

ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2009

Mayor Cheryl Temple called the meeting to order with the flag salute at 7:00 pm in the Orting Public Safety Building. Roll call found in attendance Councilmembers Scott Drennen, George Wilson, Dick Ford, Guy S. Colorossi, Nicola McDonald, David Inge and Joachim Pestinger.

ATTENDANCE:

City Employees City Administrator Mark Bethune, Administrative Assistant Roxanne Pollard, Finance Director/City Clerk Susan Davis, Accounting Clerk II Freda Bingham, Accounting Clerk I Jane Helgelien, Police Chief Bill Drake, Building Official Ken Wolfe, Parks and Recreation Director Beckie Meek.

Professional City Attorney Chris Bacha, Parametrix Engineer Dave Roberts.
Representatives

Visitors Susan Jorgensen, Gary Como, Teresa Wagar, Scott Wagar, Lea McDonald, Nick McDonald, Dave Harman, Margaret O'Harra, Kenneth Hill, Neil Guptill, Barbara Hansen, Al Lanham, Ken Harvie, Mary Siegenthaler.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of March 25, 2009.
- B. March 2009 Treasurer's Report.
- C. Approval of Claims Warrants No.14096 through No. 14151 in the amount of \$218,960.04 and Payroll Warrants No. 18097 through No. 18148 in the amount of \$124,531.51.

Councilmember Colorossi moved to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Town Hall Meeting Barbara Hansen, of 506 Grinnell Avenue Southwest, reported
Cancelled: Barbara that Town Hall Meeting to discuss drug abuse in Orting has been
Hansen postponed to allow for the Harrison Family Memorial. The
 meeting will now be May 19 at 6:30 pm in the High School
 Commons.

Icey Street Break-in: Lea McDonald, of 205 Icey Street Southwest, addressed the Council about a recent break-in at her home. On the morning of April 2 she and her family awoke to discover an unknown male in the upstairs hallway of their home. Investigation showed the individual had been in the home for an undetermined amount of time. During this interval he had consumed alcohol and used the family computer to access pornographic sites.

Lea McDonald

Mrs. McDonald had several comments regarding the break-in and police response to the call.

The Police Department press release reported that there was no sign of forced entry however, she believed that all doors were locked.

Many households on the street she lives on have children.

She thanked the Orting Police Department for their quick response to the 911 call.

She was concerned that at times the City of Orting only has one officer on duty. Most neighboring cities have at least two officers on duty at all times. The City of Orting only has six full-time police officers, two sergeants and a police chief. The City of Sumner has many more officers compared to the City of Orting. Orting has one part-time police detective. Orting does not have a school resource officer.

There was a car theft in the same neighborhood the next night.

She appreciates that the Orting Police Department has increased patrols in the area, but is concerned that the patrols will decrease as time goes by.

Mayor Temple asked Police Chief Bill Drake to respond to some of Mrs. McDonald's comments.

Chief Drake expressed empathy for Mrs. McDonald's situation. He reported that crime rates are on the rise in Orting as it is in many communities across the country. He appreciated the comments that Mrs. McDonald made about the quickness of the police response to her 911 call. The Orting Police Department arrived on the scene within 70 seconds of receiving the 911 call. The City is in the process of applying for a grant to provide additional police officers.

Chief Drake also reported that earlier that day the Orting Police Department had arrested two suspects in the case and both had given statements admitting involvement in the break-in.

Councilmember Colorossi asked if there had been any interest in the Block Watch Program that the department is creating. Chief Drake reported that there 20 people have signed up so far.

Chief Drake also reported that on Saturday April 11, the City would have two more Reserve Police Officers graduate from the Police Academy.

Councilmember Drennen commented that he is very proud to live in this community. A community that still has a police department that is in touch enough with the community to still know where the problem areas are and who the problem people are. The police department has always had quick response times. Why he is empathetic to Mrs. McDonald and her family he is confident that our police department always does the very best that is can. Unfortunately, the budget is what it is, this year there were cuts to all departments. The City however, continues to spend the largest portion of its budget on public safety services like police and fire.

City Administrator Bethune commented that he believes Mrs. McDonald has the right to be upset and fearful. He added while Sumner does have a larger police force, they also have a larger population, general fund and tax base due to the industrial area that they have developed.

Councilmember Wilson reminded the audience that the City Council is composed of individuals who are also just citizens, many of them have children and grandchildren that they worry about. The City is limited by its budget. He encouraged members of the audience to consider running for any of the five Council positions that will be available in the fall.

