

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 Meeting Minutes
104 Bridge Street S. Orting, WA
June 16th, 2021, 6pm.

Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Chair

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

Deputy Mayor Hogan made 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 available to the public by a computer link or by phone.*

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Councilmember Bradshaw led the pledge of allegiance, and then roll call was taken.

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

Elected Official: Mayor Penner

Staff Present: City Administrator Scott Larson, Finance Director Gretchen Russo, Engineer JC Hungerford, Acting City Clerk Kim Agfalvi, Police Lieutenant Devon Gabreluk, Public Works Supervisor Mark Barfield.

2. PRESENTATION- Legislative Update – Joe DePinto

Joe DePinto, Legislative Advocate, briefed on the following:

- Government affairs legislative items
- Possibility of summer legislative session

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works - CM Drennen & CM Bradshaw

Councilmembers Drennan and Bradshaw briefed on the following topics discussed at the last meeting:

- Sidewalk ordinance
- Waste water treatment plant upgrades
- Renaming of wastewater treatment plant

Public Safety - CM Belot & CM Gunther

Councilmembers Belot and Gunther briefed on the following topics discussed at the last meeting:

- Briefed on SB 5476 – State vs. Blake
- Body cameras for police department
- Data – new website and possibility of adding crime within the City data to website
- Update on guest citizen speaking at meeting on ordinance in regards to burning in the City

Community and Government Affairs - CM Kelly & CM Williams

- Collaboration with Public Works Committee on sidewalk ordinance
- Three items moving forward tonight for discussion - Sign ADR codes, Daffodil Parade float storage, and ordinance on meeting locations.
- Addition of clock in tower at City Hall
- Cemetery improvements and updates
- Land acquisition
- Marijuana policy
- Offensive signs in the park

4. STAFF REPORTS

Engineering

JC Hungerford, City Engineer, briefed on the following:

- Gratzner Park expansion has begun
- Contractor on well 1 has begun construction and laying out materials
- Lift stations – Puyallup and Rainier lift stations in submittal review and long lead times with current production delays. Construction will begin in September.
- Engineering report on waste water plant has been formally approved by the Department of Ecology with no comments.

Public Works

Mark Barfield, Public Works Supervisor, briefed on the following:

- Vector updates
- Street striping
- CB cleaning
- Water risk assessment
- Possible chlorine shortage

Police

Devon Gabreluk, Orting Police Lieutenant, briefed on the following:

- Lahar drill with surrounding cities
- Update on arrests for vandalism and theft
- Vehicle prowls and malicious mischief
- New website – community crime mapping, transparency on use of force, firearms permits

Finance

Gretchen Russo, Finance Director, briefed on the following:

- Update on staff

City Clerk

Kim Agfalvi, Acting City Clerk, briefed on the following:

- Completion of 1st year of City Clerk school

City Administrator

Scott Larson, City Administrator, briefed on the following:

- City Clerk Status
- Rescheduling of committee meetings
- Invest in America act
- Possible changes in staffed hours at City Hall

Executive

Joshua Penner, Mayor of Orting, briefed on the following:

- New website
- Veterans Village and visit from the Governor
- Jones Levee update
- Partnership for public/private affordable housing
- Cemetery volunteer
- City Clerk position

5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. AB21-49 - Website Noticing- Ordinance No. 2021-1079, An Ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, relating to public noticing; amending Orting Municipal Code sections 17-2.

City Administrator Larson briefed on website noticing updates, that will require the City to post land use notice to the City of Orting website.

Action: Move forward to agenda for the June 30th, 2021 meeting.

B. AB21-50 - Sign Code & Related ADR Code.

City Administrator Larson briefed on sign code and related ADR code items. Emily Adams will take this item to Planning Commission in July for a recommendation. The proposed update to regulations for electronic signs, to include how messages are displayed, how long they can be displayed, and also regulations for flutter signs.

Action: Move to Planning Commission meeting in July.

C. AB21-51- Types of Permit Decisions.

Agenda item was postponed to July 2021 study session.

D. AB21-52 - American Rescue Plan Act- (ARPA).

City Administrator Larson briefed on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in which the City of Orting will receive \$1.9 million in funds. City Administrator Larson also briefed on partnering with Pierce County for additional ARPA funds to be used within the City.

Action: Appoint an AD Hoc Committee to discuss spending the ARPA funds. Councilmembers Belot, Gunther, and Kelly volunteered to join the committee.

E. AB21-56 – Utility Billing Policy Update.

Finance Director Gretchen Russo briefed on Utility Billing policy. The City has not been shutting off water or imposing late fees during the COVID-19 pandemic. City Policy of shutting off water and implementing fees will be fully reinstated likely in September 2021, pending the end of the emergency directive from the Governor. Notice will be sent to customers with their August 1, 2021 billing communicating that customers will see the late fees and shut off notices starting with the August billing, but for that month those fees will be waived. The City will be sending out direct letters to customers that are in serious arrears on paying their utility bills. Finance Director Russo also stated that the City has been paying the credit card fees for customers paying online, and that she recommends the City continue to do so. She stated that she will be working with the vendors to negotiate down the fees for credit card payments. She also listed out several places' customers can access for assistance with their utility bills if they are in arrears or having a hard time paying, such as Orting Food Bank, Pierce County Rental Assistance Program, and that the City would be offering a flexible payment plan to its customers.

Action: Move to the July 2021 Study Session

F. AB21-47 - Meeting locations and virtual meetings- Ordinance No. 2021-1077, An Ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, relating to council meetings; amending Orting Municipal Code 1-6-1 pertaining to location of meetings and virtual Meetings.

Councilmember Kelly briefed on amending the Orting Municipal Code, through an Ordinance, to allow councilmembers to attend meetings through virtual attendance, provided that a quorum of the City Council shall be located at the place of regular meetings.

Action: Move forward to consent agenda at the June 30th, 2021 meeting.

G. AB 21-48 - Reducing HWY 162 Speed Limit – Ordinance No. 2021-1078, An Ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, relating to the speed limit on Highway 162 corridor South.

City Administrator Larson briefed on an ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Highway 162 between mileposts 10.31 and 10.34 from 50 miles an hour to 30 miles an hour. WSDOT will provide new speed limits signs in that area.

Action: Move forward to agenda for the June 30th, 2021 meeting

H. AB21-53 - Daffodil Float Storage.

Councilmember Kelly briefed on the Orting Chamber of Commerce's desire to use the Public Works facility located at the intersection of Calistoga and Kansas. He suggested leasing the building to the Chamber at a reduced rate to provide storage for the Daffodil Parade Float, and that the Chamber would complete any modifications to the building that needed to be made.

Action: Staff will work on drafting a lease agreement with provisions to provide to the Orting Chamber of Commerce.

I. AB21-54 - COVID 19 Vaccine Segregation- Resolution No. 2021-07, A Resolution of the City of Orting, Pierce County, Washington, declaring the City of Orting to be an inclusive community where businesses are empowered with choice and citizens are treated equally.

Councilmember Belot briefed on a resolution of the City on vaccine segregation and the right of citizens to choose what is best for themselves.

Action: Move forward to agenda for the June 30th, 2021 meeting.

J. AB21-55 -Transportation Funding- AD HOC Committee.

City Administrator Larson briefed on forming an AD Hoc Committee to explore funding for our transportation maintenance since the Transportation Benefit District Fee was reduced to \$0 in 2020.

Action: Appoint an AD Hoc Committee to explore funding options. Councilmembers Drennan and Hogan volunteered to join the committee.

K. Discussion – Marijuana Sales in City Limits

Councilmember Kelly briefed the council on the possible share of revenue if the City Council allowed marijuana sales in the City limits. Council discussion followed.

Action: Consensus of Council is to not allow sales in the City at this time.

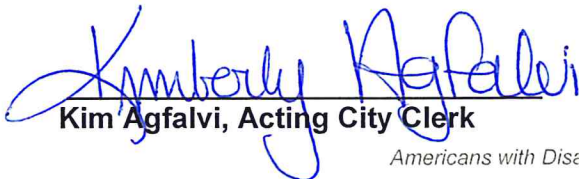
6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Hogan recessed the meeting at 8:51pm.

ATTEST:


Kim Agfalvi, Acting City Clerk


Joshua Penner, Mayor

Americans with Disabilities Act – reasonable accommodations provided upon request (360) 893-2219