Interim City Administrator Carter, Public Works Director Neal, Planning & Community Development Director Terrell, Police Chief Rhoads and Deputy City Clerk Daker.

Mayor Asay asked Chief Rhoads to inform council and citizens of an emergency situation in the City of Orting: the city's wells have been contaminated with an unknown substance. This is preliminary information and Pierce County's Hazmat team have been called in, but he felt that it was important to keep the council and citizens updated.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

Councilmember Whalen added a discussion on council committee meetings – item K on the main agenda.

Mayor Asay moved up the Public Hearing in the agenda – to immediately follow the proclamation.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Asay read a proclamation, recognizing the week of April 29th through May 5th, 2007, as Municipal Clerks Week.

AB07-058 Public Hearing: Storm Water Rates:

Mayor Asay asked Director Neal to come forward and brief the council and citizens on the storm water rates. Councilmembers asked clarifying questions of Director Neal.

Mayor Asay opened the Public Hearing at 7:16 P.M.

Sally Wasmund, 1804 13th Ave., commented that the rate increase will hurt those who are on a fixed income.

Ed Weinbrecht, 1508 Hemlock St., would like to know where the money goes and what's causing the increase.

Fred Wilhelm, 1604 23rd Ave., commented that property taxes were raised for those living on Surprise Lake and now he's going to get charged to hold the City's storm water. He thinks the rate increase is too much.

Ken Klontz, 1606 23rd Ave., asked what the "outfall" consists of. Mayor Asay said that Director Neal would address his question once the Public Hearing is closed.

Mayor Asay closed the Public Hearing at 7:21 P.M.

Director Neal explained that the Surprise Lake "outfall" is summarized in the storm water utility report. Basically, there are pipes that control the out-flow of Surprise Lake. Mr. Wilhelm manually manipulates whether they are opened or closed. The pipes become plugged from time to time. Director Neal shared her concerns about the issue.

Mayor Asay allowed a couple citizens to comment on Director Neal's explanation:

Fred Wilhelm, 1604 23rd Ave., commented on Director Neal's explanation and noted that, in the past, he requested a little fence to put around the pipe to keep kids out.

Ken Klontz, 1606 23rd Ave., asked who in the City has the expertise to monitor the outfall of Surprise Lake and if the City would be sending an employee out to take care of the pipe on a regular basis.

Mayor Asay asked Director Terrell to answer a question asked by Councilmember Whalen.

Director Neal requested direction from council. Councilmember Drotz requested an analysis with the dollar amount collected and what the money was used for. Councilmember Beaudry suggested that it be brought back to a study session.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Director's Reports were given by the Finance, Fire, Planning & Community Development, Public Works, and Police Department. Directors from the various departments were present for questions and comments.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Diane Tomaso, 1709 Milton Way, requested that council discuss the bus stops on Milton Way in a study session; she also commented on conditional use permits being published in the Tacoma Weekly, not in the Signal.

Fred Wilhelm, 1604 23rd Ave., asked if there is a design standard for homes in the City. Mayor Asay informed him that there's not. Also, he thinks there should be a traffic signal at the skateboard park.

Bonnie Porter, membership development representative for the Fife Regional Chamber, informed council and citizens that there is a new business opening up soon in Milton: ACE Hardware – the ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on May 11th.

Cyndi Baker, 401 25th Ave. Pl., informed council that she put in her application to continue as a member of the Planning Commission.

Jack Chandler, 79 23rd Ave., presented some handouts to the council. The Veterans memorial was tagged and vandalized. He shared his concern regarding not getting support from all councilmembers, however, he thanked councilmembers individually for their support. Mr. Chandler spoke briefly about the significance of the memorial. He noted that the dedication of the memorial will be held on May 28th at 2:00 P.M.

Ed Weinbrecht, 1508 Hemlock St., commented on the sound system and would like it on the council's agenda in the near future.

Mayor Asay allowed Councilmember Heddlesten to comment on the veteran's memorial.

Milton Loflin, 1810 11th Ave., commented about council committees: wants council to consider an intergovernmental committee – to cooperate and meet with Edgewood and Fife regularly to discuss parks, storm water, police issues, etc.