Icey Street Break-In:
Teresa Wager

Teresa Wager, of 210 Icey Street Southwest, commented that since the break-in her eight-year-old has had to sleep in her bedroom because she is scared. Mrs. Wager's husband has been waking up at 2 am to patrol the neighborhood with other residents. There has to be money somewhere to pay for more police officers.

Whitehawk Bypass
& Icey Street Break-

Allen Lanham, of 309 Thompsen Avenue Northwest, commented that ten more officers will not help prevent this from

In: Allen Lanham happening again.

He also asked if anything is happening with the Whitehawk Bypass. City Administrator Bethune and Engineer Roberts reported that there has been some survey work done. The project most likely will not completed for at least ten years and it will take about six million dollars to complete the road extension.

Icey Street Break-In: Scott Wager, of 210 Icey Street Southwest, asked how the City's population can continue to grow and the police force does not. Scott Wager Doe taxes need to be increased to pay for more police services?

Icey Street Break-In: Kenneth Hale, of 313 Orting Avenue Northwest, commented Kenneth Hale that the person most responsible to protect your family is you. Police have a duty to enforce the law.

Councilmember Ford thanked members of the audience for their feedback. The City of Orting has great Police.

PRESENTATION:

Setback Levees Building Official presented the Council with information on setback levees. At the conclusion of the presentation he asked for the Council's support for further work towards setback levees and sediment management. The Council agreed.

OLD BUSINESS:

NPDES Appeal City Attorney Bacha reported that the NPDES Phase II permit Process appeal has concluded. The appeal was successful.

Ordinance No. 874: Councilmember Inge moved to adopt Ordinance No. 874, an Shoreline Master ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, repealing Chapter Program Adoption 3, Title 5, Shoreline Master Program, of the Orting Municipal Code amending the name of Title 11 to "Critical Areas and Shoreline Management," and adopting the 2007 City of Orting Shoreline Master Program as Chapter 6 of Title 11, providing for severability; and establishing an effective date. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Hearing: Mayor Temple opened the public hearing regarding the new Dangerous Dogs Dangerous Dog Ordinance at 9:10 pm.

Hearing no comments Mayor Temple closed the hearing at 9:11 pm.

Ordinance No. 875: Councilmember Pestinger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 875, Dangerous Dogs an ordinance of the City of Orting, Washington, amending Chapter 6-3A of the Orting Municipal Code relating to regulation of domestic animals; establishing regulations, penalties and enforcement authority pertaining to dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date as amended to remove the words “or dangerous dogs” where not needed. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Wilson also noted for the public that the ordinance does single out any breeds of dogs as being prohibited.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cops Hiring Recovery Program Grant Application Councilmember Wilson informed the Council that the City is applying for the Cops Hiring Recovery Program Grant. The grant provides funding to hire and pay the salary of police officers for three years. After the initial three year period the City would be required to retain the police officers for at least one more year.

Resolution 2009-1: Councilmember Drennen moved to adopt Resolution 2009-1, Pierce County Solid Waste Plan Concurrence resolution of the City of Orting, Washington adopting the year 2008 supplement to the year 2000 Tacoma-Pierce County Solid Waste Management Plan and recommitting the City to the goals, policies, recommendations, and disposal methods set forth in the 2000 plan and 2008 supplement. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

Proposed Ordinance: Consideration of the proposed inattentive driving ordinance was Inattentive Driving tabled to the April 29, 2009 meeting.

COMMITTEE AND STANDING REPORTS:

River Bar Removal Councilmember Colorossi reported that the City of Sumner had recently adopted a resolution in support of river dredging. He provided a copy of resolution for the Council.

Utility and Technology Committee Councilmember Drennen reported that the Utility and Technology Committee has been discussing several projects. The Well No. 3 filtration system is almost complete, auto valves still need to be installed. The City will be contacting residents along Orville Road to provide them with information about the water line replacement and secure easements. High priority

upcoming projects include the north reservoir and well no. 1 repairs. The committee has also been discussing utility rates for customers outside the City limits.

Community
Development
Committee

Councilmember Inge reported that Daffodil Parade day was very successful.

Public Safety
Committee

Councilmember Wilson reminded the citizens to practice good personal security.

Transportation
Committee

Councilmember Pestinger reported that the Transportation Committee had been approached by a citizen of Hardtke Street requesting speed bumps. The Committee will hold a hearing on April 30 to determine if there is more interest.

Bridge for Kids

Councilmember Drennen reported that the next Bridge for Kids Steering Committee meeting is April 14.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Pestinger moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm. Councilmember Colorossi seconded the motion and it carried.

ATTEST:

Finance Director/City Clerk Susan J. Davis

Mayor Cheryl M. Temple