

## **GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2006**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Ekberg, Young, Franich, Payne and Mayor Hunter. Councilmembers Conan, Dick and Kadzik were absent.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:03 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Hunter invited Chief Davis to come forward and recognize those persons in his team that received awards during the All-Hands Meeting of December 21<sup>st</sup>. Chief Davis introduced each person and gave a brief background of their service to the department. The following received awards: Officer Fred Douglas, Officer of the Year; Debra Yerry, Support Services Award; and Chris Langhelm, Reserve Officer of the Year.

Mayor Hunter announced that the Public Hearing for the Public Alley Vacation had been postponed until a later meeting.

### **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 December 12, 2005.
2. Correspondence / Proclamations: Letter from Councilmember Paul Kadzik.
3. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades – Consultant Services Contract for Design Services.
4. Amendment to Utility Extension Capacity Agreement – Request for Additional Residential Service Connection – Canterwood Development Company.
5. Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Agreement and Restrictive Covenant – Puget Sound Energy Liquid Natural Gas Facility.
6. Lobbyist Contract.
7. Liquor License Renewals: Cigar Land; Gig Harbor Chevron, Gourmet Essentials, Harbor Arco AM/PM Minimart, and Harbor Inn Restaurant.
8. Payment of Bills for December 27, 2005.  
Checks #48980 through #49127 in the amount of \$405,720.03.
9. Payment of Bills for January 9, 2006.  
Checks #49128 through #49238 in the amount of \$592,871.07.
10. Approval of payroll for the month of December.  
Checks #4066 through #4104 and direct deposit entries in the amount of \$258,135.76.  
Note: Payroll check #4103 replaces lost payroll check #3754 dated May 2, 2005 and payroll check #4104 replaces lost payroll check #3759 dated May 2, 2005.

**MOTION:** Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.  
Ekberg / Young – unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Appointment to the Planning Commission. Mayor Hunter explained that to be fair to the eight applicants, he would like to form a committee made up of the Planning Commission Chair or designee; the Design Review Board Chair or designee; one Councilmember and himself to interview them and to make a recommendation for appointment. He added that this would remove the political aspect of choosing someone that is known and to take a chance on other folks that are interested. He asked Council for a motion to this effect.

Councilmember Franich agreed that the past practice may not have been the best to get to know the full qualifications of an applicant. He said that he isn't sold on the idea of an interview committee that doesn't include all Councilmembers, as they are the ones voting on the appointments.

Councilmember Young said that he planned to propose a formal committee structure and one idea that other cities use is an appointments committee. He said that because the Mayor appoints the Planning Commission members, he supports the Mayor's recommendation for this interview committee. For the other boards, it would be better to have more Councilmembers involved, but not necessarily all seven.

**MOTION:** Move to postpone the appointment to the Planning Commission to allow a more in depth study of the candidates by a committee recommended by the Mayor.  
Ekberg / Young – unanimously approved.

2. Appointments to the Design Review Board.

Councilmember Young said that he would prefer to postpone these appointments until the next meeting, which would allow the return of Paul Kadzik, and to form a Council Committee of three members and the Mayor to do the interviews.

**MOTION:** Move to postpone the appointments to the Design Review Board until at least the next meeting and to form a Council Committee of three Councilmembers and the Mayor to do an interview.  
Young / Ekberg -

Mayor Hunter requested that someone from each of the boards be included as their input is necessary.

Councilmember Franich said that in the future, he would like to see more delineation of which position each member of the DRB fulfills. Mark Hoppen said that he would provide that.

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION:** Move to add a member of the Design Review Board to the committee to interview the DRB applicant.  
Ekberg / Young – unanimously approved.

**Amended Motion:** Move to postpone the appointments to the Design Review Board until at least the next meeting to allow for the return of Paul Kadzik and to form a Council Committee of three Councilmembers, a member of the Design Review Board and the Mayor to do an interview.  
Young / Ekberg – unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. First Reading of Ordinance – Request for Public Alley Vacation. Mayor Hunter asked for a motion to table this until the next meeting.

**MOTION:** Move to table item number one under new business to the next meeting.  
Franich / Young – unanimously approved.

2. First Reading of Ordinance – Rainbow Burnham Annexation. John Vodopich, Community Development Director, presented information on the proposed annexation of approximately 34 acres west of Burnham Drive and north of 96<sup>th</sup> Street. This will return for a second reading at the next meeting.

Councilmember Franich asked for clarification on any Latecomer's Agreements in this area. Mr. Vodopich explained that these parcels would not be exempt from existing agreements.

Councilmember Young asked if the city could initiate annexation of the remaining area of unincorporated Pierce County left by this annexation. Carol Morris, City Attorney, explained that she would look it up and respond later in the meeting.

3. First Reading of Ordinance – Relating to Extensions of Water and Sewer Service, Amending Gig Harbor Municipal Code Section 13.34.070. Mayor Hunter recused himself from the proceedings due to a possible conflict of interest concern. Mayor Pro Tem, Steve Ekberg, asked John Vodopich to present the background information.

Mr. Vodopich explained that this issue came forward when an outside utility extension for water had been requested for property inside the city's water service area, but outside the urban growth boundary. The City Attorney suggested amendments to the code to reflect current state law. The proposed ordinance would allow for municipal or quasi-municipal organizations to get sewer and/or water outside city limits and private individuals to only obtain water service outside city limits.

Councilmember Franich commented that he feels more comfortable with this proposal, explaining that his past concerns were with the possible urban density that could occur as a result of extending water service. He added that he is concerned that this might set a precedent for extending water service to other areas.

There were no further comments, and Mayor Pro Tem Ekberg said that this will be back for a second reading at the next meeting.

Carol Morris presented the answer to Councilmember Young's question regarding annexation. She said that there is a provision in state law to allow annexation of an unincorporated island of territory through a procedure that allows the Council to adopt a resolution; hold a public hearing to allow the people who live there to comment; and then you adopt the annexation ordinance. It is subject to referendum within 45 days of passage.

Councilmember Young commented that the area is vacant land or business, and asked how the referendum process applies. Ms. Morris offered to discuss this with him before the next meeting.

4. Eddon Boat Historic Nomination as a Historic Structure. Kristin Moerler, Associate Planner, explained that the city received a nomination for the Eddon Boatyard for the first addition to the city's historic register. Because historic preservation is voluntary, property owner consent is required. This action would authorize the city to proceed with the nomination process.

**MOTION:** Move to start the process to nominate the Eddon Boatyard as an historic structure.  
Franich / Payne –

**AMENDMENT:** Move to add the Skansie House and structures at the Wilkinson Farm to the process.  
Young /

Ms. Moerler explained that this nomination was submitted by a member of the public and is ready to go to the board. She suggested that Council could direct staff to prepare nominations for the other properties at a later date.

Councilmember Young withdrew his amendment to the motion.

**MOTION:** Move to start the process to nominate the Eddon Boatyard as an historic structure.  
Franich / Payne – unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Move to direct staff to bring back for consideration any other appropriate structures located on city property.  
Young / Ekberg – unanimously approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Margery Goff – 3415 109<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. NW. Ms. Goff explained that she and her husband live in the neighborhood at the end of Harbor Glen, where the new roundabout is being constructed. She said that it appears that there are no ramps or crosswalks on Peacock Hill. She said that her husband is in a power chair and will be trapped in the neighborhood without those features unless he travels by car. She said that she had called a spoken to “Jeff” who told her that no crosswalk or ramp is planned across Peacock.

John Vodopich said that construction is not completed and he will check into it and will call her with the information.

Rosanne Sachson – PO Box 71. Ms. Sachson said that the reason that the house at Eddon Boat is not being nominated for the historic registry is because the citizens don't know how it is going to be used, but they don't know how the Boatyard is being used either. She said that the city promised the public that they would be involved in making these decisions; and not left up to just a small group, which is what seems to be happening. She said that the charrette has been tabled, but a promise had been made to the citizens that there would be a forum for their voice. This needs to be addressed quickly and no decisions should be made by a small group.

Jack Bujacich – 3607 Ross Avenue. Mr. Bujacich said that there was more than a small group wanting the Eddon Boatyard to be retained in its present form. The voters were the group that put their money out to keep it as it is and it is the city's intent, as well as those who were heavily involved, to retain the boatyard. The house was never mentioned because it was built by Mr. Hoppen many years later. The boatyard goes way back and is historical. He repeated that it isn't a small group making this decision.

## **STAFF REPORT:**

1. GHPD December Statistics. Chief Davis addressed the transition to a retro look, black and white configuration for the patrol cars. He explained that the request had come up through the ranks as one other way to celebrate the city's 60 year anniversary of incorporation. He said that in the last ten years, many municipalities have been transitioning to this more traditional color. The officers see it as a morale booster and the paint job makes the police vehicles more visible, which may help to deter criminal activity. Chief Davis answered questions regarding cost explaining that it would add \$500 to the factory price for the new cars, and to repaint the three existing would cost around \$1000 each.

Councilmember Franich commented that he sees the paint job as intimidating and aggressive. He said that he likes the current color scheme and saw no compelling reason to spend the money.

Councilmember Ekberg requested that this come back as an agenda item. Chief Davis said that he did not want to create the image that the officers are not approachable. He

said that the problem is that he needs to get the two new cars ordered and asked for direction. He said that he was asking for his staff members, and that he was willing to accept any recommendation that comes forward.

Councilmember Payne asked how many others are going to this color scheme. Chief Davis responded that Puyallup is considering it, Fife has already transitioned. Several agencies across the United States have done it. Councilmember Payne said that he doesn't see the black and white scheme as intimidating.

Councilmember Ekberg commented that he doesn't like last minute decision-making. He recommended that the Chief proceed with ordering the two new vehicles in the new black and white color scheme, but leave the others alone. This will allow the department to gauge the community reaction.

Councilmember Payne agreed, and asked if any discussion had been held among staff about the intimidation factor. Chief Davis said that he is convinced that it's the quality of staff that you hire that dictates the impression in the community. He continued to explain that that the perspective is that the black and white "retro look" is going back to the days when everyone knew the police officers and they had time to hang out with the kids and had safety patrol in the schools. Police work is paramilitary and based upon morale and the badge, uniform and vehicle mean a great deal to the staff and they take pride in the look.

Councilmember Young said that he is okay with the change. He said that this is well within the limits of an administrative decision, and thanked Chief Davis for bringing this to Council for a consideration. He added that he did not think the paint job is intimidating and said that he is pleased that this came up through the ranks. He encouraged them to think of other ideas that don't have an associated cost.

Councilmember Ekberg asked if there was consensus that Chief Davis go ahead with ordering the two new police vehicles in the black and white scheme. No formal vote was taken but it appeared to have consensus.

Councilmember Ekberg then addressed the yearly Council Retreat. He recommended that it be held earlier in the year to take a look at longer range issues. Molly Towslee, City Clerk, was directed to schedule a date in February.

Councilmember Payne announced that Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church has added a program to meet the needs of the youth in the community. He said that the Friday night program called "CHILL" which allows a place for junior high and senior high kids to come. This last week 480 students participated. This growing trend is something to keep in mind when thinking of community efforts and events that involve the kids.

Mayor Hunter commented on how happy he is to be doing this job. He said that he will do his best and work as hard as he can to achieve the goals that we all want. He said that although they may not always be in agreement, he will work with Council. He

announced that his office hours are 9-4, Monday through Thursday. He added that he is getting to know staff and everyone has been very accommodating. He said that he thinks there are a lot of good people and this is a "big ship" that will turn slowly towards the good of the community. He shared a few of his visions: to see the hospital become a reality; to make sure that staff understands keeping the character of Gig Harbor and to honor the fishing heritage; build the Eddon Boat Park; and to overcome the traffic issues. Mayor Hunter added that he drove up Point Fosdick from 36<sup>th</sup> the other morning and experienced the gridlock first hand. He said that he is in discussion with the state and would like to see the Wollochet and Burnham Interchanges improved.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:**

1. Worksession with DEA and HDR - Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, to work on road issues.
2. GHN Traffic Options Committee – Jan. 18th at 9:30 a.m. Gig Harbor Civic Center.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** For the purpose of discussing property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), potential and pending litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn to executive session at 8:02 p.m. for approximately 45 minutes to discuss property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b).  
Ekberg / Franich – unanimously approved.


**MOTION:** Move to return to regular session at 8:33 p.m.  
Franich / Ekberg – unanimously approved.


**MOTION:** Move to direct staff to continue with closing on purchase of the Westside Park property per conditions.  
Young / Ekberg – unanimously approved.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.  
Franich / Ekberg – unanimously approved.

CD recorder utilized:  
Disk #1 Tracks 1 – 21.

  
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Charles L. Hunter, Mayor

  
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Molly M. Towslee, City Clerk