

ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2010

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 Stanley Holland, Tyler Coughlin, Nicola McDonald, Joachim Pestinger, David Inge, Guy S. Colorossi, Scott Drennen, and Ex-Officio Officer Shawn Mahoney.

ATTENDANCE:

City Employees	City Administrator Mark Bethune, Administrative Assistant Roxanne Pollard, Police Chief Bill Drake.
Professional Representatives	Kenyon Disend Attorney Chris Bacha, Parametrix Engineer Dave Roberts.
Visitors (signed in)	Margaret O’Harra, Richard Lundell, JT Wilcox, Kathy Wilcox.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Orting Senior Center, Barbara Hansen
Barbara Hansen, Executive Director of the Orting Senior Center offered to answer any questions that the Council may have about the center. She also thanked the Council for the grant that the City provides to help with the centers operating costs.

The Senior Centers offers warm nutritious meal and activities for Orting area residents 55 and over. In January 2010, the center served 102 more people than in January 2009. Monthly activities include live entertainment, quilting classes, and computer classes.

The Annual Senior Center Plant Sale will be on April 30 and May 1.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of February 24, 2010.
- B. Approval of Claims Warrants No. 15356 through No. 15414 in the amount of \$220,450.97 and Payroll Warrants No. 19129 through No. 19178 in the amount of \$106,489.09.
- C. February 2010 Treasurer’s Report

Councilmember Inge moved to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared. Councilmember Holland seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

Eagle Scout Park
Project: Richard
Lundell

Richard Lundell, a Boy Scout from Orting, presented the Council with a project he would like to complete to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. He proposed to build ten dog waste bag dispensers to be placed along the trail and in the City Parks. He will raise money to fund the project. The City will only need to provide bags for the containers.

Councilmember Inge reported that the project has been presented to the Parks Commission and they enthusiastically support the project. City Maintenance staff have also offered to help place the completed boxes.

Councilmember Inge moved to allow Richard Lundell to proceed with his Eagle Scout project, to build ten dog waste dispensers. Councilmember Drennen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

State House of
Representatives
Candidate: JT Wilcox

JT Wilcox introduced himself to the Council and reported that he is running for the Washington State House of Representatives in the 2nd District for the seat currently held by Representative Tom Campbell.

Pierce Transit
Tomorrow Outreach

Tina Lee, Planner for Pierce Transit, presented the Pierce Transit Tomorrow Conceptual Designs.

Due to a recent decrease in sales tax revenue Pierce Transit has had to identify ways to reduce costs. If new revenue sources are not found by 2012 there will be significant service reductions including eliminating the Orting Loop and all service east of the Bonney Lake Park and Ride. If new revenue sources are found Pierce Transit has a plan to continue service in most of its service area, this plan does not include service to or from Orting until 2030.

Councilmember Drennen asked if there is any movement at the legislature to allow other funding sources for mass transit. Ms. Lee reported that they have requested an additional \$20 fee to be paid with car tab renewals. Public Transit services do not receive any permanent federal funding beyond grants which typically cover capital improvements only.

Councilmember Holland asked to confirm that Orting residents will continue to pay taxes to support Pierce Transit but will not continue to receive service. Ms. Lee confirmed that is correct.

Councilmembers Inge and Pestinger suggested looking into partnerships with school districts to eliminate costs.

Councilmember Drennen asked if there are guidelines for de-annexation from the Pierce Transit taxing district.

Councilmember Coughlin asked what internal budget cuts have been

made. Ms. Lee reported that many capital improvement and maintenance projects have been cut. Pierce Transit has also reduced staff by 48 FTE's and instituted a hiring freeze in beginning in 2008

NEW BUSINESS:

2009 Fourth Quarter Treasurer's Report City Administrator Bethune presented a financial overview of 2009 to the Council. At the end of 2009, general fund revenue was a 93 percent of the projected budget and general fund expenditures were at 96 percent of the budgeted amount. Reserves at the end of the year are \$1,350,000.

STANDING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks Councilmember Inge reported that the Parks Commission discussed removing the fence at memorial park, creating a dog park at Calistoga Park, a community garden, a city wide garage sale and completion of the North Park Fountain at their last meeting.

Community Development Councilmember Coughlin announced that the Community Development Committee will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 am.

Public Safety Councilmember Holland reported that he attended a recent Pierce County Council meeting. The Council approved placement of fire annexation on the April 27 ballot.

The Fire Department is currently completing testing for shift medic position.

The Fire and Police Departments will have an open house on March 27 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Representatives will be available to answer questions about annexation.

The Public Safety Committee, at their last meeting, discussed a recent complaint from a citizen about trail users especially bicyclists not observing stop signs at intersections. Police Chief Drake informed the Council and audience that users including bicyclists are pedestrians and the stop signs are not enforceable for pedestrians. Bill & Sharyl Wilkinson reported that there were several instance where trail users entered the intersection without even yielding and they were concerned for public safety at the intersection.

The Transportation Committee and City Staff will look at the issue and report back to Council with options to improve safety on the trail.

Transportation

Councilmember Pestinger reported that Calistoga Street West will be chip sealed soon. The sidewalk replacement on Washington will be completed before the Daffodil Parade.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Holland moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 pm. Councilmember Colorossi seconded the motion and it carried.

ATTEST:

City Administrator Mark Bethune

Mayor Cheryl M. Temple