

CITY OF ORTING
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
August 4, 2021 2:30 p.m.

Councilmember Drennen called the virtual meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.,

ATTENDANCE:

Elected Officials: Present, Councilmember Drennen & Councilmember Bradshaw

City Employees: Present, City Administrator Scott Larson, Public Works Director Greg Reed, Finance Director Gretchen Russo, Secretary Laura Hinds, Building Official Tim Lincoln, and PW Records & Permit Clerk Alison Williams

Professional Representatives: Present, Parametrix Engineer JC Hungerford

Guests: Sara Ott with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for July 7, 2021 approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT & PRESENTATIONS:

Sara Ott with WSDOT joined the meeting to help address questions regarding the upcoming speed limit change for SR 162 E, from MP 10.31 – 10.34 (in City Limits). This change would remove the current speed limit from 50 MPH and reduce to 30 MPH. In addition to this change from MP 10.34 to MP 13.29 (outside City limits, towards South Prairie) the speed limit will be reduced from 50 MPH to 45 MPH. Two data points were studied: 1) average speed limits and 2) crash history.

1. Average speeds showed 85% of drivers were comfortable with driving at 45 MPH; 5 MPH less than the current posted speed limit.
2. The crash history from MP 11.3 to MP 13.29 in a 5 year period (2016 – 2020) found there were over 150 vehicle accidents. Thirteen of which were fatalities or serious injury and 8 of those were single vehicle accidents that left the roadway.

WSDOT is asking the City if they will be interested in a writing an Ordinance for the speed change within its City limits. The committee will move this to Study Session to discuss with Council.

Also, SR 162 E. at Orville Rd E will have installed a compact round-a-bout in 2023.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Phase 1 – SR 162 Pedestrian Bridge – JC Hungerford

- 1.1 **Phase I – SR 162 Bridge Design** – The ad-hoc committee met on May 25th to discuss railing and aesthetic options for the bridge. Some revisions were requested so Parametrix is drafting these for another Adhoc meeting on August 17th.

2. Engineering – JC Hungerford

- 2.1 **Whitehawk SW Connector** – Whitehawk environmental field work is complete, and the environmental reports are in progress. The ROW remediation work is under contract and in progress by Epic Land Solutions. Parametrix presented a roundabout layout at Study Session on July 21 and was asked to make some revisions. Parametrix will be returning to Study Session in August to present. Parametrix continues to work finding grant opportunities, showing this by—pass is not just a Orting Community project, but benefits surrounding communities as well. To continue the environmental process, JC is requesting a decision on roundabout vs. traffic signal. This will go to Study Session on August 18th to discussion intersection options.
- 2.2 **WWTP Solids Handling Upgrade** – JC provided a draft schedule for review, to include timeline for over the next year. The schedule will assess immediate needs, processes, 30% design, and 90% design. Project is expected to go for bid in June 2022.
- 2.3 **Jones Levee (& Ken Wolfe Setback Levee)** – Parametrix presented the Pierce County slide show during the City Council meeting on June 30. Pierce County will be presenting on July 14, 2021.
- 2.4 **Village Green Outfall @ High Cedars** – Parametrix is moving forward with design and permitting. Pierce County has deferred SEPA lead Agency to the City, so the City has processed the SEPA application. The project will be advertised for construction in August.
- 2.5 **2021 Lift Station Projects:** Notice of award has been issued to Pape & sons, Inc. Currently there is a long lead time for the needed plug valves (12 weeks) and the electrical panel (September). The contractor plans on mobilization in September to set the wet well and vaults if materials arrive in time.
- 2.6 **Well 1 VFD Upgrades:** NE Electric has been completing all of the construction that they can without disrupting the production of the facility. This has been delayed until the startup of Well 3 was completed and tested. Well 3 was brought online on July 27th. After a week of successful operation, we will schedule the Well 1 startup.
- 2.7 **Gratzer Park – Phase 2** – Construction is progressing onsite. All Landscaping is currently installing the drainage system for the field.

New Business

- 2.8 **Buttes Water System:** Valley Water has approached the City and is requesting an emergency inter-tie for water for the Buttes Development off of Orville Rd. E. The current well feeding this community is failing quickly. Valley Water is working on drilling for 2 new wells, but would like redundancy. The City would like to have a capacity analysis before moving forward with a decision and the City intends to pass the cost of the analysis on to Valley Water.
- 2.9 **Stormwater:**
- The City is required to complete a Stormwater Management Action Plan (SMAP) by 3/31/2022. Parametrix will be providing a scope and budget for consideration and budgeting.
 - Parametrix is updating the OMC for compliance with the NPDES Stormwater Permit. Draft revisions will be provided in September for review.
- Sewer:**
- Parametrix will be helping the City advertise for contractor to install the new 18” plug valve for the WWTP.

3. Administration – Scott Larson

3.1 No Update

4. Public Works – Greg Reed

4.1 **Sidewalk Code:** Greg is looking for committee thoughts on the codes he handed out at previous meetings for review. Also, to determine who would be the authority for sidewalk construction reminder after a notice is mailed to property owner. CA Larson is still working thru the codes to determine best interest of the City.

4.2 **Planter Bulbs Downtown:** Greg sent a template letter to Code Enforcement to work with when sending letters to property owners who are responsible for planter bulbs abutting their property.

4.3 **Harman Tank Demolition:** Working on writing proposal and obtaining contractors from small works roster to go out for proposal.

New Business

4.4 **NPDES Requirements:** See Section. 2.9 (stormwater)

4.5 **Budget Request 2022:** Greg passed out his budget request forms for review and consideration.

5. Finance – Gretchen Russo

5.1 No Updates

6. Councilmember Comments

6.1 **WWTP – Rename of WWTP Facility to Water Resource Recovery Facility.** The new name will occur after the upgrade of the facility. A draft resolution was provided for review. Will go to Study Session for consideration on Aug 18th.

7. Building Department – Tim Lincoln

Old Business

7.1 **Meadows Phase 4:** Construction continuing, close to final on some homes.

7.2 **Parker Ln.:** Construction is continuing, 1 home is close to final

7.3 **Washington Ave S:** Pending replies from comments.

New Business

7.4 **Harmon Way S:** Permits have been release for 2 new homes

7.5 **Cell Tower:** Changing of panels and adding back up generation

7.6 **Hearing for setback variance:** Waiting for final comment from hearing examiner.

Round Table:

Request to provide street sweeping schedule in water bill / website

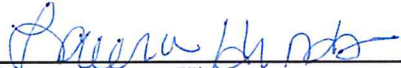
Meeting Summary:

Public Comment & Presentation: Study Session - Ordinance for reducing speed limit

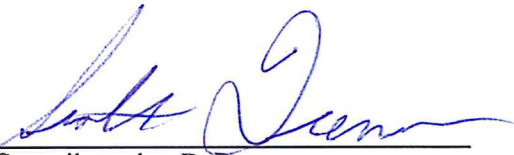
- 1.1 Adhoc – SR 162 E Pedestrian Bridge
- 2.1 Study Session – Whitehawk SW Connector
- 2.7 Study Session – Gratzer Park Scope & Budget
- 2.9 Study Session – NPDES Stormwater Requirements
- 6.1 Study Session – WWTP Rebranding

Adjourn: CM Drennen motion to adjourn at 4:45 pm


Attest:



Secretary Laura Hinds



Councilmember Drennen



Councilmember Bradshaw