

ORTING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 26, 2010

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 Stanley Holland, Tyler Coughlin, Nicola McDonald, Joachim Pestinger, David Inge, and Guy S. Colorossi. Councilmember Inge moved to excuse Councilmember Scott Drennen. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ATTENDANCE:

City Employees City Administrator Mark Bethune, Administrative Assistant Roxanne Pollard, Cashier Margaret O’Harra, Accounting Clerk I Jane Helgelien, Public Works Director Dean Kaelin.

Professional Kenyon Disend Attorney Chris Bacha, Parametrix Engineer Dave
Representatives Roberts, BHC Consultants Planner Talia Henze.

Visitors (signed in) Shirley Sigafos, Doug Schwarz, Ross Reid, Cory Shipman.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of May 26, 2010.
- B. Approval of Claims Warrants No. 15663 through No. 15715 in the amount of \$54,423.80 and Payroll Warrants No. 19365 through No. 19408 in the amount of \$77,998.81.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Pierce Transit Kelly Hayden, Planning Director for Pierce Transit, presented an
Tomorrow Updated: updated Pierce Transit Tomorrow Plan to the Council. The plan has
Kelly Hayden been updated to reflect comments from the public meetings and
 presentations to cities within the Pierce Transit service area.

The proposal includes two options. Alternative one includes service cuts to many areas of the County to keep operating expenses in-line with revenue. This proposal includes the elimination of all service to Orting.

Alternative two includes expanded service, including a commuter route from Orting to the Sumner Sounder Station. Option two would require a 0.3 percent sales tax increase. The tax increase would be subject to voter approval.

Mayor Temple commented that the Council is not pleased with either proposal.

Councilmember Holland asked what Pierce Transit has done to cut costs in house before they considered cutting service. Mr. Hayden reported that capital projects were delayed, 40 positions were eliminated and non-represented employees have not received pay increases since 2008. However union represented employees have not agreed to a wage freeze.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pierce Transit Small
Cities Group Update

Councilmember Pestinger reported that the group of small cities meeting to discuss Pierce Transit Service has agreed that they are not willing to continue to pay taxes to Pierce Transit without service being provided. The group represents six cities, with the possibility that more cities may join the group.

The group has forwarded a list of requested services and ideas for service cuts to the Pierce Transit Executive. The group is also investigating the process to be removed from the Pierce Transit taxing district.

Senator Randi Becker has also started attending the meetings. Senator Becker is interested in changing the Revised Code of Washington to allow school buses to be used for public mass transit.

The group has also stated that they are in absolute disbelief that Pierce Transit continues to operate with union contracts that guarantee four percent wage increases annually.

Councilmember Pestinger also asked Mr. Hadgen to inform the Pierce Transit Executive that the group would still like to meet with her.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parks Plan Update

Councilmember Inge and City Administrator Bethune introduced the Orting Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan Update. Talia Henze of BHC Consultants has been working with the Parks and Planning Commission to update the plan.

The Orting Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan is intended to guide the acquisition of land and development of facilities for recreation and open space uses over the next 20 years. The plan needs to be updated every six years. An updated plan is a requirement for many grants to construct park facilities.

Mayor Temple opened a public hearing regarding the adoption of the Orting Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan at 8:08 pm. Hearing no

comments, the public hearing was closed at 8:09 pm.

Final adoption of the plan was tabled to June 9 to allow for more time to review questions raised by Colorossi within the document.

Calistoga Street West
Chip Seal

Transportation Chair Pestinger reported that the Transportation Committee and City Staff have investigated the cost difference between chip sealing Calistoga Street West from Corrin Avenue to the Calistoga Street Bridge and doing asphalt overlay in the same area.

Pierce County Public Works will do a chip seal for about \$40,000. The cost for Pierce County to overlay the road is about \$175,000, which includes grinding the road down. Colorossi questioned the integrity of Calistoga Street West for the application of an asphalt overlay program. Pierce County Public Works will not guarantee an overlay of the road, so the city is gathering quotes for the project. Public Works Director Dean Kaelin reported that he expects the bids for overlay to be about the same as the Pierce County quote.

The Transportation Committee recommends that the City proceed with a chip seal of Calistoga Street West from Corrin Avenue to the Calistoga Street Bridge. The Council agreed.

Calistoga Street East
& Varner Avenue Stop
Signs

Councilmember Pestinger reported that the Transportation Committee has been responding to a request to make the temporary stop signs at the intersection of Calistoga Street East and Varner Avenue permanent. The signs were placed as a traffic control measure during the State Route 162 Rechannelization Project. The City has received several requests to keep the sign and the road is a popular route for kids who walk to school.

The Council was in favor of leaving the signs. City Attorney Bacha reported that an ordinance should be passed to permanently place the signs. He will prepare an ordinance for the Council to adopt at a future meeting.

Golf Cart Parking

Councilmember Pestinger reported that the Chamber of Commerce has requested a variance to the requirements of the Golf Cart Pilot Program. They would like to lease a gas powered golf cart instead of an electric golf cart. The Chamber has had difficulty finding an electric golf cart for lease and the cost to purchase one is prohibitive.

Councilmember Inge stated that it was not difficult or expensive for him to find an electric golf cart.

Councilmember Pestinger commented that they should wait to see if the program is made permanent before they consider variances to it.

The Council agreed to deny the request.

Quilt Shop Parking

Councilmember Pestinger reported that the Quilt Shop on Van Scoyoc

Avenue has requested signs to limit the length of time people can park on the street. After discussion, the Council decided not to move forward with parking limits on Van Scoyoc.

STANDING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

River Bar Removal Councilmember Colorossi stated the Building Official Ken Wolfe did an excellent job organizing the May 15 River Clean-up. While participating Councilmember Colorossi noticed that there are a lot of logs and debris in the Puyallup River. He took many pictures and sent them along with an e-mail to Pierce County Executive asking for the river maintenance program to be stepped up.

Parks Mayor Temple asked the Council to confirm Corey Shipman as a Parks Commissioner. Councilmember Inge moved to confirm Corey Shipman as a Parks Commissioner. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Community Development The next Community Development meeting will be June 7 at 9:15 am.

Cemetery Mayor Temple reported that the Cemetery Committee will have an update and request to raise rates in July.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pending Litigation Councilmember Pestinger moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation as allowed under RCW 42.30.110(i) for 40 minutes at 9:10. Councilmember Holland seconded the motion and it carried. Regular session was reconvened at 9:50 pm. No business was conducted after the meeting

ADJOURN:

Councilmember Inge moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. Councilmember Pestinger seconded the motion and it carried.

ATTEST:

City Administrator Mark Bethune

Mayor Cheryl M. Temple