

## COUNCILMEMBERS

### Position No.

1. Tod Gunther
2. Barbara Ford, Deputy Mayor
3. Michelle Gehring
4. Dave Harman
5. Nicola McDonald
6. Josh Penner
7. Scott Drennen



Mayor Joachim Pestinger

ORTING CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Business Meeting  
Minutes  
Orting Multi-Purpose Center  
202 Washington Ave. S,  
Orting, WA  
November 8, 2017  
7p.m.

ORIGINAL

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL.

Mayor Pestinger called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. in the Multipurpose Center. Councilmember Gunther led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Councilmembers Present:** Councilmembers, Tod Gunther, Michelle Gehring, Josh Penner, Scott Drennen, Nicola McDonald and Dave Harman.

**Absent:** Deputy Mayor Barbara Ford

**Staff Present:** Mark Bethune, City Administrator, Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, Scott Larson, Treasurer, JC Hungerford, Engineer, Charlotte Archer, City Attorney.

*Councilmember Harman made a motion to excuse Deputy Mayor Ford. Second by Councilmember McDonald. Motion passed (6-0)*

### 2. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONS OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA.

Executive session-Agency enforcement action/potential litigation.

### 3. PRESENTATION- POLICE DEPARTMENT- RECOGNITION OF POLICE OFFICER.

Chief Drake recognized Officer Boone, and gave a brief biography of his service with the City of Orting, followed by awarding him with the Medal of Commendation.

Mayor Pestinger recessed the meeting for a 3 minute break at 7:05pm.

Mayor Pestinger resumed the meeting at 7:08pm.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### **Michael Howard**

Mr. Howard expressed his support for Recovery Café. Mr. Howard is a Mentor for Pierce County Veteran Drug Court, and a volunteer chaplain for Pierce County Jail.

#### **Ron Lewitt**

Mr. Lewitt congratulated officials who won in the local elections. Mr. Lewitt expressed support for the Recovery Café.

#### **Rose Tracy**

Ms. Tracy expressed support for the Recovery Café. She also read a letter in to the record from Arlene Dannat who also urged Council to support Recovery Café.

#### **Dennis Paschke**

Mr. Paschke asked Council to support Recovery Café. Mr. Paschke stated that they have a proven track record.

**Dawn Paschke**

Ms. Paschke expressed her support for Recovery Café. She stated that the program will be a benefit to everyone affected by the epidemic of addiction. She asked for the City Council to support them with a grant.

**Corrine Requiam**

Ms. Requiam stated that she is in favor of recognizing Police Officers but would also like to recognize City employees.

**Paul Carr**

Mr. Carr expressed his support for Recovery Café.

**Stephanie Lathrup**

Ms. Lathrup works at the Orting Food Bank and supports Recovery Café.

**Sandy Vankirk**

Ms. Vankirk supports Recovery Café and wants the City to support them as well.

**Anne Artman**

Ms. Artman is the Pierce County Behavioral Manager of Tacoma Recovery Café. She told the Council that this program works. She confirmed that she will be involved with Recovery Café in Orting providing them support and guidance.

**Tony Schneider**

Mr. Schneider is a resident of Graham and the President of St. Vincent DePaul. He has seen many people struggle with addiction. He was present to express his support of Recovery Café.

Mayor Pestinger stated that he and his wife visited with Tacoma Recovery Café and they fully support Recovery Café.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes of October 25, 2017
- Payroll and Claims Warrants

*Councilmember McDonald made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as prepared. Councilmember Gehring second the motion. Motion carried (6-0)*

Mayor Pestinger expressed appreciation for the audience and congratulated Councilmember Penner for winning the electoral race for Mayor .

**6. HEARINGS****A. AB17-87-2018-First Reading of Ordinance No 2017-1016, An Ordinance Of The City of Orting, Washington Relating To The Annual Budget For Fiscal Year 2018; Adopting The City Of Orting 2018 Budget; Adopting The Job Classification And Pay Range For Employees.**

Mayor Pestinger opened the hearing at 7:30pm and read the rules for the hearing. Treasurer Larson briefed and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the budget. This is the second look at the budget for the City Council and incorporated suggestions from City Council that were made at the meeting on November 1, 2017. Council will meet next week on November 15, 2017 for another budget workshop. There was a first reading of budget Ordinance No 2017-1016. The ordinance is currently scheduled for final passage at the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting but may be pushed to the meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The PowerPoint covering all the details is available on the City's website as part of the meeting packet.

## **Citizen Comments**

### **Doug Bishop**

Mr. Bishop appreciated funds in the budget towards Kansas Street. He also stated that salary's stuck out to him. He stated that if the City wanted to bring individual positions up to 95% of comparable that they should also lower those that are above 100% of comparable.

The Council then followed with comments and questions:

- Police Vehicles
- New Officer
- Budget Retreat- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, public was invited to participate.

Mayor Pestinger closed the hearing at 7:54pm.

Mayor Pestinger Asked Patty Villa of the Farmer's Market, to give an end of season report. Ms. Villa thanked the City for their sponsorship. Administrator Bethune stated that Patty Villa had been a great representative of the City's goal to support agriculture.

