

CITY OF SHORELINE

**SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Monday, November 5, 2007 - 8:00 p.m.
Shoreline Conference Center
Mt. Rainier Room

PRESENT: Mayor Ransom, Deputy Mayor Fimia, Councilmember Gustafson, Councilmember Hansen, Councilmember McGlashan, Councilmember Ryu, and Councilmember Way.

ABSENT: None.

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:46 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Mayor Ransom, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

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

3. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

Bob Olander, City Manager, provided announcements and updates on the following meetings and events:

- Election Day, November 6
- Department of Social and Health Services Fircrest Open House, November 8
- Council of Neighborhoods Meeting, November 7
- Library Board Meeting, November 8
- City offices closed for Veterans' Day, November 12
- Crime Free Multi-Family Housing Program for property owners/rental managers, November 14
- Sustainability Strategy Conversation, November 14
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board Meeting, November 15

4. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Councilmember Gustafson distributed Water Resource Inventory Area 8 (WRIA-8) information. He said there is a meeting on November 13 at the Edmonds Conference Center on Monitoring an Adaptive Management Plan with regards to the Puget Sound Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan, and attendees need to RSVP by November 5.

Councilmember Way said the WRIA-8 consultant at the meeting reported that salmon recovery will not be the likely focus. She noted that the focus of the meeting would be more on climate issues.

Councilmember Hansen said that two weeks ago at the Puget Sound Regional Executive Board meeting, they moved Shoreline's Aurora Corridor project from 165th Street to 205th Street from conditional status to approved status, which means the project is now eligible for grants and awards.

Mayor Ransom said he attended a Suburban Cities Association (SCA) Public Issues Committee Meeting and said they failed to get a majority vote for an endorsement of Proposition #1.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Stan Terry, Shoreline, stated he is one of the founders of ProShoreline and said he has listened to many untrue attacks against the organization. He said they aren't controlled by developers and they support single-family neighborhoods, but Shoreline can be much more than it is. He stated that new development needs to be of higher quality, better controlled, and should include options for affordable housing. Pro Shoreline wants to see more selection in commercial services to have sales tax dollars spent in Shoreline as opposed to Lynnwood or Northgate. He relayed that ProShoreline wants more transit options. He said everyone should thank Pro Shoreline for the Aurora Avenue improvements which were opposed by the CFS, the SMA, and the AIC. He noted that these groups opposed the center median, wider sidewalks, amenity strips, stormwater controls, traffic signals, street trees, and many other improvements. He concluded that the North City redevelopment wouldn't have happened without Pro Shoreline.

(b) William Vincent, Shoreline, said he has followed the construction industry, architecture, developments, and contractors his entire adult life. He related that he was bitterly disappointed with the recent Civic Center workshop held at Meridian Park Elementary. He suggested that the City strongly consider investing adequate money to build something "genuine." He said the two ways a city hall can be built "green" is to: 1) design it green; and 2) build it so it is economically efficient in the long-term. He said he doesn't see either of these happening with the current design. He commented that Rockefeller Center was built with greenery on top of the building, but this has ongoing maintenance costs and doesn't work. He also suggested that the basement be open to the public and used as a civic center for local functions. He stated that the current design doesn't have a "wow factor." He concluded that the City should get the money to do the project right.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Responding to Councilmember Way regarding the ecology grant item, Mark Relph, Public Works Director, noted that the City has been awarded \$75,000 from the

Washington State Department of Energy to update the Development Code. He said this funding will pay for a consultant to update manuals and administrative processes.

Councilmember McGlashan moved approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hansen seconded the motion, which carried 7-0, and the agenda was approved.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Gustafson moved approval of the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Hansen seconded the motion, which carried 7-0, and the following items were approved:

- (a) Minutes of Workshop Dinner Meeting of August 27, 2007
Minutes of Special Meeting of September 14, 2007
Minutes of Study Session of September 17, 2007
Minutes of Business Meeting of September 24, 2007
Minutes of Special Meeting of October 1, 2007
Minutes of Workshop Dinner Meeting of October 8, 2007**
- (b) Authorizing the City Manager to Sign the Grant Agreement with the State Department of Ecology for the Local Government Stormwater Grants Program**
- (c) Ordinance No. 483 amending the 2007 Budget for Operating Funds and Capital Projects**

8. ACTION ITEMS: PUBLIC HEARING

- (a) Public hearing to consider citizens' comments on the Proposed 2008 Budget**

Debbie Tarry, Finance Director, provided highlights of the Proposed 2008 Budget, noting that it totals \$93.9 million. This budget maintains the current level of service with some one-time funding and incorporates the 2008 - 2013 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She reviewed the revenue resources by category, the property tax levy, the parks bond levy, and service fee changes. She additionally reviewed the City expenditures, to include the CIP and projects by category.

Councilmember McGlashan moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Councilmember Hansen. Motion carried 7-0.

- (a) Wendy DiPeso, Shoreline, said it is interesting that only 11 percent of Shoreline taxpayer dollars go to the City. She said it would be great if Councilmembers monitored whether the residents are receiving the appropriate level of services from regional agencies for the money they spend. She said it is wonderful that the City has found efficiencies, but warned not to go too far with them because the City staff needs to be**

rewarded for a job well done. The new City Hall will make things more efficient. She commented that if tension or conflicts are observed in the workplace it is worth the funds to bring in someone to work and repair any conflicts. Productivity will be increased if the work environment is stress and conflict-free, she said. She thanked the City staff for the good work.

There was Council consensus to keep the public hearing open.

Ms. Tarry noted that the public hearing on November 19 will focus on the City's property tax levy and other revenue sources.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) Discussion of the Proposed 2008 Budget

Ms. Tarry reviewed the interfund transfers and one-time budget allocations. She added that on November 19 there will be a full discussion concerning the revisions to the City's salary schedule.

She responded to Councilmember McGlashan that the 2008 Budget has an allocation of \$40,000 for the YMCA.

Councilmember Way wanted to know if the Southeast Shoreline Subarea Plan on page 73 includes both Briarcrest and Paramount Park.

Joe Tovar, Planning and Development Services Director, said it includes two special study areas in the southeast corner of the City, and both Briarcrest and Paramount Park would be included. He clarified that all of the pieces have yet to be worked out, but there would be public meetings, a consultant team, and a lot of neighborhood involvement.

Councilmember Way wondered if there is a way to improve N. 145th Street through a partnership with Seattle, King County, or the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Mr. Tovar replied that this will certainly be a multi-departmental effort and not just a land use plan. This project includes transportation, facilities, and capital. There will be input not only from City departments, but with other government entities.

Councilmember Ryu commented that WSDOT is very interested in studying NE 145th Street from Lake City Way to Greenwood Avenue.

Councilmember Ryu asked about the Development Code work in the next six months and if consultant funding is needed or is it absorbed in the work plan.

Mr. Tovar and Mr. Olander concluded that the work involved for the code amendments relating to commercial building adjacent to residential zones could be done with existing funding.

Councilmember Gustafson thanked the Finance staff and Ms. Tarry for the job they do with the budget document. He stated that he becomes more and more comfortable with the budget every year. He added that the way it is explained and laid out denotes that the City is being fiscally responsible. He asked if there is an opportunity to save money by going to a biannual budget in the future.

Ms. Tarry replied that that has been discussed several times and it is important to engage a community advisory committee to look at that. She stated that the City needs to be in a position to balance two years of the budget at once and to have the financial accounting infrastructure in place.

Mr. Olander commented that the City needs to be in financially stable condition before doing this. Since the City is facing some difficult issues in future, he felt 2009 may not be the right year to start a biannual budget.

Councilmember Gustafson has some concerns about Channel 21 and wanted to ensure those problems are taken care of. Mr. Olander stated that as the new City Hall is developed there will be some significant audio-visual upgrades. Councilmember Gustafson stated that he believes there is an opportunity to look at new programming with Channel 21. He wanted to ensure the maintenance of parks and medians are kept at high standards and if there is funding for it.

Mr. Olander added that the City needs to make sure grants are pursued and he stated there is a plan to expand the grant effort comprehensively.

Councilmember Gustafson expressed concern about the cutback to the school resource officer (SRO). He felt the SRO has been missed and that he would like to explore a partnership with the School District in the future.

Mr. Olander responded that he hasn't discussed it lately with the Superintendent, but the City funds 73 percent of the program. He agreed it is important to have an SRO back in the middle schools and that school funds are invested in this partnership.

Deputy Mayor Fimia appreciated all the work and said there aren't huge changes each year. She questioned the value of a biannual budgeting process. She highlighted that 35% of the operating budget goes to criminal justice. She requested input from the human services staff, the police department, and the municipal court on what the City can do to incrementally shift the money into preventative programs. She said the target rate of momentum should be 2-3% per year. She suggested that departments could identify the shifts in allocations; possibly for SRO changes or for an aggressive anti-litter or anti-graffiti program. She asked if some of it could be volunteer-based and started in this budget cycle. She stated that more sidewalks means more maintenance and snow

plowing. She said she would like to see a breakdown of travel, food, lodging, memberships, and dues for all departments for the years 2006, 2007, and 2008. She inquired about the Housing Trust Fund, to which Ms. Tarry responded that the proposed budget does not include a Housing Trust Fund.

Deputy Mayor Fimia said if the City wants an affordable housing partnership, it needs to bring some funds to the table for it and establish a Housing Trust Fund. She commented that there was an expressed need for additional specialized recreation programs. She commented that she would like to hear from PRCS, in conjunction with the YMCA and Fircrest, for these types of services.

