



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
November 16, 2009
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, Hodges, Lackey, and Levison.

PRESS: Heather Acheson, Camas-Washougal Post Record.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Downtown Parking - Hotel:

James Carothers, Engineering Manager, reported that the Downtown Parking Committee met to consider changes to the parking restrictions in the downtown core. Carothers stated that the committee's recommendation is to change the parking space on Cedar Street, in front of the old liquor store, from 10 minutes to 2 hours and to change the 2nd parking space from Cedar Street on 4th Avenue, near the Camas Hotel, from 30 minutes to 10 minutes.

Carothers responded to questions from Council.

Carothers stated that a resolution with the proposed changes will be coming before Council for consideration.

Fire Station 41 Remodel Change Order:

Monte Brachmann, Public Works Director, stated that a change order for Fire Station 41 remodel will be placed on the December 7, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration. Brachmann explained the changes and noted that the total amount of the change order will be approximately \$6,500.

Camas School District Interlocal Agreement – Leadbetter Drive:

Brachmann reported that the Camas School District has requested that the City include the construction of their driveway, which will merge with the new Leadbetter Drive, in the City's construction contract. The cost of the construction will be paid for by the school district. Brachmann noted that the interlocal agreement will be on the December 7, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.

Deerhaven Subdivision Street Closure Request:

Brachmann stated that the owners of the Deerhaven Subdivision are requesting the temporary closure of certain streets in the subdivision. Brachmann commented that Todd Johnson of Group Mackenzie is present to make this request to Council.

Todd Johnson – Group Mackenzie, 601 Main Street, Ste. 101, Vancouver, WA:

Johnson spoke on behalf of Gray Rock Development LLC, the new owners of Deerhaven Subdivision. Johnson explained the background of the subdivision and the purpose of the request to close Adams Street at Leadbetter Drive. Johnson noted that Gray Rock Development LLC will pay the cost to close and reopen the street and that they would like the street to remain closed until the punch list is complete and the houses begin to sell.

Johnson and Brachmann responded to questions from Council.

Brachmann stated that a resolution will be brought forth for Council's consideration.

After further discussion, Mayor affirmed that the resolution should contain language that triggers the process for the reopening of the road based upon the City's final acceptance of all improvements.

City of Vancouver Interlocal Agreement – Water Service Boundary:

Brachmann explained the background regarding the water service boundaries between the cities of Camas and Vancouver. Brachmann reported that staff from both jurisdictions have developed an interlocal agreement that will be coming before Council for consideration on December 7, 2009. Brachmann explained the proposed changes and added that the changes will clean up the boundaries where annexations have occurred and that the agreement also addresses "interim service" areas.

Brachmann responded to questions from Council.

Utility Rates:

Brachmann distributed a handout which contained proposed utility rate schedules, proposed flow based sewer rates using a variety of fixed and variable rates, and examples using actual customer consumption amounts. Brachmann explained each of the handouts. Discussion ensued.

Brachmann asked Council for direction on a path forward.

After further discussion, Council concluded they would like to move forward with an 83% fixed and 17% variable flow based sewer rate model.

Mayor asked Council if they would like to entertain a discount for low income seniors. Discussion ensued.

Mayor asked and Brachmann explained what the projections would be if the City implements a low income senior sewer discount rate.

Discussion ensued regarding low income senior programs, rules and regulations, what the parameters should be to determine who qualifies for the discount, and if the program should include non-senior low income citizens.

Mayor affirmed that Council's desire is for staff to put together a program that is simple to administer for low income seniors for Council to consider.

Brachmann commented that a public hearing will be set for December 7, 2009, regarding the proposed utility rate schedule and that documentation will be distributed to Council for their review prior to the meeting.

Brachmann responded to questions from Council.

Miscellaneous and Updates:

Brachmann reported that the distribution of the new recycle carts will begin the first or second week of December. Discussion ensued.

POLICE:

Camas-Washougal Municipal Court Update:

Mitch Lackey, Police Chief, reported that the City received notification from Clark County District Court that they are contemplating vacating the Camas-Washougal Municipal Court building and hearing the cases at the Clark County Courthouse due to budgetary reasons.

