

COUNCILMEMBERS

Position No.

1. Tod Gunther
2. Chris Moore
3. Don Tracy
4. John Williams
5. Gregg Bradshaw
6. Greg Hogan
7. Melodi Koenig



ORTING CITY COUNCIL

Study Session Meeting Minutes
104 Bridge Street S, Orting, WA
February 16, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Hogan, Chair

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

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Councilmember Williams led the pledge of allegiance, and then roll call was taken.

Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Don Tracy, John Williams, Gregg Bradshaw, Melodi Koenig, Chris Moore, and Deputy Mayor Hogan.

Virtual: Councilmember Tod Gunther.

Staff present: City Administrator Scott Larson, Finance Director Gretchen Russo, City Engineer Maryanne Zukowski, City Clerk Kim Agfalvi, City Planner Emily Adams. Virtual: Public Works Director Greg Reed, Building Official Tim Lincoln, and Police Chief Chris Gard.

Mayor Penner read the following announcements:

The City Council, Staff, and the public are attending this meeting virtually, pursuant to Governor Inslee's Order 20-28 dated March 24, 2020. The public may attend via the platform Zoom by clicking the link for zoom on the City of Orting website, by telephone by dialing 1.253.215.8782, Meeting ID 920 8853 4800 passcode 259866. If you log in at zoom.com you will need to enter the meeting ID 920 8853 4800, the passcode 259866, and your name.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

A. Public Works - CM Bradshaw & CM Williams

Councilmembers Bradshaw and Koenig briefed on the following topics discussed at the last public works meeting:

- Update on the pedestrian bridge and additional funding in the amount of 2 million dollars will be needed to complete it. He stated the bridge may be narrowed and that the city may know more about additional funding in March.
- Whitehawk Blvd. extension is on pause while awaiting the completion of environmental studies.
- Kansas Street Reconstruction is moving forward.
- Kansas Calistoga street stormwater is scheduled for construction advertising on April 15th subject to permitting requirements.
- Lift stations project is back on track for completion.
- Purchase of truck for Public Works Department.
- Fuel tank at old Public Workshop may need to be relocated to new Public Works building, or will need to be removed.

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

Next Regular Meeting: February 23rd, 2022 - 7:00pm

B. Public Safety - CM Moore and CM Koenig

Councilmembers Gunther and Tracy briefed on the following topics discussed at the last public works meeting:

- Chief Gard provided updates on the City of Orting Police Department.
- Article in Runner's World Magazine regarding crime along the trail systems and work Chief Gard is doing to bring awareness to the issue.
- Body cameras are operational and being used.
- Updated on training for police officers.

C. Community and Government Affairs - CM Gunther and CM Tracy.

Councilmember Moore briefed on the following topics discussed at the last public works meeting:

- New clock will be installed.
- Daffodil Festival Sponsorship.
- Discussed grant policy and interlocal agreements pulled for review.
- Designation of Orting as a Purple Heart City.
- City of Orting challenge coins.
- Possible purchase of portable pitching mounds, but City of Orting does already have two that are stored in the shed at Gratzer Park.

3. STAFF REPORTS.

Activities and Events

City Clerk Kim Agfalvi briefed on the following:

- Dance registrations for spring have been opened and this session will run for twelve weeks and have a recital.
- Painting class in February was successful with ten registrants and registration for the March class is open.
- Two kids crafting classes were held and there will be more crafting classes in March, with plans to have one crafting class per month.
- Orting Chocolate Stroll was a success and City Hall was visited by over 275 participants.
- Registration for adult dance fitness and full body circuit classes has opened and will be held every Tuesday in the month of March.
- The online registration platform has been a success and has increased registrations for all classes.

Public Works

City Administrator Scott Larson briefed on the following:

- Staff is working around town getting ready for Daffodil Parade.
- Staff has been working on getting trees down behind Carbon River Neighborhood. We drop them and leave them due to the sensitive nature of the area.

Finance

Finance Director Gretchen Russo briefed on the following:

- Memo on overall health of City as of December 31st, 2021. Sales tax was higher than anticipated, general fund shared revenue was higher than expected and building permits revenue was higher than anticipated. She briefed on projects completed and projects in progress.
- Detailed comparison of cash and investments (City of Orting Quarterly Financial Position).

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- General Fund overview of revenue and expenditures.
- Specific department breakdown of revenue and expenditures.
- Breakdown of all other fund's revenue and expenditures.

City Planner

City Planner Emily Adams briefed on the following:

- Parks Plan update is under review for certification.
- Working on code amendments.
- Kansas Street Outfall and environmental review.

City Engineer

City Engineer Maryanne Zukowski briefed on the following:

- The City of Orting will be receiving a \$380,000.00 grant for roundabout design for the City.
- FHWA Right of Way Remediation has been completed.
- Briefing on ongoing living work plan which is a plan of items that are being worked on throughout the year and upcoming projects.
- SMAP – Stormwater Management Action Plan – phase one has been completed and phase two will be beginning soon.
- Public involvement component for Whitehawk Blvd for parks and education plan of what a De Minimis is.
- Public outreach for construction impacts for Kansas Street and Calistoga Street outfall.

City Clerk

City Clerk Kim Agfalvi briefed on the following:

- Activities and Events Coordinator Michell Alfieri has had her hours increased from 20 hours per week to 30 hours per week.
- Attendance at Washington Municipal Clerks Association 50th Anniversary conference will be held in Pasco, WA March 16th – 18th, 2022 and the annual Spring Academy that will be held at the same location on March 15th, 2022.

