

MINUTES OF GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – June 10, 2013

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ekberg, Young, Guernsey, Perrow, Malich, Payne, Kadzik, and Mayor Hunter.

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of City Council Minutes May 28, 2013.
2. Receive and File: a) Building Code Advisory Board Minutes Jun 3, 2013; b) Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Minutes May 9, 2013; c) Lodging Tax Ad Hoc Committee Meeting May 23, 2013; d) City Council / Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Joint Worksession Minutes May 13, 2013.
3. Resolution No. 931 - Land Use, Engineering, Building Fee Schedule Update.
4. Lift Station No. 4A - Appraisal Services Contract.
5. Donkey Creek Project – Change Order No. 2.
6. Cushman Trail Project Phase 3 & 4 WSDOT Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement / David Evans and Associates, Inc.
7. Approval of Payment of Bills Jun 10, 2013: Checks #72659 through #72757 in the amount of \$789,914.10.
8. Approval of Payroll for the month of May: Checks #6969 through #6994 in the amount of \$536,344.85.

MOTION: Move to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.
Ekberg / Guernsey – unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Hearing and First Reading-Amending Gig Harbor Municipal Code Chapter 18.10-Flood Hazard Construction Standards. Senior Planner Peter Katich presented the background information for these amendments requested by the Department of Ecology to correct minor inconsistencies and bring the remainder of the city's floodplain standards into compliance with federal and state standards.

Mayor Hunter opened the public hearing at 5:35 p.m. No one came forward to speak and the hearing closed. Mr. Katich addressed questions from Council.

2. Public Hearing and Resolution No. 932 Authorizing Two Development Agreements for the Bellesara Plat. City Engineer Stephen Misiurak presented information on two agreements for pro-rata share contributions for future intersection and roadway improvements per plat approval requirements.

Mayor Hunter opened the public hearing at 5:38 p.m.

Ryan Ryan – 4306 68th St. Ct. NW. Mr. Ryan explained that he brought his two children to see the workings of city government. He said that he received the letter regarding the development and asked how the city decides how sites are cleared, referring to the beautiful tree that used to stand in the center of the property being developed.

Planning Director Jennifer Kester invited Mr. Ryan to come in to city hall and she would explain the development process. She added that this plat was approved in 2007 and one of the reasons that the Design Review Board is looking into heritage tree regulations for future development. Currently, there are no regulations to preserve these types of trees.

Linda Weiland – 4502 Hunt Street NW. Ms. Weiland asked when the road improvements would be made and what types of improvements are being considered. In 2006 when this issue came before Council, the neighbors voiced concern with the couple hundred houses approved at that time and the impact on traffic. They were told that Hunt / Skansie didn't qualify for improvements just because there were 15 minute backups.

Mr. Misiurak responded by explaining that the pro rata share is identified in the Six-Year TIP for two improvement projects: improvements to Wollochet and undefined improvements at the Hunt/Skansie intersection. He said that the city has five years in which to spend these contributions on projects that will be defined through the concurrency models and Capital Improvement Project list as money becomes available. Mr. Misiurak described the required frontage improvements in addition to the pro rata share contributions: Skansie will be widened southbound with a right-turn lane, curbs, gutter, sidewalks, lighting, and stormdrain improvements will be installed. He clarified that the intersection improvement budget is based on available funds.

Ms. Weiland acknowledged that there were 31 lots in this development, but added that the same developer was approved for an additional 174 residences across the street.

There were no further public comments and the public hearing closed at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Misiurak answered Council questions regarding impact fees, when they are collected and where they are applied, the level of service, and anticipated time frame when there would be enough funds to make improvements.

Ms. Kester reported that no new action has been taken on the development across the street.

MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution No. 932 authorizing the Mayor to execute the Development Agreements for the Bellesara Plat with Rush Residential Inc.

Ekberg / Payne – unanimously approved.

3. First Reading of Ordinance – Amendments to Title 15 Building and Construction Code. Building / Fire Safety Director Paul Rice explained that every three years the state adopts the latest building and construction codes. This ordinance brings the city code into compliance with the state code. Council recommended that the second reading come back on the consent agenda.

4. Well No. 5 Rehabilitation Project – Small Public Works Contract Award. Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm presented the overview of this contract to clear debris and rehabilitate Well No. 5 before the new motor installation.

MOTION: Move to authorize the Mayor to execute a Small Public Works Contract with Coolwater Drilling, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$19,096.00 for the award of the Well No. 5 Rehabilitation Project and authorize the Public Works Director to approve additional expenditures up to \$2,000 to cover any cost increases that may result from contract change orders.

Malich / Payne – unanimously approved.

5. Policy Consideration – Pilot Project for Field Reservations at Crescent Creek Park. Director Langhelm reported on an athletic field reservation system developed at the request of City Council. He explained that staff drafted a pilot program for the field at Crescent Creek Park based upon comments by the Parks Commission and the Operations Committee. If the project is successful, the reservation policy can be expanded to include other parks and consideration given to charging for field use. He gave an overview of the proposed reservation policies and answered questions.

Council discussed the scarcity of fields, the number of organizations using the fields in the area, and the need for a reservation policy. They agreed that this pilot project is a good approach.

MOTION: Move to authorize a one-year pilot project for field reservations at Crescent Creek Park baseball field.

Payne / Perrow – unanimously approved.

STAFF REPORT:

Chief Mike Davis reported on the success of the recent cell-phone enforcement campaign which resulted in 139 tickets. He said that the law has been in place for four years and the number of reports and complaints led to this enforcement effort. He said that when you text and talk, it's just like being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. He commented that other jurisdictions have contacted Gig Harbor PD to find out about the success of the program.

Chief Davis was asked to submit a monthly update on the results of ticketing.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MAYOR’S REPORT / COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Young reported that after months of work, Pierce Transit has adopted the full cuts that were recommended by staff. He said that the service cuts are tragic for people trapped on the weekends with no way to get to work or to appointments, but some creative solutions have saved some services, including the Gig Harbor Express Route. A goal was made to reach the 20% of fare box recovery, but it will result in a 66% increase over the next four years which will be hard-hitting for many and may result in an even further loss of riders.

Councilmember Young then reported that we will soon receive delivery of two trolleys as a result of an idea by the Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee for a pilot project for outlying communities to receive service outside the traditional transit. Gig Harbor was chosen because it was something the city has desired and Pierce Transit thought the project would work here. The trolleys are seasonal and would run every ½ hour through downtown and to Uptown, connecting at Pioneer. The trolley is geared towards visitors to allow them to travel to the other places in town. He said that there is a meeting with the stakeholders; there is the need for heavy buy-in from business community and the Downtown Waterfront Retail Association and others to market the pilot program. He said that the biggest issue is for business to support the trolley monetarily in order to keep fares low which will encourage usage.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:

1. Open House – Rosedale Water Main Project: Wed., Jun 12th from 4-6:00 p.m.
2. Operations Committee: Thu. Jun 20th at 3:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For the purpose of discussing pending litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

MOTION: Move to go into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m. for approximately ten minutes to discuss pending litigation.
Payne / Malich – unanimously approved.

MOTION: Move to go return to regular session at 6:40 p.m.
Kadzik / Payne – unanimously approved.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.
Kadzik / Payne – unanimously approved.

CD recorder utilized: Tracks 1002 – 1021

Charles L. Hunter
Charles L. Hunter, Mayor

Molly Towslee
Molly Towslee, City Clerk