

## COUNCILMEMBERS

### **Position No.**

1. Tod Gunther
2. John Kelly
3. Michelle Gehring
4. Joachim Pestinger
5. Nicola McDonald
6. Greg Hogan
7. Scott Drennen



## ORTING CITY COUNCIL

Study Session Meeting Minutes  
Orting Multi-Purpose Center  
202 Washington Ave. S, Orting, WA  
April 17, 2019  
**6PM.**

### **CHAIR, DEPUTY MAYOR GREG HOGAN**

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

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Councilmember Gehring led the pledge of allegiance.

**Councilmembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Councilmembers Tod Gunther, John Kelly, Michelle Gehring, Joachim Pestinger, Scott Drennen. Councilmember Nicola McDonald was not present for roll call but had informed Council that she would be late. Councilmember McDonald arrived at 6:20 pm.

**Staff Present:** Mark Bethune, City Administrator, Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, Scott Larson, Treasurer, Chris Gard, Chief of Police, Emily Terrell, City Planner, Greg Reed, PW Director.

## **2. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Works**

Councilmember Drennen briefed on discussions that took place at the last Public Works meeting:

- Funding was not received for the Bridge over SR 162 for 2019;
- No additional movement on Whitehawk or Kansas;
- CIP is being worked on;
- 5 Year Rate study is in the works;
- The House budgeted \$300,000 for City Hall, \$100,000 for Bridge The Senate budgeted-\$600k City Hall, \$0 Bridge, This will go to conference to see how funds will ultimately be allocated;
- Public Works building is almost completed;
- There will be a PowerPoint presentation of the Public Works building at the April 24, 2019 Council meeting.

### **Public Safety**

Councilmember Pestinger briefed on discussions that took place at the last Public Safety meeting;

- A Straba heat lamp picture provided by Tehaleh was presented which detailed the routes that were most used and traveled upon;
- Tehaleh is working to create a trail for Mountain bikes and they want to connect to the Orting trail system;
- Should Orting support efforts to put this 8 mile trail in?
- Pierce County is taking the lead on the trail issue.

Councilmember Kelly briefed on the following:

- The State Department of Transportation's (DOT) briefing at the last meeting and the discussions that took place regarding the intersection at 128<sup>th</sup>;
- The SR162 Community Group was present and expressed their opposition to round-a-bouts;

- The DOT reported that round-a-bouts reduced vehicle accidents, fatalities and pedestrian accidents;
- The City's position is that they want to do whatever leads to improved traffic flow on SR162.
- Whether or not the correct data was modeled by DOT when they came up with their reports for SR162 round-a-bout;

Lieutenant Ed Turner gave a short report on round-a-bouts from the police perspective. He stated police are in favor of them.

Councilmember Kelly made some suggestions for improvements;  
 Install a flashing yellow light at the 167 intersection on SR162;  
 Speak to the Sumner School district about their policy to not pull off the highway when loading.

Other discussions that took place were:

- Code enforcement at Schoenbachler farm;
- May 10<sup>th</sup> evacuation drill.

### **Community and Government Affairs**

Councilmember Gehring briefed that the proposed website vendor coming up on the agenda.

Councilmember McDonald brought up the issue of fireworks and in that regard comments were made about the following;

- Should a advisory vote be put on the ballot;
- Will it be the only thing citizens think about if it is on the ballot as an advisory vote;
- Will it force candidates to only speak about the fireworks issue and ignore other critical discussions;
- Should the Council come up with an ordinance on fireworks and bring it to a vote;
- Can other measures be taken, such as stepped up enforcement on existing code;
- The negative effects that citizens express about the current practices in town;
- Street closures during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday;
- A possible review of penalties for fireworks violations;
- Putting a notice in Utility Bill to warn citizens that enforcement of fireworks violations will be taking place in July;
- Education and enforcement;
- Quarterly newsletter going out on June 1<sup>st</sup> will address fireworks enforcement;
- Reader board message on fireworks enforcement;
- Concerns by the Mayor that some may place undue expectations on our Police Department to enforce fireworks violations;
- Enforcement alone will not fix the problem;
- The use of posters showing legal or illegal fireworks;

The Consensus by Council was to forgo the advisory vote on this year's ballot and see what impact greater enforcement and education has this next 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

### 3. STAFF REPORTS

Mayor Penner stated that he and Administrator Bethune attended the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup>; conversations took place regarding economic development and transportation Issues.

Administrator Mark Bethune briefed on the following;

- Fiber optics are being looked at for the new facility;
- The bid went out for the new City Hall/Police/Court facility;
- DM Disposal contacted the City and are asking to have their contract amended due to China not taking recyclable materials. This will be discussed in Committee and an analysis will be brought to the May Study Session by the City Administrator

Treasurer Scott Larson briefed on the following:

- Is in the process of wrapping up the annual report;
- Is going to work on a five year general fund budget projections, followed by the budget process.

Public Works Director Greg Reed briefed on the following:

- All Utilities in at the new Public Works Facility;
- Downtown is looking good as staff has cleaned up old flower baskets and debris and have done a general cleanup in the City;
- The Wastewater 1 position closed on April 15<sup>th</sup>, there were two qualified applicants;
- Participation at the meetings and discussions with Pierce County regarding funding for the Jones Levee.

City Clerk Jane Montgomery reported on the following

- Five new records requests pending;
- Application for a 2019 grant for records scanning and processing;
- Website Vendor.

Lieutenant Gabreluk informed Council that the new pickup has been delivered. Chief Gard will be back on Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Orting Police Department is hosting training for Auburn Police on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The department is also participating in monthly emergency preparedness training.

Mayor Penner discussed the following:

- The Lahar Drill will be on May 10<sup>th</sup>, and Council was invited;
- The Joint Council & Planning Commission Meeting will be held on Saturday April 20, 2019;

The goal will be a discussions on:

Zoning, reframing the conversation from Engfer/Gratzer to mixed use town center north, coming together to determine when a recommendation will be sent to Council, providing a forum for the Orting School Board so they can provide input on how they determine impact fees, how the school plans for growth, have an exchange of questions and answers, provide an education component on roles of the City, Planning Commission and the Council in relation to zoning/economic development processes, and lastly to set a procedure to engage on a yearly basis so it becomes a planning of planning.

Councilmember Gunther asked for clarification on the Mayors expectations and wanted to know if Council was expected to tell the Planning Commission their feelings. The Mayor suggested that council hear what is said and that prior to expressing any feelings that they hear what the Planning Commission needs or wants to know. The Mayor

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advised against making declarative statements about how they are going to vote or how the Planning Commission should vote, prior to them voting as that would create very challenging conditions. The Mayor stated he would want the Planning Commission to know how Council makes their judgements, how the Orting School district plans for growth, and how the Fire department plans for growth. The Agenda for the meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> was laid out by the Mayor. The Mayor would like the Planning Commission and the City Council to have time to make well informed decisions and do fact finding prior to being asked to make decisions these issues.

- The Food Bank auction brought in \$19,000.

#### 4. AGENDA ITEMS

##### **A. AB19-16- Sign Code Update, Ordinance No. 2019-1041, Repealing And Replacing Orting Municipal Code Title 13, Chapter 7, Relating Development Regulation Of Signs**

Mark Bethune briefed that staff and the Planning Commission have been working on the sign code for approximately five years. At the January 7, 2019 regular meeting, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the attached Sign Code Update. The Sign Code update amends the Sign Code to comply with recent court cases including the US Supreme Court case *Reed v. Town of Gilbert, Ariz.*, 135 S. Ct. 2218, 192 L.Ed.2d 236 (2015), and subsequent appellate cases. The Gilbert case requires all non-commercial speech (political, religious, opinion, etc.) to be regulated in a manner that is content free in accordance with the free speech provisions of the First Amendment of the US Constitution. Administrator Bethune went over each page to allow for Council comment. **Action:** Council by consensus moved this back to the CGA Committee to address human signs and political signage.

##### **B. AB19-27- Fee Schedule**

Scott Larson briefed that the fee schedule had been before Council last year but it went back to staff to look at building and planning fees. The City was informed by City Planner, Emily Terrell and Tim Lincoln, Building Official, and Greg Reed, Public Works Director that updates were needed to planning, building and Public Works related fees. The proposed fee schedule represents the revisions and additions that were recommended. The purpose of fees is to recoup the City's cost when the work is being done to benefit a private purpose.

**Action:** Go Back to CGA Committee at the request of Councilmember Kelly. Councilmember Kelly will provide CGA with items that he has questions/concerns about.

##### **C. AB19-28- Underwriter- New City Facilities.**

Scott Larson briefed. The City completed an RFP for Private Placement/Underwriter services for financing construction of the new City Hall. DA Davidson was the only respondent to the RFP. Treasurer Larson briefed that Council would be only agreeing to move forward with selecting a firm to assist in the underwriting phase, no money will be borrowed without explicit council. **Action:** Move forward to Consent Agenda.

##### **D. AB19-29- Labor Negotiator.**

Scott Larson briefed that the City would like to bring in a seasoned negotiator to assist with the negotiation of the successor agreement with ASFCME Local 120. Cabot Dow Associates was the only responder to our RFP for a bargaining representative. The City Treasurer followed up with the references, and recommended that Council accept the proposal.

**Action:** Move forward to Consent Agenda.

**E. AB19-30- 178<sup>th</sup> Waterline Bid Award**

Greg Reed briefed that Public Works completed an RFP process for the project, the contractors were notified utilizing MRSC Rosters and the RFP was posted on the City website. Two contractors responded to the RFP request. The bid came in \$25,580 over budget. Recommend the delay of Harman Reservoir Demo for a year: Budgeted \$60,000 BARS# 401.594.34.63.55. **Action:** Move forward to Consent Agenda.

**F. AB19-31- Website Design and Maintenance Contract.**

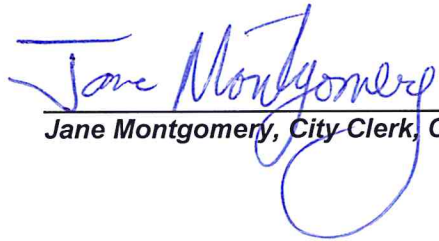
CM Gehring briefed that the City went out for a Request for Qualifications for Website Design on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Staff and the Mayor evaluated the responses and brought a short list to CGA on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Short list firms were notified on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The City conducted interviews on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The Interview team was composed of staff, the Mayor and a Councilmember. After scoring the presentations and consulting with IT, and our current Webmaster it was determined that Granicus was the best fit for the City. Staff recommends Granicus to provide Website Design, Development, & Hosting. The hope is to have the new website up and running in the third quarter of 2019.

**Action:** Move forward to Consent Agenda.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Deputy Mayor Hogan adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC

  
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Joshua Fenner, Mayor