

## 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  
May 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 Drennen led the pledge of allegiance.

**Councilmembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Councilmembers Tod Gunther, John Kelly, Michelle Gehring, Joachim Pestinger, Nicola McDonald, Scott Drennen.

**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 the following topics:

- Chip Seal out for bid soon;
- SR 162 Bridge Crossing;
- AD HOC Committee for the Bridge for Kids group.

#### **Public Safety**

Councilmember Kelly briefed on the following topic:

The School Lahar Drill.

Councilmember Gunther stated he would like to get a report on drug house closures.

#### **Community and Government Affairs**

CM McDonald briefed on the following topics:

- Sign Ordinance;
- Sponsorship of Summerfest;
- Guidelines for Grants;
- Deputy Mayor process was not moved forward;
- Committee Goals.

Councilmember Gunther asked to have the Deputy Mayor process added to the next study session. The mayor asked that CGA look at his proposal for Council appointments at the next CGA meeting.

### **3. STAFF REPORTS**

#### **Mark Bethune**

Administrator Bethune briefed on the following;

- WSDOT given up on the idea of a roundabout at 128<sup>th</sup>;
- Pierce County came out against the roundabout;
- Pierce County believe WSDOT modeling was deficient;
- Only one bid on City Hall project and it was \$1.1 Million over budget;

- Options-go back out for bid, accept bid as low and one bid and incur \$1.6 million in debt; Go back out for bid.

Consensus was to wait and go back out to bid.

### **Scott Larson**

Treasurer Larson handed out his 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report for 2019 and briefed the Council.

### **Chief Gard**

Chief Gard briefed on the following;

- This week is National Police week and the vigil was taking place now;
- 5K Run for the fallen is on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am in the City Park;
- Women's self-defense classes will start the first week of June;
- Puyallup Lahar Drill is on Friday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. 26 schools evacuating. Chief will be participating performing safety operations;
- Certification of Officer Phil Taylor;
- Officer Luis Deffit will be attending tactical medical training.

### **Greg Reed**

Public Works director Reed reported on the following

- Work on 178<sup>th</sup> to start Monday or Tuesday;
- Cemetery;
- Sidewalks and streets;
- Sewer re-line came in under budget;
- Water sites cleaned and maintenance performed;
- Working on schedule for critical components;
- Asset management going well;
- Public Works building going forward by end of May substantial completion.

### **Mayor**

Mayor Penner briefed on the following;

- At the end of June he and the administrator and three councilmembers will be at the AWC Conference;
- One measles case was confirmed;  
Planning Commission Meeting of May 14 was rescheduled to June 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- \$600,000 received in grant money for City Hall;
- \$100,000 received in grant money for bridge over the highway;
- The Mayor walked out in the School Lahar Drill and was joined by staff, the County Executive and other Pierce County elected officials.

Agenda Item G was moved up so the representatives from DM disposal would not have to wait through the entire meeting.

## **4. AGENDA ITEMS**

### **G.AB19-36-Amendment to the City's Franchise Agreement with DM Disposal.**

Administrator Bethune briefed. DM Disposal presented the Public Works Committee a request to increase garbage rates 8.3% based on their increased recycling expense. The City Franchise agreement has language in 8.3 that includes the ability of the franchisee to come to the City for an amendment in prices when market conditions have changed. Approximately 2 years ago DM received about \$40/ton for recyclables. Market conditions changed so that there are now fewer companies willing to purchase the recyclables and they have raised prices. At

present DM is not receiving any revenue but is paying \$108/ton to dispose of the recyclables. Several cities have given the requested increase including Sumner and Milton. Councilmembers were provided a table that showed what the increase would look like for Orting rate payers and compared those with Sumner and Milton. Discussion followed. Josh Metcalf answered questions posed by Councilmembers.

**Action:** Councilmembers Gehring, Kelly, and Deputy Mayor Hogan formed an AD HOC committee to research the matter and will come back with a recommendation at the next study session.

**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 after approximately five years of work, at the January 7, 2019 regular meeting, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed Sign Code Update. City Council reviewed the code recommended by the Planning Commission and sent the sign code to the CGA Committee for potential revisions. The CGA committee reviewed the code on 4/11/19 and made modifications that were reviewed at the 4/17/19 Study Session. Council moved the sign code back to CGA for further review. This proposal takes human signs out. Everything else was agreed to by Council. CGA recommends approval.

**Action:** Move forward to the next meeting for hearing and vote.

**B. AB19-31-Shoreline Master Program Update and Hearing.**

Talia Tittelfitz briefed that the City received a \$15,000 grant from the Department of Ecology to conduct a state-mandated periodic review of the Orting Shoreline Master Program. BHC Consultants has been working on the amendments since January 2018, and adoption of the amendments is required by the State by June 30, 2019. Emily Terrell discussed adding a table later on, but recommended approval of this portion for now.