Councilmember Ryu asked about the duration of the contract for maintaining the landscaping on the first mile of the completed Aurora Corridor. She also asked about the lighting on the bridges and whether or not the City has the funding to take over the maintenance.

Mr. Olander stated that the maintenance contract was for two years and it included both the medians and the strips. Mr. Olander stated that the lighting maintenance contract lasts for one year.

Mr. Relph responded that there are some funds for maintaining those kinds of things but they are prorated because the guarantee will take us into the fall. He said there is some consideration already to contract with some other firms for maintaining the medians and landscaping areas, even though the contract is for two years.

Councilmember Ryu commented that the City has matured and can't keep throwing things away and making more garbage. She appreciated the City staff recommending Cleanscapes to be the City's solid waste provider for the next seven years. She noted that incarcerated people don't just cost the City money in terms of jails; during the time they're in jail they aren't contributing positively to society. She agreed with Deputy Mayor Fimia regarding preventative programs, especially those for young people. She urged the City to reduce the waste of human capital because it constitutes a huge societal cost.

Councilmember Way commented on affordable housing and said the King County Transfer Station has two houses on the property that would make excellent affordable housing options. There are two sections of the Aurora Corridor landscaping that are not finished south of the bridge at N 155th Street. She commented that one spot is seeded, but there is another area that has scotchbroom growing there. Mr. Olander responded that he would investigate.

Councilmember Way expressed interest in the multi-family crime-free meeting. She said that seems to be a good model for crime prevention work. She questioned if the City staff is proposing doing more programs like that.

Mr. Olander said the City continues to work on several crime prevention programs. He said they continue working with the neighborhood centers, doing vacation watches, and emphasizing auto theft prevention.

Councilmember Way added that maybe these programs could be publicized. She added that she is always hearing about need for more traffic enforcement.

Mr. Olander stated that the Council hired an additional officer two or three years ago and the police have been aggressive in traffic enforcement.

Councilmember Way added that work on speed limits is worthwhile and she supported Deputy Mayor Fimia's idea concerning graffiti patrols.

Deputy Mayor Fimia stated that it is important to find out why graffiti is happening in first place and determine if there is anything the City can do to stop it from happening. She stated that "covering it up" is a short-term solution and she urged the City to look for the long-term answer.

Mr. Olander stated that part of the answer involves teaching social and community responsibility, which starts in the family. The Center for Human Services received a major state and federal grant this year to help reinforce families and provide them resources. The PRCS department provides family support and role models, which lends to family stability even though it falls under the term "recreation." He highlighted that an abundance of crimes are related to mental illness and drug use. There are certain elements that the City should focus on and there are others that need to be looked at regionally and nationally. However, there are areas that the City can focus on and be effective at finding solutions.

Councilmember Hansen congratulated Ms. Tarry, Patti Rader, Steve Oleson, and others in the Finance Department for putting together very good, readable budget. He wanted the City staff to do those things it does best and not expand to the point where they become ineffective. For the time being, he would like to see any savings go into the capital program. He commented that the Civic Center/City Hall project is the most important project to the City right now. He highlighted that the reduced jail rates are impressive. He congratulated the City staff for doing a great job.

Mayor Ransom complimented the City staff. He said the Council anticipates where the problems will be, and the City Manager and staff have been able to resolve the deficiencies. He commented that Mr. Olander is exceptionally good, along with Ms. Tarry and her team. He commented that the City has a balanced budget and he sees no reason to revise it.

Councilmember Hansen said occasionally he reviews the expense vouchers and requests further explanation on some items. He commented that Ms. Tarry and Ms. Rader have been very good about getting him answers to his inquiries. Ms. Tarry added that Henry Yeh has also been very helpful in obtaining the information for him.

Mayor Ransom noted that the police department full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) are taken out of the budget for the comparisons with other cities. He said he would like to see a comparison that included the police department budgets.

Ms. Tarry stated it can be done with the FTEs, but incorporating all the support services can be complex. She added that it can be pulled up along with a comparison of officers per capita.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL

At 9:20 p.m., Mayor Ransom announced that the Council would recess into Executive Session until 10:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the performance of a public employee. At 10:00 p.m., Mayor Ransom emerged and announced that the Executive Session would be extended until 10:45 p.m. At 10:45 p.m., the Executive Session concluded and the Council meeting reconvened.

Councilmember Hansen moved to direct staff to return with a revised contract for the City Manager reflecting the changes proposed in Executive Session. Councilmember Gustafson seconded the motion, which carried 6-0 (Councilmember Ryu momentarily stepped out of the Council chamber).

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:46 p.m., Mayor Ransom declared the meeting adjourned.

Scott Passey, City Clerk