

## COUNCILMEMBERS

### Position No.

1. Tod Gunther
2. John Kelly
3. Tony Belot
4. John Williams
5. Gregg Bradshaw
6. Greg Hogan
7. Scott Drennen



## ORTING CITY COUNCIL

### Study Session Minutes

Virtual, Orting, WA  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, 6pm

ORIGINAL

### DEPUTY MAYOR GREG HOGAN, CHAIR

#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER PLEDGE AND ROLL CALL

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Councilmember Bradshaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Councilmembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Councilmembers Tod Gunther, Tony Belot, Scott Drennen, John Kelly, and Gregg Bradshaw. Councilmember Williams joined the meeting after the roll was taken.

**Other Elected Officials Present:** Mayor Joshua Penner.

**Staff Present:** Mark Bethune, City Administrator Emeritus, Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, Scott Larson, City Administrator/Acting Finance Director, JC Hungerford, Engineer, Greg Reed, Public Works Director, Chris Gard, Chief of Police, Emily Adams, Planner and Curtis Chambers, Acting City Attorney.

Deputy Mayor Hogan read the following statements:

**The City utilized remote attendance for Councilmembers and City employees. Please note: OPMA rules regarding provision for the public in a space were suspended by proclamation of the Governor. The meeting was however, available for the public. By a computer or a call in number.**

#### **Public Service Announcement**

Pierce County Emergency Management skipped October's siren test and will resume Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. They just completed a siren upgrade and want ample time to prepare residents for a change in what they will hear – chime and voice versus the “wail” sound. Be watching social media and other communication avenues for more information. If you want to hear the updated sounds, check out this page: <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/.../115310/Lahar-Warning-System>

#### **Changes to the Agenda**

The Deputy Mayor added an Executive session.

Councilmember Gunther and Williams added “Equity Resolution” as Agenda Item 4.E.2.

#### 2. DISCUSSION- In Person Council Meetings.

Curtis Chambers, Acting City Attorney recommended moving in to an executive session per RCW 42.30.110 (i.) (3) To discuss risk of implementing a proposed action. They will be out for 15 minutes, and they may take action after returning to open session.

6:05pm- Deputy Mayor Hogan recessed to Executive Session

6:20pm- Extended for 10 minutes

6:30pm- Extended for 5 minutes

6:36pm- Executive session concluded

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the Study Session back to order at 6:36pm.

Discussion followed regarding the statistics provided to Council and staff, briefed by Scott Larson:

VOD means Video on Demand – people who are watching Orting council meetings on the web, Via the PCTV Invintus link were reported to be as follows:

Oct. 14 – VOD 3, FB 117- Sept 30 – VOD 16- Sept 16 – VOD 39 (the FB stream info not set for these 2 meetings in Sept) - Aug 26 – VOD 35, FB 340- Aug 19 – VOD 10, FB 1,000- Aug 12 – VOD 3, FB 146.

YouTube stats from videos created with the city's PCTV production fund.

1,240 views – Orting students practice lahar drill <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUv2hM55vvk>

2,417 views – Orting students practice most important walk of their lives (older version of above video) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnhyytOHe90>

1,915 views – Preview of new City Hall construction <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1ZP1a4QwRs>

438 views – Orting Calistoga Levee <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loCUULIZvhc>

679 views – Orting gets new slogan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhkDv8fR3vk>

4,060 views – Orting lahar preparedness [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl\\_bGupGLng](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl_bGupGLng)

Councilmembers expressed their frustrations with not being to meet live. No action taken at this time.

### 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Public Works

Councilmember Drennen reported the following:

- Four Capitol Projects moving forward;
- Grant Application for DR162 Crossing- Recreational Grant- Did not score as well as had hoped;
- Flag Pole being installed at Public Works Facility;

#### Public Safety

Councilmember Belot reported on the following items discussed at the meeting:

- Evidence
- Firearms
- Hazard Mitigation
- Emergency Management
- Police Vehicle Update

#### Community and Government Affairs

Councilmember Williams briefed on the Electronic Reader Board, and Councilmember Gunther briefed on the Drone Park and the Code of Conduct.

### 4. STAFF REPORTS

#### Engineering

JC Hungerford reported the following:

- Speed limit on SR162 towards well 1;
- Single Family Residential reviews;

#### Planning

Emily Adams briefed;

- HB1923 Housing and subdivision code amendments – open house was on October 8<sup>th</sup>;
- Comp Plan amendments coming to next study session;
- Meadows Final Plat is under review;
- Temporary Home Occupation code under review;
- Noticing Code

#### Public Works

Greg Reed reported the following:

- Put up sign at Silo;
- Cleaned up after last storm- downed tree;
- Bacteria samples;
- Meter Reads;
- Water Leak at Kansas and Calistoga;
- Site survey November 6<sup>th</sup> DOE;
- Requested quotes to fix sweeper;

- Flag pole soon to be installed;
- Working with NW Playground to install spinner;
- Re-advertise for Knuckle Boon;
- Will be moving Police trailer;
- Grinding sidewalks
- Had a spill when truck blew a hose- resolved and contained;

### **City Clerk**

Jane Montgomery, City Clerk reported on Records Management, Archiving, and Records Requests. Contacts with the public, accessibility.

### **Court**

Scott Larson reported that he met with Judge Curry who reported that according to the Supreme Court they will remain closed until the end of the year. They also have an upcoming bench trial which they don't have often. Court has moved in and they are very appreciative of the new offices and Court Chamber. The Judge wanted to convey his thanks to the City Council for all their support to get the new facility built.

### **Police**

Chris Gard reported the following:

- Finishing up move
- Evidence to be moved soon;
- Updating Policy manual with Lexipol;
- He signed agreement to begin pre-accreditation;
- Two new recruits Connor and Ashley doing well at the academy- graduating in December and January;
- Reserve Officer has been getting acclimated- getting equipment and will soon be training in the vehicle;
- Getting acclimated to the new office;
- Have their own records room;
- Have new Cars in.

### **City Administrator (Emeritus)**

Mark Bethune reported that the New City Hall is functional and are working on a punch list. Working on cleanup of the old city hall. There are 4 bays of furniture to surplus and there will be a city wide garage sale where items will all be free to the public.

### **City Administrator/Acting Finance Director**

Scott Larson reported on the following:

- Interviews for a Finance Director will take place on Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>;
- Budget Retreat scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup>;
- The Budget Process;
- Auditor has started an audit of the City;
- Meadows to Final Plat;
- Belfair nearing final plat;
- Tahoma Meadows;
- Carbon River RV Park public hearing in December.

Scott Larson asked if a Councilmember would like to be on the interview team for Finance Director. Councilmember Williams volunteered to be on the panel.

### **Mayor**

- Mayor Penner met with PSE regarding the unreliability of the service to the City. They will be presenting at the Council meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>. They have some solutions that they will

be briefing on. There is a line between Orting and the Electron Dam and if it goes down it causes Orting to go down. Until the last couple of years power has been reliable;

- The Mayor stated that the City uses Verizon for City wide phones, and service has been unreliable. He has reached out to Verizon and will be meeting with them soon about the issues;
- The Council will have a brief from Rainier Communications (PCTV) who records our meetings. They will discuss a rate structure change and increase;
- The Mayor is on a Committee called South Sound Affordability Housing Partners Steering Committee, composed of the County Executive and Mayors who are discussing housing affordability in our City's. They will be presenting to the Council soon. An Interlocal Agreement may be coming soon;
- The Mayor has been meeting with our legislators regarding Transportation issues, Economic Development, quality of life, in the valley and COVID19 issues. They have heard our voices but the Legislatures have basically been locked out of their jobs;
- Working on a meeting with the Superintendent of Mt. Rainier Park. They are working on Orting becoming the gateway to Mt. Rainier, and also on an initiative to upgrade the Lahar sirens and early warning improvements;
- PCRC is coalescing around a short list of projects regarding transportation issues that will benefit the County. They are looking at passing a large transportation package. The Mayor is working hard on SR162 issues and hopes to see;
- First inaugural flag rising with staff to be followed by one for the community;
- The entrance to Orting sign now has a light on it;
- Children's Discovery Academy came by and wanted to meet with the Council. The Mayor read a letter they left which thanked the Council for approving COVID19 fund grants which will help them stabilize.

Greg Reed briefed on the water line break. It was caused by a Geo Technical Contractor who was working on the Whitehawk project. They used the locate system properly but the line was off by 2 feet. They accidentally punched a hole in the line. Public Works crews worked hard to repair the line, and then flush the line. There was water under a home and the crew took a blower out to dry the home, and a specialty company will be out to inspect the home. The City has been proactive due to concerns of mold issues. The cleanup was a real success. The public were calm and understanding and he was very pleased with the outcome. Scott Larson shared a picture of the line that was damaged.

## 5. AGENDA ITEMS

### **A. AB20-79- Park Plan Policy- Resolution No. 2020-34, A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Amending The City Of Orting Parks, Trails And Open Space Plan To Add A New Policy.**

Emily Adams reported that she has been working on amending the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan to add a new policy to the capital facilities section, Policy CF 6.5, it will read: Future park plans or remodels should prioritize barrier-free equipment additions, such as wheelchair swings, adaptive spinners, or the like — where none currently exist. Action: Move forward to November 12<sup>th</sup> for a hearing. The comprehensive plan would need to be amended during the 2021 cycle to add this policy and remain consistent with the parks plan.

### **B. AB20-80- Carbon River Setback Feasibility Study- Resolution No. 2020-35, A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Establishing Project Alternatives For Consideration During The Carbon River Setback Feasibility Study Performed By Pierce County.**

Councilmember Drennen briefed that after on August 19, 2020, Pierce County Surface Water Management presented their alternatives regarding their proposed alternatives for flooding on the Carbon River, the Public Works Committee wanted to present an alternative which would also reflect the comments made by Councilmembers. He stated this Resolution offers a unified voice in regard to the alignment. The proposed resolution, states that none of the alternatives presented were acceptable to the Council. The Proposed Resolution offers alternatives that would be backed by the Council and the City and its citizens. JC Hungerford briefed on the changes he made as represented by the

resolution. Council discussion followed. JC will add concrete dolos. **Action:** Move forward as a standalone item.

### **C. AB20-81-Kansas Street Design and Permitting- Scope & Budget.**

JC Hungerford reported that Parametrix was awarded the contract for design and permitting of Kansas Street SW. This is funded by a PSRC Grant in the amount of \$470,250.00. Included in this grant is a requirement to include 14% participation by disadvantaged businesses. JC committed to an 8 month completion time. Council discussion followed. Scott Drennen asked to make sure soft scape is put in and strike the word "possibly". **Action:** Move forward to the consent agenda at the next meeting.

### **D. AB20-83-2021 Property Taxes- Resolution No. 2020-37- A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Requesting the Highest Lawful Levy.**

Scott Larson briefed on the first look at 2021 property taxes. The City is restricted to a 1% increase. This resolution will raise our property tax cap by \$12,111.70 to \$1,347,915.06, which is an increase of a little less than 1% over the prior years' levy which was \$1,335,880.61. The rate that would be paid by citizens would decrease to approximately \$1.40 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The rate in 2020 was \$1.53 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The next step is to have a hearing and it has to pass by the last meeting in November. **Action:** Move forward to the next meeting.

### **E. AB20-84-Fema Hazard Mitigation Plan- Resolution No 2020-36,A Resolution Of The City Of Orting, Washington, Adopting The Region 5 All Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2020-2025 Edition And The City Of Orting Addendum To The Region 5 Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

Mark Bethune briefed that he presented this at the public Safety Meeting. The plan has to be updated about every 5 to 7 years, the process is led by Pierce County. The City has to have an updated plan in order to receive FEMA funding after a disaster. He went on to describe what they look at. The plan remains pretty much the same every year in that our hazards have not changed, our assets, ability to respond, services and facilities have changed very little. The item that changes the most are the mitigation measures we develop. Council discussion followed. FEMA will not fund anything having to do with the pedestrian bridge because it has to be a grant for a disaster after it occurs. It is difficult to receive grants but will need this in order to get backing for FEMA funding. **Action:** Move to the consent agenda for the next meeting.

### **E.2 Equity Resolution**

Councilmember Gunther briefed that he attended an AWC conference and one of the sessions recommended that cities look at their internal policies and forms to ensure there is no unintended bias on the part of the City. The Mayor stated that the way he sees the Resolution is that it is a statement of policy that directs Council to evaluate this over a period of years, and that staff could assist by engaging the community, to provide an opportunity for possible suggestions or changes. Council discussion followed. **Action:** Back to Committee and then to study session.

### **F. AB20-75- Deputy Mayor Process/ Council Comment /Misc. Rule Cleanups.**

Councilmember Gunther brought forward a proposal to change the process for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor, and to add a Council comment time at the end of the regular meeting agenda. Council reviewed the proposed process as well as the other changes recommended by the City Clerk based on current practice and housekeeping changes. Council Discussion followed. Councilmember Drennen proposed to move the timeline to appoint to June. The Council suspended the rules relating to the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for two months. **Action:** Back to Committee.

### **G. AB20-85-Fireworks Code Change.**

Councilmember Williams briefed that they had initially looked at this and had various ideas but came down to one minor change to make the only time fireworks can be discharged would be from 10:00am on the Fourth to 11:59pm on the Fourth. It would reduce it to a 14 hour period. He would prefer to do more but understands that it is a heated issue. He proposed this as an acceptable compromise. Council discussion followed. Attorney will review and then bring back. **Action:** Back to Committee.

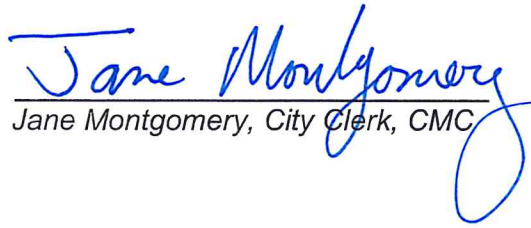
Deputy Mayor Hogan brought up the possibility of making virtual public comments available and how to accomplish that. Discussion followed with different possibilities followed. Town halls may be an option for individual Councilmembers. **Action:** Discuss with the Attorney

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Drennen made a motion to adjourn. Second by Deputy Mayor Hogan.  
Motion passed (7-0)**

Deputy Mayor Hogan adjourned the meeting at 9:33pm

**ATTEST:**

  
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Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC

  
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Joshua Penner, Mayor