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CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL SUMMARY MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 25, 2005
7:30 p.m.

Shoreline Conference Center
Mt. Rainier Room

PRESENT: Mayor Hansen, Deputy Mayor Jepsen, Councilmembers Chang, Fimia, Grace, Gustafson, and Ransom

ABSENT: none

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Hansen, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Mayor Hansen led the flag salute. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present.

(b) Proclamation of Girls Basketball Week

Mayor Hansen presented the proclamation to the King's High School Lady Knights basketball team, who won the Class 2A state championship on March 12. Coach Eric Rasmussen accepted the proclamation on behalf of the team and presented the Mayor with an autographed picture of Shoreline's state champs.

(a) Shoreline Star—Scott Keeny

Mayor Hansen presented the fourth Shoreline Star to Scott Keeny and outlined his many accomplishments and contributions to Shoreline through his involvement with the Fire District, the Richmond Beach Community Council, the Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council, the Senior Center, and the Shoreline Auxiliary Communications Association Group and Emergency Management Council. Mr. Keeny thanked the City for this recognition. He encouraged everyone to volunteer for the organization of their choice, promising they would become better people for it and make the community a better place "to live, work, and play."

3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Steve Burkett introduced Craig Larsen, director of Lynnwood Parks and Recreation and past president of the Washington Recreation and Park Association, who

DRAFT

presented two awards to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Mr. Larsen noted that these were two of only seven awards, one for the Fall 2004 Recreation Guide and the other for the Youth and Adult Programs Award for the interactive art program "Music Explosion." He specifically mentioned staff members Robin Lesh and Jill Rogers for their efforts. Mayor Hansen noted that the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has "good people from top to bottom."

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Bronston Kenney, Shoreline, said there has been no substantive discussion on cottage housing since the City passed since the cottage housing moratorium nine months ago. He asserted that City staff has been developing positions and arguments without citizen input in an attempt to control the debate. He said the two fundamental questions are: 1) Why is cottage housing being pursued over the fundamental objections of the residents?; and 2) Who is forcing cottage housing forward against the will of citizens, and what is the motivation? He said the only possible explanations are that staff believes its visions are superior to the desires of constituents, or that developers have untoward influence at City Hall. He noted that the Council rejected the opportunity to solve the problem by limiting cottage housing to areas of medium and high density zoning, as proposed by Councilmember Ransom. He said many citizens look to the next election as the only remaining avenue to stop this blight on neighborhoods.

(b) Janet Way, Shoreline, reported on the success of Earth Day activities undertaken by the Sno-King Environmental Council, Shoreline Chamber of Commerce, and the City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Over 150 participants, including Councilmembers Chang, Fimia, and Grace, helped plant over 200 native trees and shrubs in local area parks. She concluded by thanking Shoreline Parks staff Kirk Peterson, Tony Colinas, and Jay Hornbeak as well as other supporters of Earth Day.

(c) Virginia Paulsen, Shoreline, related several quotes from Ole Hansen, a pioneer real estate developer in Lake Forest Park who advocated for environmental protection. She described the efforts of those who participated in pulling weeds and planting new trees and shrubs in Darnell Park for Earth Day. Referring to a Seattle P.I. article, she pointed out that goats can help control invasive weeds.

(d) David Kettles, Shoreline, said his mother contacted the City upon hearing about the proposal to redevelop the Echo Lake property. When she expressed concern about potential harm to the lake due to ground water issues, a City staff member responded to her concerns in a way that was "unacceptable and the attitude outrageous." He hoped such a lack of customer service is limited to only this person.

(e) Brian Derdowski, Bellevue, provided additional references for the Council to study as it deliberates the Transportation Master Plan. He provided a copy of a memorandum from Mirai Associates regarding Level of Service Standards and Methodologies, which serves as an appendix to the Transportation Plan. He requested that City staff prepare a memorandum that determines whether this document is still in

effect, which he contended it is. He said the City's transportation concurrency plan is potentially flawed and might not pass scrutiny by the Growth Management Hearing Board unless changed. He provided a copy of his critique, entitled "Comments on Transportation Concurrency," urging the Council to read it and to ask staff to respond to his request regarding the Mirai document.

(f) Patty Crawford, Shoreline, asked for the results of the soil boring tests on the Twyman/gateway property. She asserted that the definition for reasonable use was illegally put into the Development Code by staff, and that there must be public input on the cottage housing debate. She read portions of a memo from Planning Director Tim Stewart to City Manager Steve Burkett which responded to the 32nd District Democrats' resolution regarding Thornton Creek. She disagreed with Mr. Stewart's conclusions, noting that the Critical Areas standards were created to guide growth and protect urban areas, which are utilized the most. She said rural property owners would not agree that the City should not protect urban areas because the most precious resources exist in rural areas. She said this memo indicates that staff has never had the desire to protect Thornton Creek. She noted that the Aegis project is far from what the permit allowed for that development.

(g) Tim Crawford, Shoreline, said Superior Court Judge Erlick ruled that if nothing changed on the north site of the Aegis project, the "north building would be torn down and pulled out of the buffer." He cited another case in which a building had been torn down because it violated development requirements. He said the deadline for written public comments on the Aegis north site is May 9. He said the Department of Transportation and Washington State Fish and Wildlife recognize the creek as a salmon-bearing stream, but the City improperly classified it as a "ditch." He noted that "Up Thornton Creek," a video that chronicles his family's efforts to protect the stream, will be shown at the Highland Ice Arena on May 3.

(h) Peter Henry, Shoreline, encouraged the City to incorporate "green" building practices in Shoreline projects. He quoted a Seattle P.I. article which describes Seattle's efforts to promote development that minimizes impacts to the natural environment. The article claims that Shoreline intends to implement such building practices in the City Hall project, and he hoped this would be the case. He concluded by thanking Janet Way for her efforts on Earth Day.

Robert Olander, Deputy City Manager, noted there would be a public workshop on cottage housing at the Shoreline Fire Department on May 11. He reminded the Council that the Echo Lake Rezone and Comprehensive Plan amendment is a quasi-judicial proposal, so specific public comment related to this issue is precluded from coming to the Council. He said people can comment on this issue in writing to the Planning Commission or at the public hearing before the Planning Commission. He added that staff would review the information provided by Mr. Derdowski. He clarified that Superior Court has not ordered that the Aegis building on the north site be removed.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DRAFT

Councilmember Gustafson moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Grace seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, and the agenda was approved.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Grace moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion, which carried 7 - 0, and the following consent calendar items were approved:

**Minutes of Workshop Meeting of April 4, 2005
Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 11, 2005**

**Approval of expenses and payroll as of April 13, 2005
in the amount of \$1,809,359.33**

**Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute an
Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement
with the City of Bellevue**

**Ordinance No. 381 amending the 2005 Surface Water Capital
Budget increasing the spending authority for the 3rd Avenue
NW drainage project, and motion to authorize the City Manager
to execute a construction change order with Thomco
Construction, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$230,000**

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) Sidewalk Program Strategy

Mr. Burkett briefly reviewed the efforts of the Public Works Department to gather the necessary information for tonight's discussion.

Paul Haines, Public Works Director, explained that Public Works conducted the Pedestrian Facility Study in order to: 1) provide information to the Transportation Master Plan; 2) assist in planning for the Capital Improvement Plan; 3) respond to the citizen survey results; and 4) provide citizens and Councilmembers with an idea of the magnitude of the need for pedestrian facilities. He said the study focused on arterials and school zones. He noted the absence of sidewalks in many neighborhoods, as well as sidewalks and pathways that are "out of character" with the environment. While the City does not have a complete inventory of all sidewalks, it does have an inventory of all areas the City is responsible for maintaining.

Continuing, Mr. Haines stressed the need to develop affordable, interim solutions due to the lack of available funding for new sidewalks. He said the emphasis will be to keep construction in character with the neighborhoods, i.e., "design to fit." He pointed out that the Portland Transportation Bureau has developed different techniques for pedestrian

DRAFT

facilities that fit a variety of circumstances. He outlined the estimated costs of funding Priority 1 and 2 projects, which would total from \$18 to \$37 million over twenty years. He then reviewed the sections evaluated for a six-year, \$2 million CIP program, noting the wide range of costs between the traditional concrete curb, gutter and sidewalk versus asphalt paths. He estimated that a traditional concrete curb/gutter/sidewalk ranges from \$175-225 per linear foot, whereas alternatives range from \$42 to \$135 per linear foot.

Mayor Hansen called for public comment.

(a) Richard Johnsen, Shoreline, commented on the issues and challenges associated with building sidewalks on N 175th Street and Meridian Avenue N, adjacent to Ronald Bog Park. He noted that King County had to drive piles and add fill to create the current embankment along the north side, so the City might have to invest significant funds to stabilize a sidewalk in that area. He expressed support for building a sidewalk on the east side of Meridian Avenue from N 175th to N 172nd if it is feasible. He also mentioned the problem of the grade variation along Meridian Avenue N.

Councilmember Grace suggested talking about sidewalk construction around schools with the Shoreline School District and looking for ways to partner with both the school district and utilities. He also noted that pedestrian safety should be part of the weighted criteria for sidewalk priorities, particularly in places where vehicle traffic is directly adjacent to pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Haines clarified that staff included safety as a criteria in developing the priorities. He said this issue would be discussed in more detail as part of the Transportation Master Plan deliberations.

Mr. Haines pointed out that many neighborhoods in other jurisdictions pay for their own sidewalks through assessments such as local improvement districts (LIDs). He discussed the funding options for Shoreline and recommended that the City fund what it can afford and then try to leverage the rest with grants. He noted that most grants are not very substantial unless they are linked to a major road construction project.

Councilmember Gustafson mentioned the "in-lieu of" program, which to-date has accumulated about \$50,000. He expressed interest in the looking at the alternatives to building traditional concrete sidewalks.

Councilmember Ransom recommended that private schools also be included in the consideration of sidewalk placement. He pointed out that the Shoreline School District has 9,500 students, but there are an additional 3,000 students in Shoreline who attend private schools. He felt the Council should consider the pedestrian needs of Lake Forest Park Montessori, Kings Elementary, Kings High School, and Hooray for Me School.

Mr. Haines noted that the walking routes for the Kings school are less used because a large percentage of students arrive by car, although all areas should have safe pedestrian

facilities. Mayor Hansen added that Kings has very aggressive traffic patrol and monitoring program.

Councilmember Ransom expressed interest in finding ways to reduce costs as well as shorten the time frame for building pedestrian facilities from 20 years to 12 years. He noted that \$2 million would not do much to address the problem, considering that the Bond Advisory Committee identified \$5.5 million as the amount needed just for sidewalks for public elementary schools.

Mr. Burkett clarified that the City has not identified \$2 million in its current budget for sidewalks. This figure was simply illustrative. He felt that since sidewalks are expensive and grant funding is insufficient, a reasonable alternative is to ask for help from residents.

Councilmember Chang agreed with the approach to partner with the School District, Shoreline Community College, Innis Arden, churches, and other such entities. He felt that annual revenue surpluses should be applied to sidewalks, since citizens have identified them as their top priority. Responding to Councilmember Chang, Mr. Haines explained that although asphalt sidewalks are not quite as durable as concrete, they can be designed to function properly and "fit the environment." He said staff would not recommend a faulty product, because the City is ultimately responsible for maintaining whatever facilities it builds.

Mayor Hansen brought up his suggestion from several months ago to adopt a plan similar to Auburn's in which a portion of the property tax is dedicated to sidewalks. He noted that once this money is "banked," it is exempt from deflation, so it is a good way to provide reliable funding. He felt there are situations in which it may be more advantageous to use asphalt than concrete.

Councilmember Fimia felt that talking about "safe walkways" rather than "sidewalks" provides the Council a whole range of opportunities to address the need. She pointed out that in some neighborhoods the solution might be reduced vehicle speeds, while in others it might be sidewalks, pathways, or extended curbs. She said sidewalks are "one of the most important things a City can do for its citizens," because they provide safety and foster a sense of community. She noted that the current 10 million trips per day in four counties are expected to increase to 16 million trips by 2030. She said sidewalks encourage more pedestrian trips, which equates to fewer trips by car. She suggested that the Existing Pedestrian Facilities map should only reflect existing conditions, not those that are anticipated in the six-year CIP. She felt the map should also not include widened shoulders because they are not considered a safe pedestrian facility. She asked if the City's gas tax revenue could be allocated for sidewalks.

Mr. Haines said the map was intended as a planning and inventory tool, so all current or future facilities were included.

DRAFT

April 25, 2005

Mr. Burkett confirmed the gas tax revenue could be used for sidewalks, although there is not currently enough gas tax revenue to cover the City's street maintenance needs. The City is also using General Fund money to supplement the street maintenance budget.

Councilmember Ransom wondered if the recently adopted gas tax increase would fill the gap in the road maintenance fund. Mr. Burkett said it is likely that cities will receive some funding, but it might only bring the street fund up to the level it was at three years ago.

Deputy Mayor Jepsen concluded that it is difficult to gain consensus about priorities, noting that the program will have to be "fleshed out" in cooperation with the public. While the map indicates that sidewalks on 15th Avenue NE adjacent to Hamlin Park are a high priority, this was not his impression at a recent community meeting on the North City project. He agreed with looking at alternatives to concrete, and supported partnerships with neighborhoods and other construction projects such as King County Metro (Brightwater). He also objected to sidewalks being built around power poles, which he said is still occurring.

- (b) Continued deliberations on the 2004 Update of the Comprehensive Plan and master plans

Council continued its discussion of the policies on the "blue list" of Repeated Discussion Items.

