

ORIGINAL

**Councilmembers**

Position No.

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



**Mayor Joshua Penner, Chair**

**Orting City Council**

Special Meeting Minutes  
 Budget Workshop  
 October 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2020  
 9:00am -1:00pm  
 Virtual, Orting, WA

**1. CALL SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Penner called the meeting to order at 9:00am, and Councilmember Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

**Councilmembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Councilmembers Tod Gunther, John Kelly, John Williams, Tony Belot and Gregg Bradshaw.

**Absent:** Councilmember Drennen

**Staff Present:** Scott Larson, City Administrator, Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, City Attorney, JC Hungerford, Engineer, Chris Gard, Chief of Police, Greg Reed, Public Works Director. Kim Kainoa, Court Administrator.

*Councilmember Kelly made a motion to excuse Councilmember Drennen. Second by Councilmember Drennen. Motion passed (6-0)*

Mayor Penner read the following statement: \*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.

**2. BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**A. Discussion – 2021 Preliminary Budget.**

**Budget Introduction and Vision Mayor/City Administrator**

Mayor Penner began the budget session by thanking the City Council. He emphasized the fact that the Mayor does not pass a budget, but it is his job to prepare a balanced draft budget and pass that over to the City Council. At that point, the budget becomes theirs. The Mayor stated that the budget is the primary policy document of the Council and determines staff's actions for the upcoming year. The Mayor hopes they keep it balanced and wants them to think of what policy and vision they are setting in place for each department. His vision is to be the best run City in Washington State. He spoke about some ways to accomplish that:

- Be the most responsive city- Outstanding customer service;
- Be the most ready for emergency's- Seek out Leadership roles outside of the City;
- Personnel- Be a place people go to experience leadership development;
- How do we want to employ people? Term Limited / Supported Employment. Look at all the options;
- Get as may processes on rails as we can- (Example 5 year rate structure for utility's);
- Create structure and be informed-Creation of Committee/Study Session Structure;
- Purchase of Vehicles- (Now have a spaced out replacement plan in place)
- Facility's- (Dedicated approach to long term facility reliability)
- Look at the possibility of moving to a two year budget cycle
- Re-Organization of current teams to be more efficient

The Mayor briefed on proposed policy's that are in the draft budget; Mayors Compensation, Council Compensation, Legislative discretionary funds. He stated that the budget is conservatively balanced with a surplus. He asked that they respect the surplus but make the decisions that they believe are necessary to enable their vision and the combined vision of the community for next year.

Scott Larson, City Administrator did a budget orientation detailing the different sections in the budget book which were provided to each Councilmember:

- Mayors Budget Message
- Financial Policy
- 2021 Budget Highlights
- Fund Balances
- General Fund Revenue
- Breakdown of the General Fund- Will be briefed by each Department Head
- Capital Improvement Programs- Council adopted Projects
- Wages/ Positions
- Individual Requests
- Financial Position
- City's Debt
- Revenue and Expenses
- Budget Ordinance
- Property Tax Resolution
- Utility Rates

Scott Larson, City Administrator laid out his vision and goals for the executive team. He stated that in spite of the Corona virus the City has not seen a major impact to the budget. The current budget has a \$54,000 increase in Revenue which is fairly modest. There will be a slight increase in property taxes driven by the increase in housing values and some new construction. Expenses will go up approximately \$34,000. This is due to conservative budgeting. The goal is to not be in a position to have to cut critical items in the event of unforeseen events in 2021. The City focused on investing in critical assets to avoid large future expenses. He briefed on staffing issues, the desire to support other cities, and a plan to continue to pursue new partnerships.

Joe DePinto the City's lobbyist gave a briefing on how his services benefit the City. He explained the makeup of the House and Senate. Revenue projections were down earlier in the year they predicted a downfall of 8.4 billion dollars but is now down to 4.2 billion which is good news. He briefed on AWC's priorities. There will likely be a large transportation package presented which will be a plus for Orting. Mr. DePinto lobbies at the State, County and Federal level to chase down funds, by promoting the City of Orting and providing the City the opportunity to make a case for funding in front of the people who make those decisions. Mr. DePinto will return and give a briefing after the elections.

Mayor recessed the meeting at 9:56am for a break.  
Mayor Penner resumed the meeting at 10:02am.

The Following Departments gave a brief on their individual departments and their goals. Councilmembers were provided the opportunity to ask questions after each overview.



### **1. General Fund – Court**

Update provided by Kim Kainoa, Court Administrator

### **2. General Fund – Police**

Update provided by Chris Gard, Chief of Police.

Mayor Penner recessed the meeting at 11:01am for a break.

The Meeting resumed at 11:07am

### **3. General Fund – Other**

The update was provided by Scott Larson, City Administrator.

Mayor Penner also laid out his proposal to provide each Councilmember a discretionary legislative piece of the general fund to pursue projects they feel would be of benefit to their constituents. The proposed amount is \$3,000. Discussion followed

Mayor Penner briefed on his proposal to take a look at the salary for the Mayor. Cities the size of Orting range anywhere from \$6,000 up to \$100,000. The current salary for the Mayor is \$12,000 a year. No two cities are alike as each Mayor performs the same work. He based his proposal on the amount of work which he feels fairly compensates the Mayor of Orting based on the duties that the Mayor of this City is expected to perform. His proposal is that it be increased to \$30,000.

Mayor Penner recessed for a break at 12:10pm

Mayor Penner resumed the meeting at 12:16pm

### **Parks Discussion**

Scott Larson briefed on the following with regard to revenue the City is expecting about the same as 2020, so things will stay the same in regard to anticipated revenues. Requests have been made regarding new trucks and maintenance workers, and a reader board. The ADA spinner is not reflected in the 2021 budget. Ongoing Projects are still teed up, such as the Whitehawk ballfields. Council discussions followed and input was provided by the City Engineer and the Mayor on Park projects. A zip line, and the ambition and conceptual ideas to brand the City as a gateway to Mt. Rainier was discussed. Councilmember Gunther will make an appointment with Scott Larson to propose his ideas on funding of a zip line.

### **4. Engineering – Projects- City Engineer**

JC Hungerford briefed on City Projects.

- **Well 1 VFD**-Replace pump motors with Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) units. Replace filtration sand media.\$200,000
- **2021 Lift Stations** (Puyallup River & Rainier Meadows)-Construction of improvements for Puyallup River and Rainier Meadows Lift Stations \$1,400,000
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant**-Construction of solids handling improvements for the Wastewater Treatment Plant-\$10,000,000
- **Village Green (Puyallup River) Outfall**- Replace existing undersized storm water outfall for Village Green. Grant funded project.-\$223,000
- **Calistoga Street/Kansas Street Outfall**-Replace the failed storm water system on Calistoga Street West along with the outfall-\$1,500,000
- **Emergency Evacuation Bridge System**-\$6,000,000
- **Whitehawk Boulevard Extension**- Right of Way Acquisition: \$250,000

Council discussion followed.

**5. Public Works- Greg Reed, Public Works Director**

Greg Reed presented a power point detailing 2021 Requests .The request were:

- Two F-150 Trucks
- Inspection Camera
- Solar Powered Variable Message Board
- Term Limited Landscape Maintenance Worker
- Permit Coordinator

**6. Council Discussion-Mayor/City Administrator**

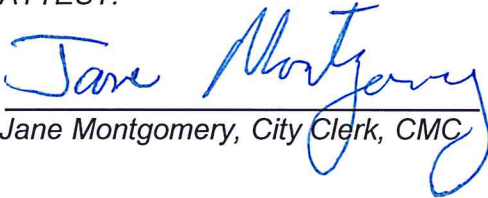
Mayor Penner stated that on the 12<sup>th</sup> Budget discussions will resume. A second version will be presented at this time that reflects any of the items Council had requested.

**3. ADJOURN**

*Councilmember Gunther made a motion to recess. Second by Deputy Mayor Hogan. Motion passed (6-0).*

Mayor Penner recessed the meeting at 1:26pm

ATTEST:

  
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Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC

  
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Joshua Penner, Mayor