

- 0006 Mayor Barbara Larsen called the Regular Meeting of the Castle Rock City Council to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following councilmembers were present: Khembar Yund, Greg Marcil, Ed Smith, Julie Bean and Jeff Skeie.
- 0054 Councilmember Skeie made a motion, seconded by Bean to approve the minutes to the June 11, 2007 Regular Council meeting. By roll call vote, Councilmembers Smith and Yund abstained, the remaining councilmembers voted 'Aye'.
- 0122 Yvonne Martin, Powell Road resident, discussed the letter that she sent to councilmembers regarding the ABT Development access point onto Powell Road. She stated that the entrance point has been moved from the original proposal and she asked why residents were not apprised of this change.

Dave Vorse, Public Works Director, read into record the original council action taken on September 27, 1999, which included traffic study recommendations submitted by a traffic study engineer. Inclusion of the traffic study recommendations required the mandated retention pond to be relocated, and the Powell Road entrance to be moved easterly.

City Attorney O'Neill stated that councilmembers had voted to approve the preliminary plat submitted by ABT Development, which included the traffic recommendations, as noted. If conditions are met, then no further council action is needed. Ms Martin felt the changes were dramatic enough, and she questioned why residents were not notified.

Vorse stated that sight distances outlined in the traffic report required the developer to move the entry point on Powell Road, at a greater cost to the developer. Because this action was within the action directed by council, the matter did not require further council review.

In answer to Mayor Larsen's question, the driveway amendment took into consideration the county's plans to lower the Powell Road roadway base.

O'Neill stated his initial response to Ms Martin's concerns would be that preliminary plat approval included notice for public comment and the council minutes also serve as notice to keep the public informed of the plans. However, he would research the issue and contact Ms Martin regarding her concern.

Martin stated she has periodically contacted Jodi Spahman, Cowlitz County Public Works, to see when the county's Powell Road leveling project will be completed. She was told that the project is part of the county's 6-Year Plan.

Martin also voiced concern over added traffic noise resulting from the subdivision. She also stated the new Powell Road entrance would shine vehicle headlights directly into her living room.

Ms. Martin stated she is also concerned over the close proximity of a gas line in the area to be excavated for the new sewer line. She asked how much of the easement would be used for the sewer line and asked if there will be any encroachment onto her property. Vorse stated the developer must put back equal to or better than before. In addition, both the city and county will have inspectors on site. Specific questions pertaining to the relocation of the sewer line will need to be addressed by the city engineer.

Martin asked if all stormwater runoff is to be retained on the development property, or will her property also be affected. Vorse stated he will forward Ms Martin's letter to the city engineer for review to verify that all development runoff be retained on that site.

- 2123 Yvonne Knuth, Manager of Castle Rock Fair, discussed the proposed parade route. The route will begin at the Grade School and run north on Huntington Avenue, west onto Cowlitz Street West, south onto Second Avenue, east onto B Street SW, and then south onto Front Avenue NW. The parade will end at Castle Rock Middle School. Chief Heuer stated that he has met with Ms Knuth and approves of the route.
- 2248 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Yund to approve the parade route as described. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 2319 Vic Verhasselt, ABT Development, asked to be able to provide some background for relocation of the driveway easement. He stated the relocation was required by the traffic study and the new entrance is only sixty feet from the original location. The original location would have placed the entry location directly across from Ms Martin's driveway. He acknowledged that there may be pollution from car headlights, however this could be mediated from existing landscaping on Ms Martin's property.

In reference to the placement of the sewer line, Mr. Verhasselt stated there is a 60' easement for the right of way for the road and the sewer line will be placed within that easement. The only impact will be when sewer lines are being dug in front of her driveway, and the contractor will reduce that impact by placing construction plates over the ditch to allow access to Ms Martin's property.

Mr. Verhasselt explained that all runoff from the development will go into an on-site retention pond and no excess water will impact the residents. He stated the retention pond was sited at the recommendation of city staff, as such this required him to move the roadway to allow for the 230' safety distance required for motorists cresting the hill.

2848 Ms Martin stated the existing trees in her front yard do not shield vehicular lights because they lose their leaves in the winter.

2931 JJ Burkey, Pioneer Avenue resident, complained about the Pioneer Avenue road condition. Vorse stated the developer will be required to widen and overlay the street, from the point where the development accesses Pioneer Avenue, south to Powell Road. Mr. Burkey stated most traffic would go the other way, not to Powell Road. Vorse noted road impacts were discussed in 1999, when preliminary plat was approved and one of the conditions was that the developer improve the above stated section.

Bill Eyer, Pioneer Avenue resident, also complained of the potholes on Pioneer Avenue. Councilmember Bean stated this street is on the city's list of projects.

Covington stated in 1999, councilmembers already gave the developer preliminary plat approval, including outlining certain conditions that must be met. An extension of this time was later approved by council, which requires the developer to show progress by September, 2007. If progress on the development is not satisfactory, the developer must ask councilmembers to accept a performance bond for the remaining work.

Chief Heuer stated that his office has issued a letter to Mr. Verhasselt asking that junk vehicles be removed and the high grass cut.

Councilmember Smith explained that councilmembers assess all streets within the city and appropriate projects as funds are available.

3715 Covington read a notice submitted by Beth Coleman, representing the Mountain Mania Committee, outlining the upcoming festival. The notice advised the following:

Street closures will be the same as previous years

The entertainment stage will be located at Hubbard's Funeral home parking lot

Tents will be located on Front Street

The Lions Club will be providing insurance for the event.

Mountain Mania dinner will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce

ASB Leadership will be contacting the Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a possible street dance.

Dianne Bonkowski, Mountain Mania Coordinator, has been in contact with the police, fire and public works departments.

Vorse clarified that the main tents will be located on First Avenue and vendor tents located on Front Avenue. Cowlitz Avenue will be closed from Huntington Avenue to First Avenue.

Covington stated that Sgt Neves and Dave Vorse attended the Mountain Mania Festival meeting to discuss the street closures.

- 3941 Councilmember Yund made a motion, seconded by Skeie to approve the street closures, as requested for the Mountain Mania Festival. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 3956 Pete Meyers requested to be placed on the city council agenda to discuss utility collection procedures. Since Mr. Meyers was not present at the meeting, the issue was not discussed.
- 4014 City Attorney Tom O'Neill noted that the city received a large billing for May jail services. Sgt Neves researched this and it was noted that the county made a billing error in the amount of approximately \$4000. Additionally, the attorney stated that jail costs have been higher than expected and may require a budgetary amendment later this year.
- 4240 Vorse stated that in past years the city has been a sponsor of the Mountain Mania 5K and 10K fun run event. Vorse described the routes for both runs and asked city council to approve provision of insurance coverage for the runs. Vorse also stated that he is working to secure additional insurance for the event.
- 4620 Councilmember Smith made a motion, seconded by Marcil to provide insurance coverage for the fun run during the Mountain Mania Festival. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 4412 Councilmembers discussed the correspondence from Mr. Jeff Horton, C Street SW, regarding his removal of a tree which was located on city property. Vorse stated Mr. Horton asked to be placed on the agenda last year to request permission to remove the tree, however Horton never attended the meeting and never asked to be rescheduled. Vorse stated Mr. Horton removed the tree about a month ago and the city attorney had sent a letter to Horton regarding the issue. Vorse noted that a replacement tree would cost approximately \$200, however this would not be a mature tree.

In answer to Councilmember Smith's concern, Vorse stated the Park Board is currently working on an ordinance outlining street tree requirements and responsibilities.

In answer to Mr. Reilly's question, Vorse stated the tree was neither diseased nor creating a hazard. Councilmember Smith noted that the city has been supportive of citizen requests to remove trees which are creating hazards, damage or are diseased.

The city attorney suggested it would be appropriate that some form of compensation to the city be required of Mr. Horton.

4945 In answer to O'Neill's question, Vorse stated the tree was a Maple Tree and the trunk was 10" in diameter. O'Neill stated that during a court proceeding, an expert would establish the value of the loss, based on replacement of the tree.

5124 Councilmember Smith made a motion, seconded by Yund to direct Mr. Horton to replace the tree with one approved by the city.

Discussion: Councilmember Skeie asked if that would include planting by set guidelines such as type of tree, planting procedures, root barriers, etc.

Councilmember Smith amended his motion to include requiring placement of the tree in accordance with city-approved planting procedures, with Yund seconding.

In answer to a question from resident Mike Mask, the public works director advised that the stump was removed to ground level.

Vote on the above motion and amendment, Unanimous 'Aye'.

5448 In answer to Mr. Reilly's question, Mr. Vorse explained city policy regarding maintenance of sidewalks. Vorse also explained the city's annual sidewalk program.

5650 Mr. Vorse showed a diagram outlining all areas of low pressure reported since June, 2004. The city engineer had identified valves within that area which could be creating pressure problems, however Public Works did not find any malfunctioning valves.

Vorse stated the city engineer will now take data provided by his department and enter it into a hydraulic model computer program to identify which hydrants to test. Hopefully this will help identify specific valves that may be creating the low pressure issues.

Vorse stated that it is critical for those residents experiencing low pressure to report this to Public Works. This information will also be included in the program. Mr. Glen Taylor, Allen Avenue, advised that he is experiencing low pressure and provided information to Vorse.

