

GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2002

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

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING:

Amendment to Title 19 of the GHMC - Procedure for Closed Record Appeal Hearings. The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:04. John Vodopich, Director of Community Development, presented this reintroduction and first reading of proposed amendments to Title 19. He explained that these amendments would remove the City Council from the Closed Record Appeal hearing process on Type III project applications, and add a process for reconsideration of the Hearing Examiner's Decision.

Carol Morris, Legal Counsel, explained that there was a typographical error on page five, which would be corrected at the next reading of the ordinance.

There were no public comments and the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

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 Meetings of February 25, 2002.
2. Proclamations/Correspondence: none.
3. Special Occasion Liquor License – Navy League.
4. Approval of Payment of Bills for March 11, 2002.
Checks #35460 through #35600 in the amount of \$258,245.80.
5. Approval of Payroll for the month of February:
Checks #1304 through #1360 in the amount of \$202,087.75.

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Ruffo/Ekberg - unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Reintroduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Amendment to Title 19 of the GHMC - Procedure for Closed Record Appeal Hearings. Councilmember Owel said that the amendments regarding reconsideration of the Hearing Examiner's Decision addressed concerns at that point in time when the application had gone before the Hearing Examiner, but that she would like a method by which to address concerns regarding staff decisions before an application was forwarded to the Hearing Examiner. John Vodopich said that in the future, all Type II administrative decisions would be forwarded to Councilmembers as a matter of policy.

Carol Morris clarified several items in the ordinance at the request of Councilmember Franich. This will return at the next meeting for a second reading.

Councilmember Picinich left the meeting at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Donkey Creek Park Presentation – J.A. Brennan, Landscape Architect. Pat Iolavera, Senior Planner gave an overview of the directives from Council in regards to the Donkey Creek Park property. She explained that several public hearings and Stakeholder meetings had been held with the consultants and various technical teams to discuss options for the park. She added that discussions regarding the creek would also continue with the adjacent property owner, Julian Schmidke.

She then introduced Jim Brennan, project lead and principal from J.A. Brennan Associates, and Alice Lancaster, from URS, who has performed the in-stream analysis. Pat concluded her presentation by explaining that 90% of the demolition documents had been completed and were awaiting review by the Public Works Department, and then the job would be put out to bid.

Jim Brennan – J.A. Brennan Associates. Mr. Brennan gave a recap of the alternative design concepts that had been developed and presented during public meetings. He shared what had been learned through the process of listening to what the public liked or disliked about the various options. He explained that this process led to a preferred master plan that incorporated these comments.

Alice Lancaster, URS. Ms. Lancaster briefly described the in-stream concepts that had been developed for the property in an attempt to restore the natural habitat. She explained that these plans are in response to public interest.

Pat and both Consultants answered questions from Councilmembers. Pat explained that the next phase would be to meet with the Parks Committee to begin the process of phasing the project and funding options.

The presentation boards were moved to the conference room, where members of the audience were invited to view the information and ask questions.

A short recess was announced at 8:05 p.m. The regular session began again at 8:13 p.m.

2. Transportation Plan Presentation – The Shea Group. John Vodopich introduced this presentation on the update to the 20-year Transportation Plan. He said that back in 1994 the city adopted a Comprehensive Plan in response to the State Growth Management Act, which included a transportation element. Since that time, the city has experience both an increase in population and economic growth, leading to the need for an update to the transportation plan. He introduced Susan Graham and David Skinner from The Shea Group, to present the changes.

Susan Graham, The Shea Group. Ms. Graham reminded Council that changes to the draft plan began in 1998, and it has taken several years to reach this point. She explained that changes

include reorganizing the plan to facilitate future revisions, the addition of an entire chapter of transportation facilities of statewide significance, and incorporation of comments from other regulatory agencies. She said that the most important changes are the acknowledgement of the desire for the preservation of the downtown area, the issues surrounding the Narrows Bridge project, and revenue forecasts.

Both Ms. Graham and Mr. Skinner answered Council's questions about the plan.

John Vodopich introduced members of the Public Works staff, Dave Brereton, Director of Operations and Marco Malich, Supervisor, who were present in the audience. John directed Council's attention to the color photo of the Finholm Viewclimb Restroom recently installed. He added that he appreciated the talents of the public works staff and thanked them for their efforts.

3. Sanitary Sewer Facility Maintenance Agreement and Restrictive Covenant – Alastra Court. John Vodopich presented this standard easement maintenance agreement for the Alastra Court PUD and recommended approval.

MOTION: Move to approve the Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Agreement and Restrictive Covenant for Alastra Court as presented.
Ruffo/Owel – unanimously approved.

4. Easement Agreement – Alastra Court. John Vodopich explained that this was a standard watermain easement agreement for the same project.

MOTION: Move to approve the Easement Agreement for Alastra Court as presented.
Owel/Ruffo – unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. John Vodopich, Community Development Director, Update – Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club. John explained that an update on the progress related to the Sportsman's Club was included in the packet, emphasizing that Council had directed him to pursue the hiring of two experts; the first, an acoustical engineer, who had been hired in January; and second, a range technical advisory, to evaluate the current safety aspects of the range. He said that he had contacted the National Rifle Association, but due to concerns with their contractual language, an agreement could not be reached. He continued to explain that he had contacted two other firms and gave an overview of both proposals. He recommended selection of the firm of Kramerone, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$7,000. Councilmember Franich voiced his concern that staff could not come to terms with the NRA. John and Carol Morris, Legal Counsel, further clarified the concerns surrounding the contract language and why an agreement could not be reached.

Dan Cook – Past-President of Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club. Mr. Cook said that the concern was whether the Gig Harbor Sportsman's Club met nationally accepted safety standards for a sportsman's club. He asked what better organization than the NRA to determine this. He offered to enter into contract with the NRA, and if it was determined that the sportsman's club did not meet the national standards, then the club would pay the NRA for the report. He continued to say

if the report found that club meets with federal standards, and then the city would reimburse the expense of the study.

Councilmember Owel explained that it was the club's prerogative to conduct their own study. Mr. Cook explained that they had already had the study done in conjunction with one done by the NRA for a proposed new site for the club. He added that the results of the report were positive.

Carol Morris explained that her directive was not only to obtain an evaluation of the existing facility, but several other factors such as altering the facility to address safety and noise concerns.

Mark Schaffer – Avalon Woods. Mr. Schaffer explained that Kramerone was used to inspect the club in Redmond and gave input into their newly adopted ordinance. He added that the NRA was a lobby group and that Kramerone would submit a better, non-biased report.

Caryl Harris – Harbor Glen. Ms. Harris said that the noise from the sportsman's club had increased over the past eight years and described the noise as obtrusive and offensive. She said that her neighbors want the peace and quiet restored. She said that the noise is interfering with their property values and use of their property.

MOTION: Move to authorize the city to hire Kramerone, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$7000 to conduct this safety evaluation study.
Ruffo/Owel – unanimously approved.

2. GHPD – February Stats. No verbal report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

COUNCIL COMMENTS / MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Wilbert introduced Steve Careaga, who represents an organization called "Fire Donations."

Steve explained that he is a former firefighter, and that in August, he partnered with Joe Gagnon and others to begin a non-profit organization to offer financial benefits to the families of firefighters killed in the line of duty. He said that after the events of September 11th, theirs was the only website that was fire-related and had the ability to take donations. He added that they have raised over ten million dollars for the families of the 343 firefighters that were killed during the September 11th events. He explained that they recently delivered four and one-half million, along with the CD and message from Mayor Wilbert to Mayor Bloomberg's office in New York.

Mayor Wilbert said that it was appropriate on this 6-month anniversary to recognize those who lost their lives in the 9-11 incident, and the service that our two local citizens were providing. She added that she would be traveling to New York on the 11th of April and would deliver the scrapbook assembled by Lorraine Hart.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For the purpose of discussing pending litigation per RCW 42.3 1.110(i).


MOTION: Move to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation for approximately five minutes at 8:57 p.m.
Ekberg/Ruffo - unanimously approved.

MOTION: Move to return to regular session at 9:13.
Ruffo/Ekberg - unanimously approved.

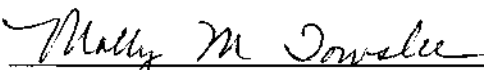
ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 9:13 p.m.
Franich/Ruffo - unanimously approved.

Cassette recorder utilized.
Tape 645 - Side B 392 - end.
Tape 646 - Both sides.
Tape 647 - Side A 000 - end.
Tape 647 - Side B 000 - 170.



Gretchen A. Wilbert, Mayor



Molly M. Dowd
City Clerk