



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
March 16, 2009
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Smith presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

Excused: Mayor Dennis and Dietzman.

STAFF PRESENT: Bourquin, Brachmann, Copsey, Durgin, Hochhalter, Lackey, Leon, MacPherson, Miller, and Schultz.

PRESS: Heather Acheson, Camas-Washougal Post Record.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith noted a change to the agenda; the legal item – McIntosh Road Vacation Proposal – will be moved to the end of the agenda.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

POLICE:

Inter-local Agreement for Prosecution in Therapeutic Courts:

Mitch Lackey, Police Chief, explained the purpose of the proposed inter-local agreement with the Clark County Prosecutor’s Office. The agreement is for the City of Camas’ participation in therapeutic courts, also known as “specialty courts”. Lackey elaborated on the therapeutic court concept. The County is willing to represent the City in the therapeutic courts at the Clark County Courthouse, as needed, at no cost to the City. Lackey stated that he believes that the therapeutic courts would benefit both the offender and the City and recommended approval of the agreement. Lackey introduced David Schultz, City Prosecutor.

Schultz addressed the legal aspects of specialty courts and gave further background regarding the therapeutic court system and how the specialty courts have evolved. Schultz stated that there has been some success in states or jurisdictions using specialty courts and recommended moving forward with this program.

Schultz responded to questions from Council.

Council authorized consent to move forward with this program.

Lackey stated that this item will be placed on the April 6, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.

FINANCE:

Utility Red Flag Compliance:

Joan Durgin, Finance Director, reported that in 2003 the Federal Trade Commission passed a red flag regulation. Durgin stated that the interpretation of "red flag" is to help identify or prevent identity theft and explained how the rules apply to the City. The regulation will be effective May 1st. A program and policy will be forthcoming to Council for consideration in April. Durgin gave a brief overview of the program that the Finance Department is developing.

FIRE:

New Fire Engine:

Leo Leon, Fire Chief, reported that the new fire engine has arrived and the Fire Department is planning to have it in service by mid April.

Fire Station 41 Remodel Update:

Leon stated that Greg Hochhalter, Battalion Chief, has been working with staff on the remodel of Fire Station 41 and will give an update on the progress. The remodel is part of the Capital Improvements Plan using Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding. Leon noted that Randy Miller, Fire Marshall, is also present to explain the fire sprinkler system outlined in the remodel plan.

Hochhalter gave a brief overview of the background regarding the remodel and gave a PowerPoint Presentation outlining the plan for the remodel of Fire Station 41. The presentation included floor plans, added office space, future office space capability and fire sprinklers.

Miller elaborated on the history of fire sprinklers and the advantages to installing them.

Questions were asked and clarifications were made.

Leon noted that in order to save cost, fire sprinklers will only be installed in the living portion of the fire station. A proposal will be coming before Council on April 6th to authorize this project to go out for bid. Leon asked Council to forward any questions they may have to himself or Hochhalter so that they may be addressed prior to the next Council meeting.

Gerde asked if installing fire sprinklers in the truck bay will be part of the bid. Hochhalter responded that there will be several options to consider including installing fire sprinklers in the truck bay. Discussion ensued.

Leon commented that he will send a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation to Council.

PUBLIC WORKS/ADMINISTRATION:

Miscellaneous Updates:

Monte Brachmann, Public Works Director, reported that an amendment to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Maintenance Contract will be coming before Council for consideration at the April 6, 2009, Council Meeting. Brachmann explained the purpose of this contract and the amendments that will be added.

Brachmann stated that he received a letter from WSDOT regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 stating that the City is scheduled to receive \$450,000 in the form of grant money for the Leadbetter Drive Project.

Anderson inquired as to whether or not Verizon is moving towards setting a schedule to install the fiber optic lines. Brachmann responded that he would look into the matter.

COUNCIL:

Hogan gave a brief update on the Camas Downtown Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Its purpose is to work with the Downtown Vision Coalition (DVC) to solicit funds for the enhancement of the downtown area. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss the roles of both organizations.

Gerde commented that she enjoyed First Friday.

Chaney gave an update regarding the progress of the Signs Committee. In order to finalize the political sign issue prior to election season, the committee suggested handling the political sign section of the ordinance first. Once completed the other signage issues could be addressed. Council agreed with the recommended path forward.

STAFF:

Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director, gave a brief update on the progress of the projects and programs the Community Development Department is working on.

Bourquin reported that an interlocal agreement is being developed between Camas, the neighboring cities and the county for a grant to amend the Shoreline Management Program (SMP). Bourquin indicated the state mandates the SMP be updated by December 2011. The agreement will be forthcoming to Council for consideration. Bourquin noted that the feedback thus far has been positive.

Bourquin stated that Farmers Market will be starting back up on May 27th. The market will be held every Wednesday in front of City Hall from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LEGAL:

McIntosh Road Vacation Proposal:

Shawn MacPherson, Assistant City Attorney, explained the history and issues regarding a piece of property located along McIntosh Road at the entrance to View Ridge Estates. MacPherson stated that he has been working with Frank Kane, President of the View Ridge Estates Homeowners Association (HOA), to resolve the problem with the overlapping legal descriptions.

Frank Kane, 522 NW Viewridge Lane, Camas, WA:

Kane gave background regarding the property in question and the maintenance performed by the HOA.

The recommended proposal to rectify the situation is to quick claim deed the pieces of property in question to the HOA. The HOA will continue to maintain the property and the City will maintain the easement.

MacPherson commented that this matter is more of a title issue rather than a street vacation. Deeds will be presented to Council for consideration at the April 6, 2009, Council Meeting.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk