



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
December 7, 2009
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Paul Dennis presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

PRESS: Heather Acheson, Camas-Washougal Post Record.

PUBLIC:

John Simmons, 26701 SE 5th St, Camas, WA:

Mr. Simmons expressed his concerns regarding the new proposed Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) power lines that may be running behind his property. He noted he has contacted a lawyer who has advised Mr. Simmons that the BPA environmental impact statements are not adequate and has communicated a set of environmental and health issues that he believes should be addressed by the BPA. Simmons asked that Council review the information provided by the BPA and then document the City's position.

Mayor responded by stating that he has conferred with Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director, about this issue. He has asked Bourquin to prepare a letter to the BPA reminding them of statements made in their presentation to Council and to identify issues the BPA needs to address. Mayor noted that the City does not have veto power over the BPA, but by early intervention the City will have improved access to drafts on this issue, thereby compelling the BPA to address issues raised by the City. Mayor added that the City is concerned with advocating for the community, not just individuals.

Mayor commented and Bourquin agreed that the letter sent to the BPA will be posted to the city website when it is complete, along with a link to the minutes of the BPA presentation to Council.

POLICE:

Presentation by Sgt. Shane Gardner, Clark/Skamania Narcotics Task Force:

Mitch Lackey, Police Chief, introduced Sgt. Shane Gardner with the Clark County Meth Action Team. Sgt. Gardner gave a Power Point presentation on the damage caused by pseudoephedrine, an over the counter drug used in the production of methamphetamine. He strongly emphasized the need for legislation requiring a prescription for the purchase of pseudoephedrine. Sgt. Gardner documented his evidence that this legislation will drastically curtail the production and distribution of methamphetamine, thereby saving lives. He also

provided the website www.oregondec.org for those wanting to become more informed on this issue.

Mayor asked and Council responded with specific questions and requests for a path forward on how they can become positively involved in this issue. Sgt. Gardner provided numerous paths for Council to investigate and Council thanked him for his dedication.

Mayor suggested placing this issue on the agenda for the planning conference in January and other venues were discussed. Sgt. Gardner thanked Council for being the first city council to allow him time to present this important issue.

FINANCE:

Budget amendment for Storm Water Drainage Utility Fund and Fire Remodel Project:

Joan Durgin, Finance Director, presented information on two budget amendments requiring ordinances that will be presented to Council for their consideration on the December 21, 2009, Council Meeting. The first is the storm water drainage utility fund, which is necessary because of unplanned maintenance projects, including storm water pond failures on Julia Street and in Crown View Plaza Subdivision. Durgin noted that city staff repaired these sites, but \$35,000 is needed to cover the extra expenses and the money will come from utility rates. Council asked and Durgin responded that these are city owned water facilities.

Durgin said the second amendment is for the closing of the fire remodel project and the money will come from the General Fund. Durgin added that funding will be from real estate excise tax. Durgin explained that the \$60,000 needed to close out of this project is due to change order issues that occurred, including construction management and the removal of asbestos.

Mayor asked and Council did not have questions for Durgin.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Pavement Fee Update:

Monte Brachmann, Public Works Director, noted that the title should read Pavement Cut Fee Update. Brachmann explained that James Carothers, Engineering Manager, will present to council a pavement cut fee update at the December 21, 2009, Worksession.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Design Close Out Resolution:

Brachmann explained that this project was funded by the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) and a resolution declaring the project complete is required for close out. He advised Council that a resolution will be on the December 21, 2009, Council Agenda for their consideration. Brachmann also displayed the huge amount of paperwork generated by City Staff and Consultants that the Department of Ecology (DOE) has approved and returned, acknowledging that it signifies an incredible amount of hard work done by Staff.

Declaration of Surplus Property-726 NE 5th Avenue:

Brachmann stated that the property at 726 NE 5th Avenue needs to be declared surplus so it can be moved. Brachmann explained that the property was purchased with the library bond for future library parking and that an opportunity to declare the property surplus will be on the December 21, 2009, Council Agenda for Council's consideration.

Miscellaneous and Updates:

Brachmann informed council that the draft submitted to the DOE in 2007 for the General Sewer Facility Plan has been finally approved. Brachmann explained that now that the Plan has been approved, the City has the opportunity to submit an amendment for the North Urban Growth Area (NUGA). Council asked and Brachmann answered that copies of the plan are available on CD.

Brachmann reported to Council that the Water System Plan draft has been prepared and is being reviewed by Gray and Osborne and staff. The plan will be submitted to the State Department of Health (DOH) after the final review. He observed that if there was an emergency and the City needed outside assistance, someone from a neighboring system could use this water operations and maintenance plan to safely operate the Camas water system.

Brachmann notified Council that the new recycling bins are being delivered this week and literature explaining the bins has been mailed. Brachmann added that the used recycling bins can be put out on Saturday, December 12th, for recycling, but one of the used bins needs to be kept for glass. Council asked and Brachmann answered that any bin may be used for glass with the provided glass sticker on it and the pilot program customers may also recycle their used bins on Saturday. He noted the bins need to be recycled separately because they are a different type of plastic.

Brachmann stated there will probably be a contract for engineering construction services with Gray and Osborne on the December 21, 2009 Consent Agenda for Council's consideration. He clarified that this contract will be for the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade if the City moves forward on this project. He explained that the contract will need to be in place if the City draws PWTF construction loan funds.

ADMINISTRATION:

Miscellaneous, Updates and Scheduling:

Lloyd Halverson, City Administrator, informed Council that there will be a contract change for the Well #14 contract with the State DOH on the December 21st meeting. Halverson noted these are routine changes that are needed due to provisions in the Stimulus Act.

Halverson distributed a handout relating to the 2010 legislative short list for Camas. Halverson explained that the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) has compiled a list of priorities for the upcoming Legislative Session and suggested that coordination between the Camas list and the AWC list would be ideal. Halverson bulleted topics Camas has already addressed, such as capital investment; subjects that Camas is currently addressing, most specifically stormwater funding; and he pointed out that the Camas list coincides remarkably with the AWC list. Halverson added that on the state level, a fee on petroleum products is being considered to fund stormwater projects.

Halverson asked direction from Council as to the pseudoephedrine legislation and council indicated support for the legislation with a drafted statement. Halverson stated that the first draft should be presented at the December 21st meeting, with a follow-up at the first meeting of January 2010.

Halverson asked Council for direction on administering the oath of office for re-elected council members and Council indicated that the December 21st meeting is preferable.

Halverson re-configured that the Annual Planning Conference will be held on January 22nd in the afternoon and January 23rd beginning at 9 am. He then asked Council for desired topics.

Halverson reported that on November 6th the Lodging Advisory Committee met and they received a written proposal from the City regarding the lodging tax. Halverson added that the City has not received a written response from the committee, but he believes the City has done everything possible to bring this forward, and it will return for Council's consideration on the December 21 Council Meeting.

Mayor asked and there were no questions from Council.

COUNCIL:

Higgins stated he will be attending the Identity Clark County meeting on Friday he added that he will also be attending the Leadership Clark County Session. Higgins said that he is trying to get the Youth Council going again. He thanked Chaney for organizing the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) tour, and expressed gratitude for the protection CRESA provides the citizens.

Dietzman said she was present at the Employee Recognition Event. She attended First Friday, which had a great crowd. Dietzman also attended the Mosquito Control Board meeting and noted their budget is increasing due to spring concerns. She will attend the C-Tran meeting. Dietzman noted she has worked on the storm water ordinance language and participated in the CRESA tour.

Smith will attend the Parks Board meeting and will bring up the dog park.

Gerde has seen the dog park in Washougal and gave details on what she observed. She attended the Employee Recognition Event and commented that the food was great.

Mayor congratulated the City crews for an excellent job on the Hometown Holidays Event.

Hogan said the Hometown Holiday Event was fun. He will be attending the Leadership Clark County meeting and was also impressed with the CRESA tour. He noted the Tour of Homes was very successful and encouraged everyone to take a look at some of the remarkable Camas homes.

Mayor thanked Hogan for his work on the Hometown Holidays event. The Employee Recognition Event went very well. Mayor also attended the CRESA tour.

Mayor commented on his meeting with East County Fire and Rescue (ECFR) Commissioners Gary Larson and Vic Rasmussen, adding that Camas Fire Chief Leo Leon and council member Melissa Smith also attended. Mayor stated to Council that ECFR's has made the decision to terminate the joint staffing arrangement with Camas within 365 days, noting that ECFR has asked for an even earlier termination.

Mayor asked and Council responded with questions regarding specifics. Mayor stated that ECFR has asked for Camas personnel to be shifted to ECFR and explained that Camas is not in the position to simply shift employees to other organizations. Mayor and Council discussed the ramifications of the arrangement termination, including financial considerations.

Chaney asked and Mayor answered that he would not agree with early termination due to the fact that ECFR has an obligation to the agreement and to the employees involved, and to the citizens whose lives may depend on the services that are part of this arrangement with ECFR.

Council asked and Mayor responded that ECFR is terminating the arrangement due to cultural differences and that there is no current termination plan in place.

Mayor stated that with Council's consent there will be further meetings with ECFR to discuss the termination. Council agreed and Mayor noted that this issue will be discussed at the January Planning meeting.

PUBLIC:

Ken Hadley, 4011 F Circle, Washougal, WA:

Mr. Hadley stated that he believes the ECFR situation should be open for community discussion and is glad it will be on the Planning Conference agenda. Smith responded by noting she did not want this termination to be perceived as a failure on anyone's part, just a step in another direction.

Hadley asked and Mayor responded that the door has not been closed and that the future may see an even different direction.

Mayor asked and Leon responded that Camas still has mutual aid between all three communities and this cooperation will continue.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk