



ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Public Safety Building, 401 Washington Avenue SE

JANUARY 13, 2016

Mayor Joachim Pestinger called the meeting to order with the flag salute at 7:00 pm in the Orting Public Safety Building. Roll call found in attendance Deputy Mayor William Birkes, Councilmembers Scott Drennen, Barbara Ford, Josh Penner, Tod Gunther, Dave Harman and Nicola McDonald.

ATTENDANCE:

City Employees

Mark Bethune, City Administrator
Rachel Pitzel, City Clerk

Bill Drake, Police Chief
Scott Larson, Treasurer

Professional Representatives

Jay Long, Attorney – Kenyon Disend
JC Hungerford, Engineer – Parametrix

Visitors (signed in)

Cheryl Kelly
Gwen Robson
David Inge
Margaret Ryals

John Kelly
Howie Robson
Mary Inge

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mayor Pestinger added the Community and Government Affairs Committee, Public Safety Committee reports under Committee and Standing Reports.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Harman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared. Second by Councilmember Ford. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Chris Hopfauf - discussed the December 9, 2015 Council meeting.

PRESENTATIONS: (7:06)

Swearing In of McDonald and Councilmembers

Mayor Pestinger gave the Oath of Office to the newly elected Councilmembers; Gunther, Harman, Penner and McDonald.

Parks Commission Appointments

Mayor Pestinger recommended Ms. Gehring and Mr. Linkem as the new Park Commissioners and asked for Council's confirmation.

Councilmember Drennen moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Michelle Gehring as Parks Commissioner to a four year appointment to the Parks Commission expiring December 31, 2019. Second by Councilmember Gunther. Motion carried (7-0).

Deputy Mayor Penner moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Jason Linkem as Parks Commissioner to a four year appointment to the Parks Commission expiring December 31, 2019. Second by Councilmember Harman. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMISSION REPORTS: (7:13)

Planning Commission Commissioner Hoyt reported on the livestock ordinance, and discussed the Ag. Tourism meetings and volunteers that helped address the issues of the ordinance; he reported the loss of the local business Cosmopolitan Coffee being replaced by a Mexican restaurant.

COMMITTEE AND STANDING REPORTS: (7:16)

Finance & Cemetery Councilmember Harman gave an overview of the Finance report, and then asked City Treasurer Larson to go over the revenues and expenditures. Chief Drake reported on the Police budget.

Public Safety Deputy Mayor Penner reported on the delivery of the SUV for the Police Department and it is currently being outfitted with equipment, he noted it will be available to show at the February Council meeting; Councilmember Ford reported that the City successfully transferred to a new 911 system and it was a smooth, easy transition.

Community & Government Affairs Councilmember Ford discussed the Council Rules and suggested taking a closer look, she noted the committee decided to spend a number of months fine-combing through the rules and bringing them to the Retreat for input; she reported on the rental of facilities at the city, and looking at the ordinance to possibly amend the nonprofit fee on the weekends and what that would look like. She is hoping to have it ready for the next Council meeting.

Mayor Report Mayor Pestinger reported attend PCRC and selected a new Chair; note he had an invitation of the base and discussed the Combat Hospital and stated how thankful we are to have then help out at our holiday events.

Miscellaneous Deputy Mayor Penner discussed the Constitution and Pierce County Charter.

Mayor Pestinger asked David Inge to come forward and noted he would like to appoint him to the Civil Service Commission.

Councilmember Harman moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment of David Inge as Civil Service Commissioner to a four year appointment. Second by Councilmember Ford. Motion carried (7-0).

OLD BUSINESS: (7:50)

Emergency Evacuation Bridge System

Councilmember Drennen noted the Committee will resume their meetings on January 22, 2106 at City Hall and will discuss changing the date to the week before the first Council meeting.

Mayor noted he attended the Cascadia Rising meeting with City Administrator Bethune and Chief Drake.

Deputy Mayor 2016 Selection

Deputy Mayor Penner reported that he has nothing to present and ask Council what they would like to do.

Councilmember Drennen noted the process is very direct and political, and would like to propose a rotation of seniority to rotate through each Councilmember and recognize each person to be able to be Deputy Mayor. He noted he felt it would be a fair and take the political process out of the equation.

Councilmember Harman noted at the December 9, 2016 Council meeting, Deputy Mayor Penner had nominated Councilmember Birkes, he stated he would like to re-nominate Councilmember Birkes.

Councilmember Harman moved to nominate Councilmember Birkes as Deputy Mayor for the year 2016. Second by Councilmember Ford. Motion carried (7-0).

Deputy Mayor Birkes thanked Council for their decision and opportunity.

NEW BUSINESS: (7:54)

AB16-02 – Committee Selections

Councilmember Penner asked that the process remain the same.

Deputy Mayor Birkes noted he would like a different perspective, and would like to see the next committee assignment to see co-chairs moved up to chair and asked the Council to think about that process and put in for a different committees.

Deputy Mayor Birkes asked Councilmember Penner to assist him and the Mayor in choosing Councilmembers appointment for Committees they are interested in for the year 2016.

AB16-03 – DM Disposal Rate Increase

Councilmember Drennen discussed the new rate increase fee and requested that the item be tabled and would like to do some research. ***The DM Disposal Rate Increase was tabled until the January 27, 2016 Council meeting.***

AB16-04 – Resolution No. 2016-16, Transportation Element Update

Councilmember Drennen reported on the transportation component of the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Drennen moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-16, stating the City's intent to update the Transportation Plan and meet the compliance requirements of the Puget Sound Regional Council. Second by Councilmember Ford. Motion carried (7-0).

AB16-05 – Ordinance No. 2016-978, LOCAL Program Equipment Financing

City Treasurer Larson reported on the LOCAL Financing program and discussed the vehicles and the financing.

Councilmember Ford moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-978, authorizing the acquisition of personal property and execution of a financing contract and related documentation relating to the acquisition of said personal property with the Office of the State Treasurer LOCAL Program. Second by Councilmember Harman. Motion carried (7-0).

AB16-06 – Ordinance No. 2016-979, PSE Franchise Agreement

Councilmember Drennen reported this franchise for PSE spells out our relationship and collaboration.

Councilmember Drennen moved to approve Ordinance No. 2016-979, granting a non-exclusive Franchise to Puget Sound Energy, Inc., to construct, install, replace, maintain, repair, and operate electric light, power, and natural gas systems in, upon, over, under, along, across, and through the franchise area. Second by Councilmember Penner. Motion carried (7-0).

AB16-07 – PSB Lease Agreement

Councilmember Drennen reported on the PSB lease and the work Mr. Colorossi did, he read a statement from Mr. Colorossi. Which is attached to the minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (8:40)

Mayor Pestinger recessed to Executive Session at 8:40 pm to discuss potential litigation, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110(i). He announced action will not be taken after Executive Session which will last 30 minutes with no action to follow.

Mayor Pestinger called for a 10 minute extension to the Executive Session. Mayor Pestinger reconvened the Council meeting at 9:20 pm.

ADJOURN:

Councilmember Ford moved to adjourn. Second by Deputy Mayor Birkes. Motion carried (7-0).

ATTEST:


Joachim Pestinger, Mayor


Rachel Pitzel, City Clerk