

MINUTES OF GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – December 10, 2012

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ekberg, Guernsey, Perrow, Malich, Kadzik, and Mayor Hunter. Councilmember Payne was absent and Councilmember Young came to the meeting later.

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of City Council Minutes Nov. 13, 2012.
2. Correspondence / Proclamations: Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.
3. Liquor License Action: Change of Location: The British Connection.
4. Receive and File: a) Minutes of Budget Worksession I Nov. 5th; b) Minutes of Budget Worksession II Nov. 6th.
5. Resolution No. 917 – Surplus Property IT.
6. Maritime Pier Pump-Out - Washington State Parks Grant Agreement.
7. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1251 – Amendment to Employee Bonds Requirement.
8. 2013 Addendum to Agreement for Legal Services.
9. Grandview Reservoir Repainting Project – Public Works Contract Award and Consultant Services Testing Contract.
10. Approval of Payment of Bills Nov. 26, 2012: Checks #71107 through #71198 in the amount of \$297,771.09.

MOTION: Move to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.
Ekberg / Guernsey – four voted in favor. Councilmember Perrow abstained.

PRESENTATIONS:

Update on the Emergency Mitigation Plan. Debbie Bailey, Pierce County Department of Emergency Management, presented updated information on the FEMA requirement to bring all 78 jurisdictions under one, updated mitigation plan. She explained that grants will help with the plan update which should be completed by next summer. After reviewed by FEMA, the plan should be back before each jurisdiction for adoption by next November.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Second Reading of Ordinance – Maritime Pier Use. Lita Dawn Stanton, Special Projects, clarified that the use agreement is still in the works to determine insurance coverage limits but that has no bearing on the ordinance itself. She also explained that language will be added to the use agreement stating that any use of the dock will not interfere with access to the float in response to concerns voiced at the last meeting.

Councilmember Malich asked if other jurisdictions require a use agreement. City Attorney Angela Belbeck and Lita Dawn Stanton responded that this is based on the Fishermen's Terminal in Seattle. Councilmember Malich said that he thinks we can regulate the dock by ordinance without an additional use authorization agreement for each individual using the dock.

Ms. Belbeck said this is a starting point for a new pier that can be re-visited when we gain some experience with use.

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 1253 Maritime Pier Use.
Ekberg / Guernsey – four voted in favor. Councilmember Malich voted no.

Councilmember Young entered the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

2. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1254 – 2012 Budget Amendment. Finance Director David Rodenbach explained that this ordinance is a result of increased activity in the marketing budget and the purchase of a new park. He offered to answer questions.

MOTION: Move to approve Ordinance 1254 2012 Budget Amendment.
Kadzik / Ekberg – unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Hearing and Resolution No. 920 – The Harbor Vision. Councilmember Jill Guernsey explained that adopting a vision statement requires quite a lot of work and said she was proud that we did it without an outside consultant. Councilmember Guernsey explained that this vision statement sets the foundation for future efforts to revitalize the harbor. She recognized the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, the Gig Harbor Historic Waterfront Association, the Downtown Planning and Visioning Committee and staff members Tom Dolan, Jennifer Kester, Lita Dawn Stanton and intern Corey Reagan. She said she is hopeful that this will be passed tonight and implemented in terms of future amendments to the city's comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, and economic development activities. She thanked the Mayor for organizing this group, and thanked everyone who participated.

Mayor Hunter opened the public hearing at 5:48 p.m.

Alice Stenhjem – 3868 Spadoni Lane. Ms. Stenhjem explained she is a Gig Harbor resident and former Planning Commission member from Bremerton. She spoke of Gig Harbor's affluence and advantages and praised the vision statement which she said will help guide the future of the town. She encouraged everyone to visit the Bremerton Ferry Dock and adjacent park, adding that she envisions something similar in Gig Harbor.

Dave Morris – 2809 Harborview Drive. Mr. Morris, speaking as a citizen and member of the Historic Waterfront Association, said that he participated in the process and is

pleased with the end result. He said that the four statements in the vision statement are a fair representation of the public input, and stressed how important it will be to take these seriously when making decision for future policy and regulations. Mr. Morris said that as a business guy, he is interested in the two that speak to retail shops and providing service to the recreational boaters, which also supports the notion of Gig Harbor as a boating destination.

Gary Glein – 3519 Harborview Drive. Mr. Glein, President of the Gig Harbor Historic Waterfront Association, praised the group that put this together and for obtaining a great deal of public input. He said that we've clearly heard that the citizens want to preserve the character of the harbor, but they also want a downtown business core and services for boating. Mr. Glein said that we really need clarity for the vision to build policy; he praised the city for accomplishing this.

Warren Zimmerman – 2717 Ryan Lane. Mr. Zimmerman, Gig Harbor Chamber of Commerce, also voiced appreciation for everyone who worked on the vision. He read a paragraph from a letter to Council thanking Councilmember Guernsey and everyone who took part in the vision statement. He said that the Chamber looks forward to supporting all the efforts outlined in the vision.

Alan Anderson – 3225 Shawnee Drive. Mr. Anderson, Coach of the Kayak Team, thanked the city for working on the boathouse proposal and said he is excited to see it move forward. He gave an overview of their work with Wounded Warriors and Disabled Veterans, adding that their hope is to put a Wounded Warrior on the podium in the Brazil Olympics in 2016. Mr. Anderson said that they received seed money from the US Olympic Committee for special boats with adaptive equipment which arrived this week, and because a feature article is coming out soon, it's time to get to work on the program. He said that he loves Gig Harbor's history and he speaks for a generation of young people who would like to make a history of their own.

Senior Planner Jennifer Kester acknowledged that the city received several e-mails over the past week; these have been provided to Council and should be considered part of the public record.

Mayor Hunter closed the public hearing at 5:58 p.m.

Councilmember Malich said that as someone who wanted to "put the brakes" on the whole process, he likes the final vision that was created. He then spoke of his concern over the defined downtown area and said he would continue to work to protect the residential portion of the downtown.

Councilmember Kadzik acknowledged the e-mails received and said that many of those comments were discussed in detail. It was decided that at some point they had to finalize the document and said he is proud of the final product.

Councilmember Guernsey clarified that the group discovered that the majority of people think downtown goes clear around the harbor and up Judson, and so they decided to refer to it as “The Harbor” rather than just “Downtown.” The vision included both residential and commercial areas but no zoning changes; it is a visual representation.

Ms. Kester explained that this resolution not only adopts the Vision Statement and map, but also directs the Planning Department to incorporate them when implementing policies as part of the 2013 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle.

Mayor Hunter thanked staff members for all their hard work on this project.

MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution No. 920 adopting The Harbor Vision.
Malich / Guernsey – unanimously approved.

2. Resolution No. 921 – Adopting the Draft Shoreline Master Program. Planning Director Tom Dolan introduced this resolution to transmit the city’s draft Shoreline Master Program to the State Department of Ecology for approval. He gave an overview of the lengthy process that has transpired up to this point and emphasized that there would be more opportunity for public comment before the final adoption.

Councilmember Perrow voiced concern that there hadn’t been sufficient time to review the document before sending it off to DOE. Mr. Dolan described the changes that had been made and Council’s request at the last public hearing in October.

After further discussion a suggestion was made to hold this over to a special meeting on December 17th at 5:00 P.M.

STAFF REPORT:

Fire Suppression Cost Recovery Legislation. Senior Planner Jeff Langhelm presented the background for draft legislation being proposed by a group of Washington State water purveyors in response to unresolved questions about who pays for and assumes liability for fire hydrants and fire suppression infrastructure. The draft legislation proposes that water purveyors continue to be responsible for the costs related to fire suppression infrastructure and also allows them to receive liability protection under the public duty doctrine. Mr. Langhelm said that staff supports this legislation and would like to let AWC know that the city supports it as well.

Councilmember Young said that this may be a major issue for the AWC Legislative Committee this year. He said that he has spoken in favor of this already, adding that the major players are already out in front of the issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT / COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Kadzik acknowledged the work Alan Anderson has done on the Wounded Warrior program. He said that the city should support these efforts and asked about the progress on a decision to allow kayak storage at Jerisich Park. City Administrator Denny Richards responded that it has been before the Parks Commission who has a drafted a recommendation. Councilmember Kadzik asked that this process be moved along.

Councilmember Guernsey requested the draft minutes from the latest Parks Commission meeting be e-mailed to Council as soon as possible.

Councilmember Young reported that Pierce Transit passed their interim budget as a placeholder until their workstudy is complete. He said that current projections show that they will use up half their cash reserves in the next two years and will have no capital money to replace buses or run operations and maintenance.


ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:

1. Finance / Safety Committee: Mon. Dec. 17th at 4:00 p.m.
2. Operations Committee: Thur. Dec 20th at 3:00 p.m.
3. No City Council Meeting on December 24th.
4. Civic Center Closed on Tue. Dec 25th for Christmas.
5. Civic Center Closed on Tue. Jan 1st for New Years.
6. Planning / Building Committee – Mon. Jan 7th at 5:30 p.m.
7. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee – Thu. Jan 10th at 8:45 a.m.


ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.
Malich / Perrow – unanimously approved.

CD recorder utilized: Tracks 1002 – 1021



Charles L. Hunter, Mayor



Molly Towslee, City Clerk