

## ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 2009

Mayor Cheryl Temple called the meeting to order with the flag salute at 7:00 pm in the Orting Public Safety Building. Roll call found in attendance Councilmembers Scott Drennen, George Wilson Nicola McDonald, Dick Ford, David Inge, Guy S. Colorossi, and Joachim Pestinger.

### ATTENDANCE:

City Employees	City Administrator Mark Bethune, Administrative Assistant Roxanne Pollard, Police Chief Bill Drake, Building Official Ken Wolfe, Accounting Clerk I Jane Helgelien.
Professional Representatives	Parametrix Engineer Dave Roberts, Kenyon Disend Attorney Chris Bacha.
Visitors	Margaret O'Harra, Tom Campbell, Shelly Butterfield, Matt Richardson.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of September 9, 2009.
- B. Minutes of September 30, 2009
- C. Approval of Claims Warrants No. 14783 through No. 14837 in the amount of \$238,283.05 and Payroll Warrants No. 18623 through No. 18714 in the amount of \$121,028.61.
- D. September 2009 Treasurer's Report

Councilmember Colorossi moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

### PRESENTATIONS:

FEMA Region CRS Award: John Graves	John Graves, Senior National Flood Insurance Program Specialist, presented a plaque in recognition of achieving a Community Rating System Class 6 designation. Building Official Ken Wolfe accepted the plaque. A Class 6 designation makes Orting residents eligible for a 20 percent reduction in their flood insurance rates. Building Official Wolfe's programs have resulted in a saving of \$28,974 for 298 policy holders. The City of Orting Community Rating System program includes maintenance of a digital flood map, a master plan for stormwater management and public outreach projects.
Pierce County River Revitalization Task Force: Matt Richardson	Matt Richardson and Shelley Butterfield of the Pierce County River Revitalization Task Force (PCRRTF) presented the Mayor and Council with a copy of the groups findings. The findings include a proposed resolution that cities can adopt supporting the findings of the PCRRTF.

Tom Demming, technical advisor to the PCRRTF, provided information on the difference between river mining and planned sediment removal. In river mining gravel and debris are removed from the entire river bed. In planned sediment removal certain sediment deposits, like gravel bars, are removed.

The Council will discuss adoption of the proposed resolution at the October 28, 2009 meeting.

State Representative Tom Campbell commented that he looks forward to help putting some of the recommendations of the PCRRTF into action at the state level.

Stormwater &  
Flooding Update

Building Official Ken Wolfe reported that the City of Orting is participating in a gravel bar removal study for the Puyallup River. As a result of the study the County will remove one gravel bar from the Puyallup River within the Orting City Limits. The project is awaiting approval by the County Council.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Public Hearing: Golf  
Carts

Councilmember Inge introduced the ordinance for an electric golf cart pilot program in Orting. Golf carts are allowed in public streets in communities in 35 states. The Sierra Club has provided guidance and assistance to start a pilot program in Washington. The City of Tacoma is discussing a similar proposal at the committee level. If the ordinance is adopted tonight it will be the first of its kind in Washington State.

Mayor Temple opened the public hearing at 7:50 pm.

Jane Helgelien commented that she used the trail a lot and is concerned that the trail is not wide enough to accommodate the current users and golf carts. There are also people who use the area along the trail to ride horses. Horses may be spooked if they encounter a golf cart.

Councilmember Inge replied that he is asking the Council to adopt a pilot program so these issues can be discovered and addressed. Also, electric golf carts are similar to bicycles which are allowed on the trail.

Ms. Helgelien asked who will issue the licenses for the carts and how much will they cost.

Councilmember Inge replied that the permits will be around ten dollars and be issued by the Police Chief or his designee.

Police Chief Bill Drake asked if the City will have any liability for licensing vehicles that are not street legal.

The licensing required by the ordinance is only for identification of the

carts.

Building Official Ken Wolfe asked if High Cedars Residents will be allowed to participate in the program.

Residents of High Cedars can license their carts and use them as lowed by the ordinance if adopted. However, the city cannot permit use on streets outside the city limits.

Hearing no further comment Mayor Temple closed the hearing at 8:02 pm.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ordinance 878: Golf Carts

Mayor Temple opened Council discussion of the electric golf cart pilot program.

Councilmember Inge moved to adopt ordinance 878, an ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, relating to operation of golf carts; amending the City Code to establish a pilot program for use of golf carts on certain public highways and trails; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion.

Councilmember Drennen commented that he supports Councilmember Inge's efforts however he cannot support the ordinance if it allows use of the carts on the Foothills Trail.

Councilmember Wilson echoed Councilmember Drennen's concern for safety if carts are allowed on the trail. He also commented that the police department is already understaffed. Adding one more duty, like licensing carts, could be a bad idea.

Councilmember Inge amended his motion to include removing section 7-3-4 9e and all references to use on the trail. Councilmember Pestinger agreed to the amendment.

Councilmember Ford commented that allowing golf carts on City Streets is a safety issue. Enforcement will be an additional encumbrance on an already overworked police force. Orting is the wrong city for this type of program.

The amended motion to adopt the ordinance carried by a vote of five to two. Councilmembers Wilson and Ford voted against the amendment.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Third Quarter Treasurers Report

City Administrator Bethune provided the Council with a third quarter treasurer's report. Overall revenues and expenditures are on target to stay within budget. November property taxes should bring the general

fund revenues into balance. Delinquent property taxes are a serious threat to the general fund. Sales and use taxes are running below expectations, however there many still be in a bump in sales tax revenue a the holidays. The latest national economic consensus predicts that sales will drop one percent from last year’s figures. If this is true it will still be an increase for the City of Orting budget.

November 11 Meeting Councilmember Colorossi moved to move the regularly scheduled meeting on November 11, 2009 to November 12, 2009. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

**COMMITTEE AND STANDING REPORTS**

Utility & Technology Councilmember Drennen reported that Utility and Technology Committee reviewed the 2010 budget at their last meeting. They also discussed the Orville Road Water Line replacement easements. The Committee would like to pursue compensation for property owners who provide easements for the project.

Governmental Affairs Councilmember McDonald reported that the Pierce County Council adopted the T-6 amendment. This amendment opens the possibility that the City of Orting could be granted an urban growth area.

Public Safety Councilmember Wilson reported that Orting Valley Fire and Rescue and has extended the contract with East Pierce to provide a fire chief through November 30, 2009. At the last commissioner meeting they also were presented with a contract from Graham fire for consolidation. The Commission stated that they were not ready to review the contract and want to explore other options first.

Transportation Engineer Roberts reported that the roadwork at the Washington and Calistoga will be complete in four weeks. The new lighting will be installed in February 2010.

Bridge for Kids Councilmember Drennen reported that engineers representing Bridge for Kids presented preliminary designs to the Planning Commissioner earlier this month.

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember Pestinger moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm. Councilmember Inge seconded the motion and it carried.

**ATTEST:**

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City Administrator Mark Bethune

Mayor Cheryl M. Temple