



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
April 20, 2009
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Paul Dennis presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

Excused: Dietzman and Smith.

STAFF PRESENT: Bourquin, Carothers, Copsey, Durgin, Gorsuch, and Lackey.

PRESS: Heather Acheson, Camas-Washougal Post Record.

PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

POLICE:

Surplus Equipment:

Mitch Lackey, Police Chief, reported that the police department has surplus equipment and that this matter will be placed on the May 4, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.

Professional Services Contract – Team HR:

Lackey gave a brief overview regarding a professional services contract with a potential firm to perform team building exercises. Lackey stated that he believes that this is a good investment and will help the department move forward with planning as well.

Jennifer Gorsuch, Human Resources Director, commented that other law enforcement agencies have been very successful using this firm and its approach in dealing with new staff and overall communication styles. Gorsuch stated that she supports staff's recommendation.

Gorsuch and Lackey responded to questions from Council.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Emergency Ride Home Agreement:

Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director, distributed a draft Commute Trip Reduction Agreement (CTR) that contains proposed changes to the language regarding the Guaranteed Ride Home Program. Bourquin explained the changes and noted that this matter will be placed on the consent agenda for Council's consideration once the agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney.

Bourquin responded to questions from Council.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Fallen Leaf Lake Property – Cultural Resources Survey:

James Carothers, Engineering Manager, reported that a professional services agreement with Archeological Investigations Northwest will be placed on the May 4, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council’s consideration. This agreement is for a cultural resources survey of the Fallen Leaf Lake property. The survey is a pre-requisite of the federal grant agreement.

Parker Street Sewer Valve Removal:

Carothers stated that the Parker Street sewer valve removal is out to bid. This matter will be placed on the May 4, 2009, Consent Agenda for Council’s consideration.

City of Washougal’s “E” Street Improvements:

Carothers reported that the City of Washougal is in the design stage of their project to make improvements on “E” Street. Their proposal includes changes to signage and striping within the Camas City limits. A presentation showing these proposed changes will be given to Council by representatives from Washougal at the May 4, 2009, Council Workshop.

The City of Washougal is also having an open house regarding this project. The open house will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30th at Washougal High School in the commons area.

Miscellaneous:

There were no miscellaneous items.

Carothers and Mayor responded to questions from Council.

MAYOR:

Community/Recreation Center Support Draft Letters:

Mayor Dennis reported that the Friends of the Community Center have requested letters of support from the participating partners. Mayor gave a brief outline of the draft letters and the purpose for which they will be used. Mayor asked Council for any comments or revisions to the drafts.

The consensus was to make minor changes suggested by Gerde to one of the letters.

Mayor asked Council for a confirmation from them to send out the letters with the changes as noted. Council authorized consent.

COUNCIL:

Hogan reported that the Downtown Vision Coalition (DVC) has been working towards establishing a 501 (c) 3, non-profit organization. Hogan gave an update on the progress and stated that the research done by the DVC confirmed that it would be more advantageous to move the DVC functions into a 501 (c) 3. Hogan gave the reasons why this potential move is supported by the DVC.

Mayor gave further background and explained how funding will be affected if Council decides to move the DVC functions into a non-profit organization. Discussion ensued.

Mayor replied to Chaney's inquiry and confirmed that the DVC still needs to develop a plan that outlines their goals, objectives, budget and the level of City participation expected under the premise of this new concept.

Mayor commented that it was suggested to the DVC that they have an open house in order to meet the business community and to disseminate to the public the proposed new goals and objectives of the DVC.

The DVC will make a presentation to Council at the June 15, 2009, Council Workshop to present their proposed new goals and objectives.

Hogan inquired and Mayor responded that the Ward Meetings will be held on May 13th at the police station and May 28th at the Grass Valley Fire Station. Both meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. Mayor noted that he would not be attending the meeting on May 13th, but Mayor Pro Tem Smith will be present. Higgins stated that he will be able to attend the meeting on the 13th.

Higgins reported that the Camas Youth Council is in the process of appointing new members. The loss of Stephanie Nicholson and Emma Sagor on the Council will be felt as they did an outstanding job.

Higgins commented that he would not be present at the May 4, 2009, Council Meeting as he will be in Poland. He also noted the trip is being organized through the Sister City Organization and is privately funded.

Gerde reported that she attended the City of Camas entrance audit meeting and also reminded the group that there is a fire authority meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 23rd beginning at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Grove Field Fire Station.

Anderson echoed Gerde's comments regarding the fire authority meeting.

Hogan stated that he attended the opening of the fire station in Washougal and that it was nice to have this station open and functional.

Mayor gave a brief update on the meeting that he had with members of East County Fire & Rescue.

Mayor stated that he will also be going to Poland to participate in the Fifth Anniversary Celebration of the Partner Cities Cooperation Agreement. Mayor noted that the trip is privately funded and that he will not be attending the Council meeting on May 4, 2009.

PUBLIC:

Ken Hadley, 4011 F Circle, Washougal, WA:

Hadley stated that he is pleased that the fire station in Washougal is now open.

Hadley inquired and Mayor responded that the Community/Recreation Center letters of support do not bind the City in terms of taxes or any other action that would require a public vote.

Hogan and Mayor responded to an inquiry made by Hadley regarding what the end result would be if a 501 (c) 3 failed.

Nellie Groeneveld, PO Box 604, Camas, WA:

Groeneveld made inquiries regarding the Emergency Ride Home Program, the “E” Street improvements project and the Community/Recreation Center.

Mayor and staff responded to Groeneveld’s inquiries.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk