

GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2003

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ekberg, Young, Franich, Owel, Dick, Picinich, Ruffo and Mayor Wilbert.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:08 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA:

These consent agenda items are considered routine and may be adopted with one motion as per Gig Harbor Ordinance No. 799.

1. Approval of the Minutes of City Council Meeting of February 10, 2003.
2. Correspondence / Proclamations: a) PSRC–Meeting Notice
b) Letter from Fred Rider c) Women's History Month d) Red Cross Month
3. City Prosecutor Contract.
4. Washington State DOT Certification Acceptance.
5. Purchase and Installation Agreement – SCADA System Phase II.
6. Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement – DOT.
7. Borgen Blvd. Round-a-Bout – Quit Claim Deed.
8. Amendment #3 to the Consultant Services Contract Sewer Outfall Extension.
9. Liquor License Change of Corporate Officers: Fred Meyer Marketplace.
10. Liquor License Assumption: Chevron Maritime Mart
11. Approval of Payment of Bills for February 24, 2003.

Councilmember Franich asked to move item number 6. Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement, to new business.

MOTION: Move to approve the consent agenda as amended.
Ekberg/Ruffo – unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Design Review Board Selection. Mark Hoppen, City Administrator, explained that there is one position to fill for a two-year term.

MOTION: Move to appoint Darrin Filand to fill the two-year position on the Design Review Board.
Dick/Owel -

Councilmember Picinich stressed that Mr. Filand was not a city resident, and he would oppose his appointment.

Councilmember Ekberg said that this is a very tough decision, as there were so many very qualified candidates. He added that he hoped that the city could somehow involve all the candidates.

Councilmember Owel explained that she used a matrix system to determine the areas in which the board is deficient. She said that the board has a gap in the areas of a licensed architect and a person with landscaping/arborist skills.

Mayor Wilbert introduced Matt Halverson, who was unable to attend the last meeting to make a presentation to Council. She explained that Matt has an environmental background.

Councilmember Ruffo said that he felt that the candidate's qualifications were more important than whether or not they are a city resident. Councilmember Franich agreed, stating that he thought Mr. Filand was a good candidate.

Councilmember Dick added that all the candidates have extraordinary qualifications. He explained that the Design Review Board was established with certain criteria in mind, one of which was an architect. He said that he thought it was worth consideration to keep an architect on the board.

Councilmember Young explained that he recently attended the AWC Conference and learned that there are other Washington cities, some twice the size of Gig Harbor, that don't even have enough people to fill their vacant positions. He said that Gig Harbor is very lucky to have willing volunteers with such different backgrounds who are willing to serve. He encouraged the candidates who are not appointed to apply to other vacant positions. He agreed that this was a very difficult decision, adding that if there were two applicants with the same technical qualifications, he would choose the city resident.

MOTION: Move to appoint Darrin Filand to fill the two-year position on the Design Review Board.
Dick/Owel – roll call vote as follows:

Ekberg – no; Young – no; Franich – yes; Owel – yes; Dick – yes; Picinich – no; Ruffo – no. The motion failed four to three.

MOTION: Move to appoint James Pasin to fill the two-year position on the Design Review Board.
Picinich/Ekberg –

Councilmembers discussed Mr. Pasin's qualifications to serve on the committee. They again encouraged all the applicant's to apply to other positions.

MOTION: Move to appoint James Pasin to fill the two-year position on the Design Review Board.
Picinich/Ekberg – unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Naming of Streets in Estates at Gig Harbor Plat. John Vodopich, Community Development Director, presented this request for the naming of four public streets in the Estates at Gig Harbor subdivision. He said that the streets are located outside the Historical Name area and are approvable.

MOTION: Move to authorize the naming of the streets a proposed by the applicant.
Dick/Ruffo – unanimously approved.

2. First Reading of Ordinance – Repealing Section 2.24.010 of the GHMC. Mark Hoppen explained that a portion of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is outdated because of the adoption of Washington state's Model Traffic Ordinance. This ordinance would repeal the section stating that the city shall designate the public works director as the city engineer and city traffic engineer. This will return at the next meeting for a second reading.

3. First Reading of Ordinance – Filing of Candidacy. Molly Towslee, City Clerk, explained that this was a housekeeping ordinance to reflect the filing of candidacy with Pierce County rather than with the City Clerk. This will return at the next meeting for a second reading.

4. Recommendation for 2003 Arts Grant. Mark Hoppen explained that after review of twelve grant applications, the Gig Harbor Arts Commission has recommended the expenditure of \$10,000 of the \$20,000 budgeted funds for Art Grants.

MOTION: Move to authorize the allocation of \$10,000 for Arts Grants per the recommendation of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission.
Picinich/Ruffo – unanimously approved.

5. Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement – DOT. Mark Hoppen explained that without this agreement, the Department of Transportation would remove the signalization boxes that control the traffic signals.

Councilmember Franich said that he was concerned with the timing of the light located at the corner of Grandview and Pioneer and asked if this could be adjusted.

MOTION: Move to approve the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement with the Department of Transportation.
Ruffo/Franich – unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Wilbert explained that the cups presented to Council before the meeting were from the Red Cross. She introduced Carrie Cerrito, Executive Director of the American Red Cross, to speak to Council about the proclamation declaring March as Red Cross month.

Ms. Cerrito explained the mission of the Red Cross and described some of the service that they provide here locally. These include responding a house fire with emergency shelter, food and clothing for the family; search and rescue efforts; CPR and First Aid training; and meals for our Seniors citizens.

Ms. Cerrito talked about the importance of volunteers to their program, and presented a recognition plaque to a local volunteer, Angela Lindsay. Both ladies said that the Red Cross would be presenting a series of disaster preparedness programs here at the Civic Center.

Ms. Cerrito said that the Red Cross relies upon the generosity of the public, and thanked the City of Gig Harbor for the continued support. She invited the Councilmembers to come and have lunch with a senior at St. Nicholas, to visit their office in Tacoma, or to visit any on-site function.

COUNCIL COMMENTS / MAYOR'S REPORT:

Councilmember Young said that he had distributed an outline of the some of the things he had learned at the recent AWC Legislative Conference. He explained that Gig Harbor is very unique and one of the luckiest cities in the state because we are not in financial crisis.

He gave an overview of the issues and how they are impacting cities and counties throughout the state. He discussed efforts to counteract this crisis and the methods that had been discussed. He stressed that Council should oppose efforts to share a portion of the sales tax revenue, and proposed gambling increases.

Councilmember Owel explained that the expansion of commercial gambling undermines local land-use control. She said that House Bill 1667 affirms cities rights to local control and stressed the need for support of this bill.

Councilmember Young concluded by saying that the city should continue fiscal management; manage the city's debt; and encourage commercial stimulus to avoid the problems facing other municipalities.

Councilmember Dick thanks Derek for representing the city by attending the conference and sharing the information he had learned.

Council Advisory Committees. Mayor Wilbert asked for consideration in approving these committees.

Finance Committee:	Councilmembers Ekberg, Franich, and Young.
Public Safety:	Councilmembers Picinich, Ruffo and Owel.
Community Development:	Councilmembers Dick, Young and Ekberg.
Parks:	Councilmembers Ruffo, Picinich and Owel.

MOTION: Move to approve the Council Advisory Committees as presented.
Ruffo/Franich – unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For the purpose of discussing potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(i).

MOTION: Move to adjourn to Executive Session for approximately ten minutes at 7:56 p.m. to discuss potential litigation.
Picinich/Franich – unanimously approved.

MOTION: Move to return to regular session at 8:08.
Ruffo/Picinich – unanimously approved.

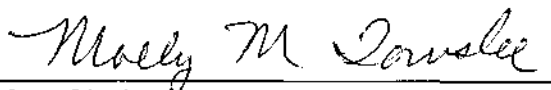
ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.
Ruffo/Picinich - unanimously approved.

CD recorder utilized:
Disc #1 Tracks 1-18



Gretchen Wilbert, Mayor



City Clerk