Lackey explained the potential effects of this decision and stated that the city attorneys and police chiefs of both Camas and Washougal have met to discuss this matter and are exploring other possibilities. Lackey noted that options will be brought forward to Council for consideration and that the City has approximately four to seven months before the court may potentially vacate the existing building.

Lackey responded to questions from Council and gave examples of potential options.

ADMINISTRATION:

Introduction of the matter "E-Verify":

Lloyd Halverson, City Administrator, stated that "E-Verify" is a program that helps to ensure that people who work in the United States are legally entitled to work in the United States. Halverson added that this matter came to the City from a citizen who is actively involved in advocating local adoption of the "E-Verify" program. Halverson briefly explained how this program would work and the feedback that he received from the department heads.

Halverson noted that other jurisdictions have adopted this program and the provisions provided for in their ordinances. Halverson suggested that sample ordinances from other jurisdictions be given to Council to scrutinize and to allow time to see the results in other jurisdictions before Council decides whether or not they would like to consider this program.

Mayor asked and Council replied that they would like to see a cost comparison of the other jurisdictions and gain a better understanding of how the program works prior to making any decision.

Miscellaneous and Scheduling:

Halverson stated that an amendment to the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) agreement for the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade will be coming before Council for consideration. The amendment will convert the one million dollar loan from a five-year preconstruction loan to a twenty-year term loan.

Halverson commented that the legislative session will begin in January. A packet was distributed to Council which contained background information, a copy of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) subcommittee's recommendations to the 2009-10 Legislative Committee, and a reprint of the City of Camas "2009 Legislative Short List". Halverson noted that in his assessment, the 2010 session is likely to be a very defensive session due to economic reasons.

Chaney asked and Halverson responded that it is not too late to have an item placed on the AWC's legislative list. Mayor suggested that Council provide Halverson with any ideas they may have by the end of the week.

COUNCIL:

Anderson reported that he attended a United Camas Association of Neighborhoods (UCAN) meeting last week that was well attended.

Anderson recommended that the Regional Fire Authority Committee be dissolved at this time since the discussions on this matter have been tabled. This will allow the City of Washougal to join in the dialogue if they should decide to do so. Council concurred.

Higgins reported that he attended an Identity Clark County meeting last week and that lobbyists were present at the meeting. Higgins gave a brief recap of the meeting.

Dietzman stated that she attended a C-Tran meeting and that their budget has yet to be approved. She added that the proposed budget does not include a pay raise for the non-represented employees.

Hogan commented that First Friday is coming up and encouraged everyone to attend. Hogan added that the Hometown Holiday event will also be held on First Friday.

Chaney reported that he will be scheduling tours of Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) for Council and will provide dates and times once the arrangements have been finalized.

Chaney stated that he attended a Clark County Commissioners meeting regarding methamphetamines and gave a brief overview of the meeting. Chaney commented on a movement at the Clark County Sheriff's office to encourage the State of Washington to pass an ordinance that would make pseudoephedrine, the main ingredient used to make methamphetamines, a prescription drug. Chaney asked Council if they would be interested in hearing a brief presentation regarding this matter. Council replied that they would.

Chaney also noted that this is the matter that he would like to see AWC address at the legislative session.

Mayor stated that at the December 21, 2009, Council Meeting he will be making appointments for any vacancies on the boards and commissions for the City of Camas. Mayor added that he will also make Council appointments at that time and asked Leisha Copsey, Executive Assistant, to distribute to Council the current appointments.

PUBLIC:

Ken Hadley, 4011 F Circle, Washougal, WA:

Hadley voiced his support for the requested closure of streets in the Deerhaven Subdivision.

Hadley suggested that information regarding the utility rate study and proposed rates be provided to the newspaper prior to the December 7th public hearing.

Kris Kralik, 631 NW 18th Loop, Camas, WA:

Kralik asked if it would be feasible to move the Camas-Washougal Municipal Court to the Police Department Community Room. Lackey responded that they are exploring all possible venues, but the city attorneys have expressed their concern regarding the appearance of fairness if the police facility is used.

Kralik asked and Council responded that there is not a reduced rate for having garbage picked up only once per month.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk