

## ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2011

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 Graham Hunt, Stanley Holland, Ava Krogh, Scott Drennen, Nicola McDonald, David Inge, Guy S. Colorossi, and Orting Valley Fire and Rescue Commissioner Shawn Mahoney.

### ATTENDANCE:

City Employees                      City Administrator Mark Bethune, Administrative Assistant Roxanne Pollard, Police Chief Bill Drake, Parks & Recreation Director Beckie Meek.

Professional                              Kenyon Disend Attorney Chris Bacha, Parametrix Engineer Dave  
Representatives                              Roberts.

Visitors (signed in)                      Shirley Sigafos, Jo Hoag, Krista Butler, Michelle Curry, Sam Webster, Barbara Bauml, Patricia DeLaney.

### COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Sam Webster: Utility                      Sam Webster, of Orville Rd, spoke to the Council about the City's  
Shutoff Policy                              utility billing policies. Recently his sister's water was shut off due to non-payment. Mr. Webster was concerned that his sister did not receive any notice that the bill was unpaid and scheduled for disconnection. He also stated that his sister has recently been ill and has not regularly been checking her mail.

Councilmember Drennen commented that the state has strict procedures in place for the disconnection of utility services. The City follows these laws and procedures.

City Administrator Bethune reported that utility bills are mailed in the first week of the month and due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The day after the 25<sup>th</sup> disconnect notices are mailed to all customers that have not yet paid their bills. The disconnect notice gives the customer ten days to pay the past due bill or make arrangements.

Mayor Temple asked the Mr. Webster to meet with City Administrator Bethune and discuss the situation.

Barbara Ford: Orting                      Barbara Ford, representing the Orting Senior Center, presented the  
Senior Center Budget                      Council with a report about the Senior Center Budget for 2011.

In 2010, the Senior Center had a budget surplus of about \$6,500. The surplus will help to allay an expected shortfall in the 2011 budget.

Krista Butler: Orting                      Krista Butler, Orting Community Float Coordinator, thanked everyone  
Community Daffodil                      who helped to make the Orting Daffodil Float a success. The float  
Float    was awarded first prize among cities with less than 10,000 residents.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Minutes of March 30, 2011.
- B. Approval of Claims Warrants No. 16989 through No. 17052, in the amount of \$129,121.86 and Payroll Warrants No. 20405 through No. 20427 in the amount of \$130,132.54.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Resolution 2011-2:  
Bridge for Kids

Councilmember Drennen and Barbara Bauml reported that Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has rejected ownership of the original State Route 162 pedestrian bridge design that was previously approved by the City Council and met Architectural Design standards. The bridge was designed to be made of steel. WSDOT has declared they will only own a simpler less costly concrete bridge. They also stated they will not provide custodial maintenance including vactoring of storm vaults, drain cleaning, bridge sweeping, and graffiti control. They are willing to own a concrete bridge and provide structural maintenance, repair and inspection. The annual cost to the City once the bridge is complete will be about \$5,000.

Councilmember Drennen moved to approve Resolution 2011-2, a resolution of the City of Orting, Washington, acknowledging the requirement for a lower cost concrete pedestrian bridge over SR 163 and the responsibility to provide maintenance to the bridge. Councilmember Holland seconded the motion and it carried.

First Quarter 2011  
Treasurer's Report

Councilmember Colorossi and City Administrator Bethune presented the Council with the First Quarter 2011 Treasurer's Report.

General Fund revenue for the year is slightly behind, however that is expected because the first half of property taxes are not paid until spring. Revenue is also lower than anticipated.

Utility revenue is better than expected. On the expense side, water capital projects have skewed expenses and the sewer fund loan to the water fund and the bond payment has skewed overall expenses.

Utility Cost of Service  
Study

Mayor Temple asked the Council if they would like to set a study session to review the results of the Utility Cost of Service Study. Councilmembers Drennen and Colorossi asked for more time to review the study and in Utility Committee. The Council agreed to wait to set a study session date.

**STANDING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Parks

Councilmember Inge reported that the Daffodil Parade was a success. He also thanked the many volunteers and City Staff that helped during the day.

Councilmember Colorossi reported that the Historical Society replaced

four lights in the bell tower.

Councilmember Inge also reported that the tree carvings have started and the Dog Park Committee continues to be active. On April 16 and 17 there is a garage sale to benefit the dog park and on May 21 the committee will hold the first annual Bark in the Park, a fun run and walk.

Councilmember Drennen reported that there is a need for \$200 to complete landscaping in front of the fountain. Councilmember Hunt volunteered to donate the money.

Councilmember Inge reported that the Annual Senior Center Plant Sale will be on April 29 and 30 at the Senior Center.

Utilities & Technology Councilmember Drennen reported that Utility Committee discussed the Utility Cost of Service Study, the plans for the Utility shop and Orville Road waterline easement acquisition projects at their last meeting.

Community Development Councilmember Krogh reported that the Community Development Committee is taking fresh look at the economic development plan and updating it where needed.

Mayor Temple reported that the Chamber of Commerce is discussing an ambassador program and may soon have a regular representative to attend City meetings.

Public Safety Police Chief Drake reported that he is close to signing the Cooperate Cities Service Agreement. The agreement will provide the City with access to SWAT and other police services without having to pay the high rates charged by Pierce County.

Fire Chief Webb reported that the East Pierce Board of Commissioners will meet on Tuesday April 19 and will likely vote to suspend merger discussion with Orting Valley Fire and Rescue. The two fire departments will continue to look for functional ways to share resources and work together.

Fire Commissioner Mahoney and Chief Webb gave a brief presentation on the 911 system and cell phones. A call from a cell phone to 911 does not always transmit the location of the caller to the operator. Because of this, the Fire Chief has been leading group to determine a way to mark the Foothills Trail so that people who call for assistance from the trail will be able to accurately tell the operator where they are located. The group will recommend the placement of carsonite signs similar to signs being placed along urban trails in King County.

**ADJOURN:**

Councilmember Colorossi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm. Councilmember Drennen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ATTEST:**

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City Administrator Mark Bethune

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Mayor Cheryl M. Temple