In answer to Don Corkrum's question, Vorse stated the city is still backwashing in the early morning hours, however sometimes the system automatically backwashes during the day, which cannot be controlled by public works.

6508 In answer to Councilmember Yund's concern, Vorse stated last Thursday and Friday, residents experienced odors from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This odor is created when solids are readied for removal from the plant. Next month the solids will be removed and this process will again create odors. Vorse stated

- that the creation of odors is limited to two activities; when solids are removed once or twice yearly, and when the digester is decanted.
- 6730 Covington stated the CARE Coalition, in conjunction with the Castle Rock Police Department are coordinating a 'National Night Out' event in August. The CARE Coalition has requested the city consider sponsoring this event through their liability insurance carrier. The event will be held at the Middle School and will involve numerous safety related organizations.
- 6832 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve sponsorship of the event through the city's liability insurance. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 6845 Covington requested council support to amend the IKON copier contract to include an upgraded copy machine, with scanning and computer interface capabilities. The cost of the new contract is \$136.80 per month, plus a copy charge of \$.0074. The existing contract is \$152.50 per month, plus a copy charge of \$.0130 per copy.
- 7046 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Yund to approve amendment of the IKON copier contract as described above. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 7133 Librarian Vicki Selander announced that the Lion's Club donated \$500 to the Friends of the Library to purchase new books.
- 7143 Council Report of Meetings:
Councilmember Yund stated he would bring in 9-1-1 minutes for councilmembers to review.
Councilmember Bean attended the Library Board meeting.
Mayor Larsen attended a CAP personnel meeting and will attend the CWCOG meeting and CAP regular meeting next week.
- 7255 Councilmembers discussed the citizen committee's recommendation for setting compensation for the mayor and councilmembers positions. Committee members Howard Mason, Bernice LePage, Coni Bush and Robert Ross met April 27th and reviewed cities of similar size, which do not have a designated city manager or administrator. Cities used for comparison included LaCenter, Kalama, Royal City, Cosmopolis and Okanagon.

A memorandum outlining the committee's findings was sent to the mayor and councilmembers and included a recommendation that the mayor's compensation be increased to \$500/month (currently it is \$150/month) and the councilmembers compensation increased to \$50 for each regular meeting attended and \$25 for each special meeting attended (current council compensation is \$20/meeting; up to 4 meetings/month).

Councilmember Yund proposed that compensation values remain as is, noting that those serving in elected positions are not doing so for the money. Councilmember Skeie stated he would not be opposed to increasing the mayor's compensation because of the added time commitment that the position requires. Councilmember Smith would like to see the compensation values phased in over the years and he also agreed the mayor's compensation should be increased.

Mike Mask stated he is a candidate for city council. He agrees that he is not running for the compensation and if he were in the position, he would vote 'no' for any increase.

Don Corkrum, advised that he is a former Rainier, Oregon councilmember and stated their council had to forego compensation due to budget concerns.

In answer to Mr. Reilly's question, Covington stated the committee did not take into consideration the per capita values for those entities.

By consensus, councilmembers agreed to review the mayor's compensation during the 2008 budget process and leave the councilmember compensation unchanged. Councilmember Bean requested that during the budget process Covington include an analysis of the monetary impact for increasing the mayor's compensation.

- 8312 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Marcil to approve Resolution No. 2007-03, a resolution adopting the Cowlitz Regional Trail Plan, on seconded reading. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 8329 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Marcil to adopt Ordinance No. 2007-02, an ordinance granting a franchise to ComCast of Florida/Washington LLC and fixing the terms and conditions, on second reading. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 8358 Councilmember Smith made a motion, seconded by Bean to approve the Lion's Club fireworks permit. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
- 8413 Councilmember Bean stated that the Governor signed legislation allowing cities to impose an additional \$20 for car tabs to be used for roadway improvements. Councilmember Smith stated this would be a good subject for the public hearing process. Councilmember Skeie stated he would be opposed to this if the public is not in support.
- 8832 Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Yund to approve Resolution No. 2007-04, a resolution requesting voters to approve an excess levy for operations of the Castle Rock Library for 2008, on first reading.

Discussion: In answer to Councilmember Skeie's question, Covington stated the requested rate is 50¢/1000 valuation and the existing excess levy is 49¢/1000 valuation. Skeie noted that the rate has been the same for the past six years.

By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.

8948 Mayor Larsen adjourned regular session at 8:55 p.m. for a 10-minute Executive Session to discuss land acquisition.

8906 Mayor Larsen reconvened Regular Session and adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Mayor Barbara Larsen

Clerk-Treasurer