**Action:** Move forward to the next meeting for a hearing and vote.

**C. AB19-32- Sponsorship Application- Summerfest.**

Councilmember McDonald briefed on the sponsorship application. Orting Summerfest submitted their application for City sponsorship to the Community and Government Affairs Committee (CGA) on May 7th, 2019. The Committee reviewed the application and found it to be in compliance with City Policy. The CGA Committee recommended approval of the application from Orting Summerfest for City sponsorship.

**Action:** Move forward to the next meeting on the Consent Agenda.

**D. AB19-33- Copper Ridge/Meadows 4, Preliminary Plat and Variance.**

Mark Bethune briefed that Sound built Homes has proposed the development of 20 residential building lots now called Meadows 4. The Hearing Official reviewed the pre-plat documents, the staff report by the City Planner, and the variance request and recommended approval of the preliminary-plat.

**Action:** Move forward for a closed record hearing and vote at the next meeting.

**E. AB19-34- RFP- Utility Rate Study**

Scott Larson briefed that one of the 2019 goals is to complete a utility rate study to allow a third party expert to review our utility funding. This study will include rate structure and rate equity. Another component of this study is to determine if our rates are sufficient to meet the capital goals laid out in our CIP's for the respective utility funds. The final goal is to adopt five years' worth of rates at the end of this exercise so that the City does not have to adopt utility rates every year. Bakertilly is substantially cheaper than the other submissions – more than \$42,955

less than the next most qualified firm, and appear just as qualified. The Treasurer will check to see if he can ask that they meet more often.

**Action:** Move forward to the next meeting under new business at the next meeting.

#### **F. AB19-35-City Hall Property, 110 Train St. SE. - Task 1, Data Gap Assessment and Ecology Consultation.**

Administrator Bethune briefed the Council. The City is considering the sale of the current City hall when the new facility is built. Currently there is a brownfield of gasoline contamination under the building and under Train St. SE. Administration is requesting efforts to achieve a “no further action” (NFA) from the department of Ecology. If successful this will greatly enhance the ability to sell the property. Administrator Bethune stated that this is not required to come before Council but that he would like consensus from Council to move forward and approve Task 1.

**Action:** Consensus to move forward does not need to go to Council for further action.

#### **H.AB19-37- Sanitary Sewer CIPP Rehabilitation Project**

Greg Reed briefed that each year, the City budgets to address infiltration and inflow in the wastewater collection system. This year, the City is repairing mains on River Ave SE, Whitesell ST NE, Varner St NW, and Mill Ave SE, totaling 1582 linear feet.

Insta-Pipe, Inc. was deemed to be the most responsive and lowest bidder in response to the original contract documents and associated addendums.

**Action:** Move to Consent Agenda for the meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **I. AB19-38- Fiber Optics- Proposed Amended Purchasing Policy by Resolution No. 2019-13.**

Scott Larson briefed that the City was studying connecting to fiber optic cable in the new city hall. The benefits include increased data capacity faster downloads and uploads as well as greater resiliency in severe weather. The current purchasing policy did not allow for state approved direct negotiations for telecommunications. The proposed change to the purchasing policy is a City attorney recommended amendment that will allow for an alternative process for this type of service.

**Action:** Move to Consent Agenda on May 29.

#### **J. Discussion- Recreational Vehicles**

Councilmember Kelly asked for direction from the Council on how to move forward on discussions on Recreational Vehicles. Discussion followed. The Mayor wants to be sure that the attorney is given clear direction when an ordinance is being proposed.

**Action:** Move to Public Safety Committee.

#### **K. Discussion- Compensatory Storage**

Councilmember Kelly discussed compensatory storage which by City code requires you to bring in a yard of fill for every yard of fill that you remove. He would like to look in to possibly removing this requirement. Administrator Bethune would like to bring this to the next study session as the Engineer is currently looking in to all the impacts.

#### **L. Discussion- Lot Coverage**

Councilmember Kelly states the current code states that you can only cover 30% of your lot. He would like to change that to a higher number which would allow for more of your property to be covered. He would like the Planning Commission to look in to this.

#### **M. Structure of Transportation Committee**


Councilmember Pestinger made a proposal to the Public Works Committee that they move the Transportation portion of the Public Works Committee to the Public Safety Committee. The

Public Works Committee had some concerns about doing this, so Councilmember Pestinger was bringing it forward to hear the rest of the Councilmembers feelings on this. Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of such a decision. The Mayor expressed concerns about sending staff to two meetings rather than one due to associated cost of that move. There was also discussion about the current public safety committee agendas and posting of minutes and agendas. The decision was made by Deputy Mayor Hogan to leave things as they are for now.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Hogan adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC

  
Joshua Penner, Mayor