Police

Police Chief Chris Gard briefed on the following:

- Article in Runner's World magazine regarding crime on the trail systems and the stories of three women who were assaulted while training for marathons. He stated he is working on creative ways to raise awareness to what is happening to athletes and to facilitate ways to keep athletes and citizens safe when using the trail systems. He reiterated that the City of Orting has not had any uptick in crime on our trail systems.
- Updated on staffing and the resignation of Police Officer Luis Deffit. One entry level candidate has completed the psych evaluation and another entry level beginning the process for psych evaluation and medical evaluations.

Administration

City Administrator Scott Larson briefed on the following:

- Reminder of meeting for ARPA Ad Hoc Committee meeting, Thursday, February 17th at 3:00pm.
- Lahar evacuation exercise will be held on Friday, April 29th.
- Emergency Management interlocal agreement which allows staff to work with emergency management to update individual department COOP.
- Code Red – PC alert type system that the City of Orting will have access to. It will give the City direct control over messages in the event of an emergency.

Executive – Mayor

Mayor Penner briefed on the following:

- Legislature is considering transportation package and the City of Orting has been lobbying for 7 million dollars that would be allocated to improve SR 410 and SR1 162 interchange.
- The City of Orting Kingsmen had approached the Mayor for funds to jump start their program and may approach Council for help.
- Update on Parks and Recreation activities.

4. AGENDA ITEMS.

A. AB22-14 – Potential Manufactured Home Code Amendments.

City Planner Emily Adams briefed on potential manufactured home code amendments and the regulations that are currently in place. Current code states that manufactured homes have to be placed on permanent foundation. She stated that homes that are not brand new only have to be brought up to code that was in place the year the home was built. City Planner Emily Adams stated the City Building Official is concerned with current code and would like the Council to consider amending the code so it will state that any manufactured home placed on an individual lot would have to be a new manufactured home.

Councilmember Williams stated it is a good idea for manufactured homes to be on individual lots and to be new due to energy codes, the egress, the safety egress, the window sizes, and he does not think allowing used manufactures homes is a good idea for the City at all.

Councilmember Koenig stated that she disagrees that they should be new, but does agree that there should be other rules and regulations in place, and that we do have existing manufactured home communities to consider. She stated we could put in place regulations that state manufactured homes cannot be older than a certain year that they were built, and that amending code to only allow new homes would not be in the best interest of the community members.

Councilmember Gunther stated that he was worried about the community having affordable homes, and that he wants to be mindful of representing those that cannot afford new homes. He stated manufactured homes are generally considered affordable, and amending code to only allow new ones is wrong.

Councilmember Moore stated he had concerns with older manufactured homes not being up to code and that they can come with a myriad of problems. He stated we need to stay consistent with keeping people safe with the modern building code. He stated there are concerns with older manufactured homes bringing down values of homes in the area, and that the building would not be up to current code, and that the cost of upgrades to older manufactured homes is cost prohibitive.

Councilmember Tracy stated he agrees with Councilmember Moore. He doesn't know if it is so much the wording of new or old, but that the dwelling needs to be up to current code. He stated it is all about the code.

Mayor Penner clarified that the issue before us is whether Council wants to support the amending of code and that someone would have to sponsor the change.

Action: Informational only.

B. AB22-15 – Puget Sound Regional Council General Assembly.

Deputy Mayor Hogan volunteered to represent the City of Orting at the Puget Sound Regional Council General Assembly.

Action: No action needed.

C. AB22-08 – Daffodil Festival Sponsorship.

City Administrator Scott Larson briefed on the sponsorship of the Daffodil Parade by the City. We provide services like police officers for traffic control, staff support, and use of city facilities. He stated there are two applications under this one request, one from the Daffodil Festival and one from the Orting Chamber of Commerce. The Daffodil Festival paid the event fee, and the Chamber of Commerce paid for the vendor permit.

Action: Move to consent agenda at February 23, 2022 meeting.

D. AB22-13 – Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids (SEEK) Grant.

City Administrator Scott Larson briefed the SEEK grants awarded and how the Youth Outdoor Adventure Program and the Summer Day Camp Program will work. He stated some additional temporary staff will be hired to help run the day camp program. He stated this is not a budgeted item, but a reimbursement grant and funds will come from the general fund.

Councilmember Bradshaw asked how the City would qualify what kids are able to participate. City Administrator Larson stated the City would work with the school district, and that the program is being targeted towards participation for disadvantaged youth.

Councilmember Bradshaw stated he was concerned about using City money and excluding children that want to participate.

Councilmember Moore asked about awarding scholarships to participants, and City Clerk Kim Agfalvi stated there would be no cost to registrants for the program.

Councilmember Tracy stated that 25 of the 50 enrollments for the Outdoor Youth Adventure Program would be targeted for registration for disadvantaged youth, and asked about vaccine requirements for those working or volunteering for the program. City Administrator Larson stated that the guidelines are coming from OSPI, and that some of the regulations will exist because of those guidelines set forth by OSPI.

City Administrator Scott Larson clarified that the program would be open to all students residing in the Orting School district boundary.

Mayor Penner stated there is a lot of opportunity to partner further with the school district if there is a large interest from the community.

Councilmember Koenig stated she is concerned about kids feeling excluded and not being able to participate, and City Clerk Kim Agfalvi clarified that this is the first program the City has put on like this, so we would have a foundation to build on.

Action: Move to consent agenda at February 23, 2022 meeting.

E. Lighted crossing outside City Hall. Councilmember Williams stated he would like signage at the cross walks on the light posts with the flashing lights to face the trail so those that are crossing the street at the intersection know to hit the button so the lights flash.

Action: Ask public works to turn the sign so it faces the trail and is more visible.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION.

No executive session.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Deputy Mayor Hogan adjourned the meeting at 7:55pm.

ATTEST:


Kimberly Agfalvi, City Clerk


Joshua Penner, Mayor