Robert MacDonald, 1308 15th Ave., commented on the vandalism on the VFW memorial. He suggested that a barrier of some sort be placed by the memorial to protect it.

Gerry Miller, 1105 25th Ave. Ct., spoke as a citizen, commenting on the Planning Commission Work Plan. He thinks the City needs to figure out what the impact of the SR 167 project will have on the City.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- (A) Minutes: March 5, 2007; March 12, 2007; March 19, 2007
- (B) April 5th Payroll: direct deposits, checks and benefits in the amount of \$194,758.41.
- (C) Checks/Vouchers: numbers 12844 – 12909, in the amount of \$585,315.34.
- (D) Approval of a budget adjustment for an additional FTE for the Electric Division, for an amount of \$107,384 annual wages with benefits, and authorize the hiring of an additional journeyman lineman.
- (E) Acceptance of a grant from the Department of Ecology in the amount of \$22,500 for restoration work on the Hylebos Creek.
- (F) Authorize the Mayor to enter into a five year leasing program for Dodge Police Vehicles and that a budget adjustment be made to the criminal justice fund, allowing approximately \$22,000 from the ending fund resources to be utilized for three vehicles

Councilmember Whalen pulled the March 19, 2007 minutes as well as consent agenda items (b), (e) and (f).

Councilmember Beaudry moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilmember Borek seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

After a brief discussion, Councilmember Whalen moved to approve the March 19, 2007 minutes. Councilmember Beaudry seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Agenda Item B: Councilmember Whalen shared some comments and concerns then moved to approve \$110,000 of the payroll. Councilmember Sirack seconded.

Mayor Asay explained why the information Councilmember Whalen was requesting can't be disclosed. Councilmembers discussed this issue.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion failed 0-7.

Councilmember Borek moved to approve the payroll as stated. Councilmember Beaudry seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Robert MacDonald, 1308 15th Ave., commented on the payroll issue.

Consent Agenda Item E: Councilmember Whalen commented that he is in agreement of the acceptance of the grant. Councilmember Whalen moved to approve the grant. Councilmember Sirack seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Agenda Item F: Councilmember Whalen shared comments on cameras in the police vehicles. Councilmember Heddlesten commented on the cameras not being part of the budget. Mayor Asay addressed this by saying it was included in the criminal justice fund. Councilmember Drotz requested that any information on cameras be presented to council by Police Chief Rhoads.

Aside from the issue, Councilmember Heddlesten moved to do away with council committees. Councilmember Drotz seconded.

Councilmembers briefly discussed council committees.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion failed 2-5.

Back on the subject of leasing police vehicles, Councilmember Whalen moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into a five year leasing program for Dodge Police Vehicles and that a budget adjustment be made to the criminal justice fund, allowing approximately \$22,000 from the ending fund resources to be utilized for three vehicles. Councilmember Sirack seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Asay recessed the meeting for approximately 5 minutes at 8:45 P.M. and reconvened the meeting at 8:54 P.M.

MAIN AGENDA:

AB07-012B Planning Commission Work Plan:

Mayor Asay expressed a need for Director Terrell to explain what a comprehensive plan is. She also suggested that the work plan be set on hold until the council gets together for a retreat to look at council's visions for the City. Mayor Asay requested that the council let her know what their wishes are.

Councilmember Borek suggested that the council get together as soon as possible to discuss this issue. Councilmembers held a brief discussion.

Mayor Asay requested that each councilmember get 3 available dates, convenient for them to attend a special meeting, to Katie as soon as possible.

Planning Commissioners Swanson, Miller and Casey shared their thoughts on the council getting together during a special meeting, to clarify what information and direction needs to be passed from the council to the Planning Commission.

AB07-026A Reader Board Bids:

Councilmember Heddlesten moved that the purchase of a changeable message board sign be awarded to DC Electric Signs in the amount of \$15,169.38, plus applicable taxes. Councilmember Sirack seconded.

Councilmember Whalen asked if it was a dual-sided sign. Interim City Administrator said that it is.

Robert MacDonald, 1308 15th Ave., commented on the brightness of the reader board and requested that proper lighting be looked into.

Mayor Asay excused herself from the meeting at 9:27 P.M. and Mayor Pro Tem Beaudry took the Chair.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Beaudry called for the vote. Motion carried 7-0.

AB07-046A Pacific Highway Speed Limit, Ordinance 1693-07:

Mayor Asay resumed the Chair at 9:31 P.M.

Councilmember Neal moved that Ordinance 1693-07, setting a speed limit of 45mph on SR 99 within the city limits of Milton, be approved. Councilmember Borek seconded.

Councilmember Heddlesten stated that this issue was brought up at the last meeting and didn't pass. He wanted to know why it keeps coming back.

Councilmember Drotz commented that the Economic Development Board received a request, from local businesses, to lower the speed limit to 45mph.

Councilmembers continued to discuss the signage for the speed limit on SR 99.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion carried 6-1.

AB07-057A School Impact Fee Agreement, Ordinance 1694-07:

Interim City Administrator Carter presented this item to the council.

Councilmember Beaudry moved that Ordinance 1694-07, amending the Milton Municipal Code to provide that the Fife School District is responsible for collecting School Impact Fees, be approved. Councilmember Drotz seconded.

Councilmember Whalen asked a clarifying question regarding Section C in the ordinance.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilmember Beaudry moved that an amendment to the Fife School District Interlocal Agreement, making the School District responsible for collecting school impact fees, be approved. Councilmember Neal seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Asay updated the council on the issue of the City of Orting's wells at 9:38 P.M.

AB07-037A Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners Nominations:

Councilmember Whalen moved that nominee Dave Enslow, Mayor of the City of Sumner, fill the at-large position elected by the 14 small cities and towns within Pierce Transit's boundary. Councilmember Drotz seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

AB07-059 City Prosecutor Contract:

Councilmember Beaudry moved that the contract with Susan Mahoney and Krista White Swain to serve as City Prosecutor by approved, as submitted. Councilmember Sirack seconded.

Councilmembers Whalen and Heddlesten commented on the contract and asked clarifying questions.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion carried 7-0.

AB07-060 Repeal Original Logo, Ordinance 1695-07:

Councilmember Drotz moved that Ordinance 1695-07, repealing Chapter 1.09 of the Milton Municipal Code, be approved. Councilmember Borek seconded.

Councilmember Whalen asked a clarifying question.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Asay called for the vote. Motion carried 7-0.

AB07-048A Tabled Logo, Ordinance 16xx-07:

Councilmember Drotz moved to remove AB07-048A from the agenda. Councilmember Borek seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion – City Administrator Selection Process:

Councilmember Whalen had requested that this item be included on the agenda. He shared his thoughts on moving forward with the process of hiring a permanent City Administrator.

Councilmember Heddlesten commented that it was his understanding that the Interim City Administrator was hired to evaluate whether or not the City was in need of a permanent City Administrator.

Mayor Asay stated that an ordinance was brought to council, passed and approved, stating that the City Administrator position would be a permanent position.

Discussion – Council Committee Meetings:

Councilmember Whalen shared that he supports council committees and the meetings being open to the public. He commented that having a closed council committee meeting is not illegal due to the fact that there are no quorums forming at these meetings.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Whalen: commented on materials he handed out to the councilmembers.

Councilmember Sirack: commented that the director’s reports, and other information, are being handed out at the meeting – instead of being included in the agenda packets ahead of time. Mayor Asay shared that the directors work extremely hard and asked the council to have a little grace when they don’t get things on time.

Councilmember Borek: commented on the graffiti on the VFW memorial – wanted someone to check into the law of minors carrying paint cans.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Asay addressed Councilmember Whalen’s request for records. In the future, she requested that councilmembers fill out a Council Request Form instead of a Public Record Request form.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Beaudry moved to adjourn. Councilmember Whalen seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 P.M.

Katrina Asay, Mayor

ATTEST:

Katie Daker, Deputy City Clerk