

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE November 19, 2009

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Onslow; Council member Matt Swindell, David Taylor, Lee Wells and Darren Wertz.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Finance Division Director Gaylynn Brien; City Manager Justin Clary; Chief of Police Carrie Greene; Director of Finance & Administration/City Clerk Kay Kammer; City Attorney Chris Sundstrom; Public Works Director Steve Wall.

CALL TO ORDER 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE

LATE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Add: Executive Session after the second Citizen Comments regarding pending litigation and action is anticipated

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS

Council:

Mr. Taylor: Attended the ribbon cutting for the Gee Creek Osprey Pointe trail opening, the Parks Board meeting, and briefing

Mr. Swindell: Attended briefing

Mr. Wells: Attended the ribbon cutting event, and the Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC) annual luncheon

Mr. Wertz: Attended the ribbon cutting event, CREDC luncheon, and briefing

Mayor Onslow: Attended the ribbon cutting event, a Community Choices meeting, the Gee Creek Enhancement Committee meeting, the CREDC luncheon, the open house for the Refuge, and a Sustainable Communities Stakeholder meeting

STAFF REPORTS

Executive & Community Development

Interchange Replacement Project: currently under construction, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has curtailed earthwork and will focus work on bridge abutments until the rainy season ends

Parks: City has entered into Purchase & Sale Agreement for 16.7 acres in the amount of \$575,000 for the park identified as CP-5 in the Parks Capital Facility Plan

Attended a meeting with Vern Veysey and Recreation & Conservation office representatives on grant opportunities

Community Development: Issued 3 new single family residential (sfr) permits in October and year-to-date have issued 22 sfr permits

Accomplishments: reviewed major projects from the last five (5) years

Finance & Administration

Annexations: Working on completing the door-to-door census and legal descriptions for annexations done in 2008 and 2009

Census: Will be working with the US Census Bureau updating our boundary map for the 2010 census

Hometown Celebration: event will be Saturday, December 5th. Event includes craft vendors, carriage rides hosted by Columbia Credit Union and local businesses are having open houses. The Centennial time capsule will be buried in Davis Park at 4:00 pm and then the annual tree lighting ceremony will begin at 4:30 pm in Overlook Park

Finance: General Fund cash position is \$406,453. Revenues are at 91% and expenditures are at 93% of the budget

Received installment of property taxes in October with another installment due in November

Revenues exceeded expenditures in October

Utility Operating funds revenue is at 105% and expenditures at 88% of the budget

Cash position is \$1,844,392

Public Works

Wastewater Treatment Plant: treated wastewater dropped in the month of October due to the new NPDES permit. Previously had to measure the influent and now measures the effluent

Roads and Right-of-way: Cedar Ridge catch basins have been cleaned

Stormwater: all agencies within the county worked to obtain a grant to educate people on stormwater

Sewer Coalition: Received six proposals that are being reviewed by staff who will narrow them down to one to three for the interview process scheduled for December 11th

Discussion:

Pioneer Canyon storm drain system

Stormwater projects and budget for 2009 and 2010

Council Member Taylor chosen to sit on the interview panel for the Sewer Coalition

Public Safety

Enforcement: remains consistent

Training: Linda Smith provided a training session on human trafficking

Budget: department remains within authorized budget

Discussion: parking restrictions on S. Pioneer

Clark County Fire & Rescue

Boat house: moved to the end of the covered dock

Engine: now equipped and in service

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Jefferies, developer

Columbian newspaper reported 30,000 unemployed in Clark County, believes it to be higher

City of Vancouver repealed fee increases trying to stimulate growth and development

Pierce County also reduced fees

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes from October 29, 2009
2. Approval of minutes from November 5, 2009
3. Approval of claims/payroll in the amount of \$368,141.60
Claims No. 12735 through 12782 in the amount of \$359,517.50 and automatic payments in the amount of \$8,624.10

MOTION: Council member Matt Swindell moved to approve the study session minutes from October 29, 2009

SECOND: Council member Lee Wells.

7:28:00 PM

Vote: 4-0
Yes: Mayor Ron Onslow; Council member Matt Swindell, Lee Wells and Darren Wertz
No: None
Abstained: Council member David Taylor
Absent: None

Motion unanimously passed.

MOTION: Council member Lee Wells moved to approve the minutes from November 5, 2009 and the claims

SECOND: Council member David Taylor.

7:28:27 PM

Vote: 5-0
Yes: Mayor Ron Onslow; Council member Matt Swindell, David Taylor, Lee Wells and Darren Wertz
No: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

Motion unanimously passed.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Final hearing for 2010 Fiscal Year Budget

Points of discussion:

- Budget Advisory committee
- Funds, process, schedule and assumptions
- Staffing, debt, and capital projects

Opened: 8:32:04 PM

Roy Garrison, non-resident

City is facing hard times in this economy

\$5,000 line item for Fire Hydrants should be looked into passing onto the Fire District for payment

Mark Jefferies, non-resident

Budget may be over optimistic on non-residential construction

How many times can you raise taxes

Michael Carver, resident

Questioned why there is a minimum bill while he does not use the 1,000 cubic feet allowed per billing cycle

Closed: 8:37:09 PM

Discussion:

Fire hydrants

BUSINESS

1. Ordinance No. 1041

First reading of an Amendment to Ridgefield Municipal Code 10.12 (Parking)

House cleaning item and parking should be reviewed every year
Areas for parking restrictions identified in the code and marked in the field
Ordinance addresses recreational vehicles parking
Infraction language updated

2. Ordinance No. 1042

First reading of Amendment to Water Utility Rates

Proposed 2% increase

3. Ordinance No. 1043

First reading of Amendment to Sewer Utility Rates

Proposed 5% increase

4. Ordinance No. 1044

First reading of Amendment to Stormwater Utility Rates

Proposed \$0.50 increase per month

Marie Stephenson, resident

Will the commercial rate be higher

Rates are calculated per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)

5. Ordinance No. 1045

First reading of 2010 Fiscal Year Budget

Proposed budget is \$12,825,687

6. Discussion – Development Code Modification Stakeholder Committee

Identify appropriate community members for sitting upon committee
Potential members could be from the City Council, Planning Commission, City Consultant
Planner, Port of Ridgefield, Ridgefield School District, Ridgefield Business Association, Building
Industry Association of Clark County, Attorney specializing in land use, and/or a citizen-at-large

Discussion:
Facilitator of the committee meetings would be a Planning Consultant
Potential members could also include someone from Neighborhood Association or a Home
Owners Association
Need more than one citizen to sit on committee

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Onslow announced that council would enter an Executive Session at 9:15:48 PM for
approximately 15 minutes and action is anticipated

Mayor Onslow reconvened the meeting at 9:22:57 PM

MOTION: Council member Lee Wells moved to authorize the City Manager's execution of a Settlement
Agreement under Cause No. 09-2-03587-7, subject to the execution of the other parties, both plaintiff
and defendant(s), dismissing the City of Ridgefield from the above-entitled Cause of Action

SECOND: Council member David Taylor.

9:23:57 PM

Vote:

Yes:

No:

Abstained:

Absent:

4-0

Mayor Ron Onslow; Council member David Taylor, Lee Wells and
Darren Wertz

None

None

Council member Matt Swindell


Motion unanimously passed.

Discussion:


Council review of the Development Code sections

ADJOURN

9:25:02 PM



Kay Kammer
Director of Finance & Administration
City Clerk



Ron Onslow
Mayor