### **B. AB17-88- Second Reading and Adoption of Resolution No. 2017-12, A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Relating To Utility Rates; Adopting Adjustments To Water, Sewer And Storm Water Utility Rates 2018 Utility Rates.**

Mayor Pestinger opened the hearing at 8:03pm. Treasurer Larson briefed, then showed a PowerPoint. The proposed rates are recommended by the Public Works Committee. The PowerPoint is available as part of the packet on the City's website.

## **Citizen Comments**

No comments.

The Council followed with comments/questions on the following:

- Water rates;  
Increase on consumption and base
- Storm water rates;
- Rate reductions based on income.

Mayor Pestinger closed the hearing at 8:10pm. Action on this Resolution was moved after new business to allow Council time to review all related agenda items.

## **7. COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL STANDING REPORTS**

### **Public Works**

Councilmember Penner briefed on the following:

- Orville Road waterline project is almost completed;
- Water meter battery replacement policy will be ongoing;
- Exploring the idea of goats being used for maintenance of retention ponds.

### **Community and Government Affairs**

Councilmember Drennen briefed that grant requests were reviewed and the general theme that they addressed was providing safety nets for these agency's which assist the community. Further discussion will take place at the next budget retreat.

## **Finance**

Treasurer Larson informed Council that he gave the bank notice that the bond for the Public Safety Building will be paid off in December.

## **Emergency Evacuation Bridge System**

No Report.

## **Planning Commission**

Commissioner Greg Hogan reported that the Comprehensive Plan was completed on November 6, 2017. Set for approval in December.

## **Parks Board**

No Report.

## **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting. Guest speakers came from the United Way and talked about poverty and solutions to the problem.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. AB17-89- 2018 Property Tax Levy**

Treasurer Larson showed a PowerPoint on Property Taxes for 2018. This year the City has two options. They can tax at the highest allowable rate of \$1.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation or at the lower rate of \$1.60. Discussion followed:

- Discussion with Fire Department about levy lid lift next year;
- City is allowed to tax at higher rate which will help to fund potential facility upgrades;
- One time money.

Council chose to defer voting on the Property tax levy until the meeting on November 29, 2017. There will not be another hearing but comments will be accepted prior to a final vote.

### **Public Comments**

No comments made.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. AB17-90-First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-1017, An Ordinance Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Amending Orting Municipal Code Title 9, Chapter 1b, Section 7 Pertaining To Deposits; Title 9, Chapter 1d, Sections 1.2. And 3 Pertaining To Billing, Water Disconnection, And Water Rates; Adding Orting Municipal Code Title 9, Chapter 1d, Sections 3b, 5, And 6 Pertaining To Water Rates For Customers Outside City Limits, Payment Of Bills And Application Of Payment, And Protest To Rates.**

Treasurer Larson briefed on recommendations from the Public Works Committee and Administration:

- Remove the \$150 deposit the city charges new customers and renters. The deposit brings little additional security to the city when a customer does not pay, it is a regular complaint of customers that have to pay the deposit, and the costs of administering the deposits is quite high as we refund and take around 60+ deposits a month. The city has approximately 1,000

deposits on its books, and will return all deposits within 18 months of adoption of this ordinance.

- Change the time that utility bills are due from 5 pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> to 8 am on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The utility committee this extra time would give citizens an opportunity to drop their bills off in the morning as they begin their day.
- Add a 10% surcharge to out of town water customers starting in 2018. The FCS Study recommended this change identifying out of town customers as having a higher burden on the utility system, and believes that this charge brings more equitable treatment between in town and out of town customers.
- Codify how partial payments are applied to outstanding balances on customers' accounts.
- Add a section that provides a formal mechanism for customers to protest rates and charges that they think are erroneous.

Councilmember Penner, also chair of the Public Works Committee, commented that they received a lot input from citizens and staff. This is first reading and will be moved forward to the meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**B. AB17-91- First Reading of Resolution 2017-17, A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Setting The Fees As Described By 9-1d-1b, 9-1d-2c, And 9-1d-3b Of The Orting Municipal Code Utility Code**

The discussion of this item was incorporated in agenda item 9A.

Council proceeded to vote on agenda item 6B regarding Resolution 2017-12, Utility Rates.

**6. B. AB17-88- Second Reading and Adoption of Resolution No. 2017-12, A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Relating To Utility Rates; Adopting Adjustments To Water, Sewer And Storm Water Utility Rates 2018 Utility Rates.**

*Councilmember Penner made a motion: Motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-12 adoption recommended utility rates for 2018. Second by Councilmember Scott Drennen. Motion passed (6-0).*

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Pestinger announced an executive session. It will last for 10 minutes. Per RCW 42.30.110(i), agency enforcement action. No action is anticipated when they return.

Mayor Pestinger recessed the meeting at 8:30 pm. for a 5 minute break. Meeting resumed at 8:35pm.

8:35pm Recessed for 10 minutes for executive session.

8:45pm extended 5 minutes.

8:50 extended 3 minutes.

8:53 extended 3 minutes.

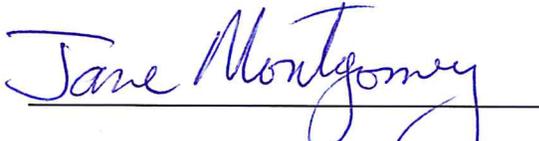
Mayor Pestinger called the meeting back to order at 8:56pm.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

*Councilmember McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Harman. Motion passed (6-0).*

Mayor Pestinger adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC

  
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Joachim Pestinger, Mayor