#265 (T23)—Councilmember Fimia moved to reconsider and retain the existing language. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion. Councilmember Fimia urged the Council to support the existing language, which requires large commercial or residential projects to include transit stop improvements. She felt without this policy the Development Code has no basis. **A vote was taken on the motion, which carried 7 – 0.**

#268 (Td)—Councilmember Fimia pointed out that she thought other policies could incorporate similar wording: "Provide adequate, predictable and dedicated funding . . ."

#291 (TV)—Councilmember Fimia moved to reconsider and retain the existing language. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion. Councilmember Fimia felt the existing language should remain because it retains the policy of protecting the livability and safety of existing neighborhoods from the adverse impacts of the automobile. Councilmember Gustafson felt the language recommended by the Planning Commission was more precise. **A vote was taken on the motion, which carried 4 -3, with Mayor Hansen, Deputy Mayor Jepsen and Councilmember Gustafson dissenting.**

#311 (T53)—Councilmember Fimia moved to reconsider and retain the existing language. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion. Councilmember Fimia said this policy is necessary in order to establish authority to regulate truck traffic through residential areas at night. Mr. Stewart noted that the Comprehensive Plan contains

DRAFT

companion policies that address issues relating to cut-through traffic and freight mobility. Councilmember Fimia pointed out that policy T53 focuses specifically on truck traffic in neighborhoods. Councilmembers Grace and Ransom concurred. **A vote was taken on the motion, which carried 7 – 0.**

Upon completion of the Comprehensive Plan policies, the Council asked staff to begin its presentation on the master plans.

Mr. Stewart introduced this item, explaining that the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan is mandated by the Growth Management Act and is balanced by three factors: 1) rate of growth (land use); 2) level of service (LOS); and 3) capital facilities. He requested Council's direction on funding sources, projects, and priorities identified by staff.

Mr. Haines provided an overview of the Storm and Surface Water Master Plan, noting the services provided by the utility fall into three program areas: flood protection, water quality and stream habitat. He then described the three priority levels for each program. He said the current Comprehensive Plan policy ENh is consistent with the current Water Resource Inventory Area 8 (WRIA-8) plan, and priority level 2 would surpass the WRIA-8 standard. He reviewed the public involvement process and financial strategy in the development of the master plans and the Planning Commission's recommended priorities for the Storm and Surface Water Master Plan:

- Service Level 1 & 2 projects deemed critical for the three service areas;
- Operations/maintenance;
- Salaries, contract services;
- Repair and replacement of infrastructure.

He noted that surface water management fees in Shoreline are comparable to other jurisdictions, and a reasonable rates increase would allow the City to generate enough revenue to fund the identified priorities. He concluded by outlining the CIP implementation schedule through 2024 and the assumptions for the recommended funding strategy.

MEETING EXTENSION

At 10:00 p.m. Deputy Mayor Jepsen moved to extend the meeting to 10:15 p.m. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilmember Fimia asked for a breakdown of the funds that are allocated to Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Repair and Replacement (R&R), and Capital. Mr. Haines said about 45% of the generated revenue goes to Capital (either cash or debt service), about 50% goes to O&M, and about 5% goes to R&R. He explained that the \$27.2 million in projected revenues over the 20-year time period would fund Priorities 1 & 2 for each area, and Priority 3 for O&M. Funding all three priorities would cost an additional \$12 million over the 20-year time frame.

DRAFT

Responding to Councilmember Fimia, Mr. Haines said that debt service makes up approximately 20% of the 45% that is allocated to Capital. He emphasized the need for a plan that is feasible yet cost constrained. Councilmember Fimia suggested ways to improve the format of the matrix to make the revenues and expenditures more detailed and easier to understand. She noted that grant funding is not assumed in the revenue projections.

The Council then discussed what the preferred policy might be with respect to per-parcel rate increases, debt (bonding), cash flows, and revenue projections.

Mr. Burkett noted that staff prefers the proposed schedule primarily for the flexibility it provides. He said staff could provide many different schedules and manipulate the figures as a part of the City's financial plans, but felt it should not be part of adopting the Comprehensive Plan.

Art Griffith, Financial Consultant from R.W. Beck, said all the details and strategies about rates and debt will be brought back to Council through an administrative/legislative process. He emphasized that the plan looks at what the City needs to have in revenue streams in order to support a capital facilities plan.

MEETING EXTENSION

At 10:15 p.m. Councilmember Ransom moved to extend the meeting for five minutes. Councilmember Fimia seconded the motion, which failed 3 -4, with Councilmembers Chang, Fimia and Ransom voting in the affirmative.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: held during the dinner meeting

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:17 p.m., Mayor Hansen declared the meeting adjourned.

Sharon Mattioli, City Clerk

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