



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
December 1, 2008
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Paul Dennis presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Present: Anderson, Chaney, Dietzman, Higgins, Hogan and Smith.

Excused: Gerde.

STAFF PRESENT: Bourquin, Brachmann, Carothers, Copsey, Durgin, Halverson, Lackey, and Leon.

PRESS: Heather Acheson – Camas Washougal Post Record.

Mayor introduced Drew and Mason Triplett as Mayors for the Day. Mayor recapped the events of the day and thanked the Camas Educational Foundation for supporting this event. Mason Triplett proclaimed Tuesday, December 2, 2008, as *Sports Day*.

Mayor Pro-tem Higgins opened the forum for public comments while Mayor Dennis escorted the Triplett's out of the building.

PUBLIC:

Carrie Schulstad - President of the Downtown Vision Coalition (DVC), 415 NE 4th Ave., Camas, WA:

Schulstad gave an update on the DVC and noted that the new website is stellar. Schulstad encouraged Council to browse the website at www.downtowncamas.com. An overview was given on the downtown events that occurred, future projects and goals, as well as some of the difficulties that the DVC faced this year. Schulstad encouraged Council to continue to advocate for the downtown merchants. Schulstad commented that it is difficult for Hogan to be an active liaison for the DVC due to the time constraints of his new position and stated the DVC would be pleased to welcome anyone else on the Council that would be interested in becoming a liaison.

Hogan thanked Schulstad and the DVC Board for their hard work.

FINANCE:

Financing of Fire Engine:

Joan Durgin, Finance Director, reported that an application has been submitted to the Washington State Treasurers Office to finance the fire engine. A variety of contracts will be submitted to Council for review when approval is received from the state. Durgin stated

that a reimbursement resolution may be necessary to pay for the fire engine until the proceeds are received from the state. The resolution will be placed on the December 15th Agenda for Council's consideration.

Durgin noted that she has an add-on item.

Budget Amendments:

Durgin stated that budget amendments will be needed for two funds before the end of the year. The amendments are for the Water/Sewer Capital Reserve Fund and the Public Works Trust Fund (NW 38th Avenue projects). Durgin explained the need for these amendments and that the amendments will be on the December 15th Agenda for Council's consideration.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

2008 Comprehensive Plan Map Amendments – December 15, 2008, Hearing and Ordinance:

Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director, reported that a hearing will be set on December 15th for the 2008 Comprehensive Plan Map amendments. Bourquin explained the reason for these amendments and proposed that an ordinance be prepared in advance.

Hancock Springs – December 15, 2008, Resolution and Findings:

Bourquin stated that the resolution and findings on the Hancock Springs Subdivision remand will be presented to Council at the December 15th meeting.

Shoreline Management Plan Update:

Bourquin explained the amendments to the Shoreline Management Plan and noted a joint effort is being put forth by all of the cities in Clark County, and Clark County to explore a grant from the Department of Ecology (DOE). The grant will fund the planning efforts necessary to update the Shoreline Management Plan. Bourquin briefly explained the grant application process and the timelines involved. Bourquin made a recommendation to allow staff to work with the neighboring jurisdictions to pursue the grant.

Anderson inquired and Bourquin responded that there is not a matching requirement on this grant.

Bourquin asked Council if they had any objections to staff pursuing the grant. There were no objections.

Bourquin responded to questions from Council and noted that a Planning Commission hearing will likely be held on these amendments in January. This matter will hopefully be brought forward to Council for review in February.

Access/Blockade along NW 44th Avenue:

Bourquin explained the background regarding the blockade along NW 44th Avenue. Bourquin noted that he has received comments from new or potential residents of this area expressing their concerns in regards to this blockade. Staff will review various options for this area and bring recommendations back to Council for review.

Mayor commented that he has also received e-mails from new residents regarding access concerns when the winter weather is bad.

FIRE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS)/ADMINISTRATION:

EMS Update:

Lloyd Halverson, City Administrator, introduced Gary Larson, Board Chairman, and Scott Koehler, Fire Chief, of East County Fire & Rescue (ECF&R).

Halverson gave an overview on how the EMS Interlocal Agreement with Washougal has evolved. Halverson commented that after further discussion with Washougal and City Attorney Roger Knapp, it was decided that there should be two separate agreements; a two-party agreement with Washougal and a three-party agreement between Camas, Washougal and ECF&R. Halverson explained each of the agreements.

A recent version of the two-party agreement was distributed to Council for review.

Staff responded to questions from Council.

Chaney asked and Halverson responded that the path forward is to have the two-party agreement ratified by both cities at the December 15, 2008, Council Meetings.

Mayor noted that for uniformity the signature lines for the city attorneys on the last page of the agreement should be switched.

Halverson reported that in anticipation of implementing this agreement, and to provide adequate training, three firefighter/paramedics will need to be hired. Halverson noted there are sufficient funds in the EMS Budget to cover the expense, but since the hiring of the three new employees would exceed the number of personnel listed in the budget, staff will need Council's authorization to proceed.

Dietzman inquired as to when the Paul Lewis Study was disseminated. Leo Leon, Fire Chief, responded that a copy was delivered to Council's mailboxes two weeks ago. Mayor clarified that the Paul Lewis Study was in regards to the fire authority and stated that if Council did not have a copy to let staff know.

Mayor asked Council for confirmation to proceed with the hiring of three firefighter paramedics. Council confirmed consent.

Leon summarized the 2009 EMS Supplemental Budget and explained the source and funding of the new positions outlined in the budget. The ECF&R Interlocal Agreement will pay for five of these positions. Three of the positions are for firefighter/paramedics that were just authorized and two are for new IV technicians. If approved, the plan is to fill the IV technician positions by February 1, 2009. Leon noted that the new positions are an estimate of how many employees the City could be hiring by the summer of 2009 with EMS funds. These additional positions will allow Camas and ECF&R to meet the demands of their growing jurisdictions. Leon commented that if all the personnel are hired as indicated there will be a surplus of approximately \$111,000 at the end of 2009. ECF&R has also budgeted \$100,000 towards the purchase of a new ambulance.

Questions were asked and clarifications were made.

After further discussion regarding personnel, and the cost associated with personnel, Anderson suggested presenting only the new additional costs. Leon stated that he would adjust the budget as suggested. Halverson asked Council to refer questions or comments to Leon.

Mayor asked and Leon responded that the surplus dollars may be used towards building a reserve fund which they are trying to do.

Halverson gave a brief overview on the background of the interlocal agreement with ECF&R. The goal is to have an approved draft for Council's consideration in January of 2009. The agreement is currently under review by Washington Cities Insurance Authority.

Halverson acknowledged the ECF&R Board and Chief Koehler for their cooperation regarding these matters.

Larson thanked the City for the spirit and cooperation they have shown towards ECF&R and stated that the City representatives have been outstanding.

Due to technical difficulties with a PowerPoint Presentation, the Administration portion of the agenda will be discussed prior to Public Works.

ADMINISTRATION:

Infrastructure Projects Update:

Halverson distributed a list of potential Camas public infrastructure projects that may be eligible for funding through the Legislative Stimulus Package. The emphasis in the list of potential projects must meet specific criteria. It must benefit the City's publicly owned infrastructure, create jobs, and leave something behind that may strengthen the economic fundamentals of the area, while including projects that are deliverable and ready to proceed. Halverson briefly explained each project on the list. Halverson reported that this list will be distributed to elected officials, Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development, Columbia River Economic Development Council, Washington State Department of Transportation and the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF), and state and federal officials.

Chaney asked and Halverson responded that the projects on this list, with the possible exception of the school projects, are consistent with the Capital Facilities Plan. Discussion ensued.

2009 Legislative Agenda Draft:

Halverson distributed a packet relating to the preparation of the City's 2009 Legislative Session Agenda and suggested that this matter be discussed again at the December 15th Council Worksession. Halverson briefly summarized the 2009 draft.

Scheduling and Miscellaneous:

Halverson confirmed with Council that they would like to keep the December 15, 2008, Council Meetings as scheduled. Halverson noted that the meeting is far enough away from the Christmas holiday and there are plenty of items for the agenda. Council concurred.

PUBLIC WORKS:

NE 3rd Avenue Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Follow Up:

Monte Brachmann, Public Works Director, introduced a PowerPoint Presentation on the NE 3rd Avenue CDBG Project. The photos in the presentation illustrated what the streets and sidewalks looked like before and after the completion of the project. The majority of the project was paid for with CDBG funds. One of the dramatic outcomes from this project is that the school district will now have to make only three stops, instead of eight, which will be a huge savings and convenience for both the school district and the motorists.

Chaney commented that he has noticed quite a bit of foot traffic on the sidewalks and congratulated staff for a job well done.

COUNCIL:

Hogan reminded everyone that the Hometown Holiday Celebration will take place on Friday. The Mayor will be lighting the tree. Hogan encouraged everyone to attend.

Anderson inquired if there has been any development in regards to moving the C-Tran bus stops by the park and crosswalks along NW 6th Avenue. Anderson noted that the bus stops are immediately next to the cross walks. This causes traffic issues as motorists do not know if a pedestrian is trying to cross the street or waiting for the bus.

Brachmann responded that staff would look into the matter and report back to Council.

Dietzman spoke about a similar request that had been made and gave Brachmann the contact information for C-Tran.

Dietzman noted that she would be unable to attend the December 15, 2008, Council Meetings.

Mayor reminded everyone that the Employee Recognition event will be held at 3:30 p.m. at the library on December 9, 2008.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk