

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 18, 2006 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Foutch, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Ware, Councilmembers TJ Johnson, Karen Messmer, Jeff Kingsbury, Doug Mah, and Joe Hyer

Mayor Foutch announced there won't be a regular Council meeting on Tuesday, September 26, but invited the public to attend a Town Hall meeting at The Olympia Center on Thursday, September 28, beginning at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Council goals.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

1. **Correct Item 4B - 2006 2007 Bid Award for Olympia Woodland Trail - Phase I:** Correct the year listed on the agenda from 2007 to 2006
2. **Pull Item 4G- MOU for Membership in the Sustainable Cities PLUS Network:** Pulled for comments by Mayor Foutch
3. **Add to Item 5A - 2006 Comprehensive Plan Amendments: Additional Information Received:**
 - Letter from David Field re: Boulevard Road Improvement Plan
 - Map of South Sound Center
 - Letter from Orville and Bernice Armstrong re: South Sound Center
 - Email from Greg Wright re: Fire Department comments on Boulevard Road
4. **Add Item 3A - Special recognition for a City employee**
5. **Add Item 6C - Other Business to discuss a memorandum authored and distributed by Councilmembers Mah and Kingsbury re: Ordinance Proposals**

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

The following people spoke about deteriorating conditions downtown and concerns for public safety there:

Mr. CJ Nickerson, 3100 Wiggins Rd SE, Olympia
 Ms. M. Nickerson, 4011 South Glenn Ave, Tumwater
 Mr. Eric Landis (and son Aiden), 119 Tabitha Ct, Olympia
 Mr. Jim Morris, PO Box 11221, Olympia

Mr. Marvin Schamber, 2248 Lakemoor Dr SW, Olympia, spoke about police actions and taser use related to an incident he referred to as the "Eagles investigation." He discussed denial of a public records request for the internal investigation report and asked the Council to direct the City Manager and Police Department to release the information.

Mr. Jerry Dierker, 1720 Bigelow NE, Olympia, discussed a recent newspaper article about toxic chemicals in Budd Inlet and asked the City to weigh in as a stakeholder with the Department of Ecology to ensure federal money for clean up.

Mr. Arthur West, 120 State Ave NE, Olympia, discussed the Cascade Pole toxic waste containment site and said the Port is digging into the containment zone without an environmental review.

Olympia Downtown Association President Jeffrey Trinin, 1011 Wilson NE, Olympia, spoke in support of developing a partnership with the City to improve safety and clean up downtown.

Northeast Neighborhood Association President Peter Guttchen, 1310 Central St NE, Olympia, thanked the Council for new sidewalks and increased walkability in the neighborhood. He also spoke in support of the Council's continued pursuit of the Miller Avenue sidewalk project.

Mr. Terry Zander, 423 Frederick St SE, Olympia, spoke in support of the International Day of Peace on September 21. He asked for a minute of silence and reflection from 12:00 noon to 12:01 p.m. that day.

Ms. Myra Owens, 2620 5th Ave NE #1, Olympia, spoke about the City Manager not contacting her in a timely manner regarding a police issue she's dealing with. She also commented she is being evicted because she has a service dog.

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Downtown Issues - Councilmember Mah indicated possible Council action will be discussed during *Other Business* later tonight.

Marvin Schamber - Mayor Foutch indicated the Council has no authority to direct staff to respond contrary to the law, and the public records request response complies with the law.

Toxicity Issues - Mr. Hall explained the City does not possess expertise about toxic waste or federal clean up regulations and so cannot exercise its regulatory authority to shut down a project based upon citizen concerns that state and federal environmental laws are being violated. Mayor Pro Tem Ware and Councilmember Messmer directed staff to research the process for the City to forward concerns to the Department of Ecology about toxic waste at the Port of Olympia.

Myra Owens - Councilmember Johnson asked staff to research and report back to Council as soon as possible about whether Ms. Owen's eviction may violate the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or other laws.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Proclamation Honoring Lorraine Michelson for Years of Service

Mayor Foutch read a proclamation in recognition of Lorraine Michelson's 20 years of service in Public Works. Ms. Michelson thanked the Council for the proclamation and spoke briefly about her career. The Council and City Manager expressed appreciation for Ms. Michelson's dedication to City work.

Proclamation in Support of International Day of Peace - Sept. 21

Mayor Foutch read a proclamation proclaiming September 21, 2006 as International Day of Peace. *Beyond Hiroshima* Coalition Board member Jenny McSharry accepted and thanked the Council for the proclamation and invited the public to activities that will take place on September 21 to celebrate the International Day of Peace.

Recognition of City Manager Steve Hall

Mayor Foutch announced Steve Hall's recent recognition at the International City Managers Association (ICMA) conference for 20 years of dedicated service to local government.

PUBLIC HEARING

2006 Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Mr. Hall reviewed the annual process for proposing Comprehensive Plan amendments, and Community Planning & Development Senior Planner Jan Weydemeyer summarized the nine (9) Comprehensive Plan amendment proposals for 2006.

Mayor Fouch opened the public hearing and citizens spoke for or against each Comprehensive Plan amendment as noted.

1. East Downtown Development Plan

No one spoke for or against this proposed amendment.

2. Wireless Telecommunications Master Plan

No one spoke for or against this proposed amendment.

3. R1/5 Description

No one spoke for or against this proposed amendment.

4. Bike Map Update

Mr. Larry Leveen, 1417 Brawne Ave NW, Olympia, spoke against Class II bike lanes on Bowman Ave due to narrow right-of-way issues there.

5. Boulevard Road Improvement Plan

The following people spoke in support of this proposed amendment:

Cain Road Area Neighborhood Association(CRANA) Vice President Jenny Greenlee, 1845 Centerwood Dr SE, Olympia

Mr. David Field, 2000 42nd Ave SE, Olympia, discussed Ward Lake Neighborhood Association concerns about the design of the 42nd Ave/Boulevard Rd intersection and asked that all neighborhoods served by side streets off the Boulevard corridor have an opportunity to review and comment before the design is finalized.

6. WSECU Downtown Property Rezone

The following people spoke in support of this proposed amendment:

WSECU Executive Director Greg Devereaux, 1212 Jefferson St, Olympia

WSECU Senior Vice President Dennis Karras, 4735 Gravelly Beach Lp NW , Olympia

Mr. Kenny Pittman, 4704 Denton Ln SE, Lacey

Mr. Steve Cooper, 3434 Martin Way E, Olympia

Mr. Jeffrey Trinin, 1011 Wilson St SE, Olympia

Mr. Eric Jones, 1107 Creekwood Ct, Olympia

The following people spoke against this proposed amendment:

Downtown Neighborhood Association President David Scherer, Olympia

Mr. Pat Tassoni, 203 E 4th Ave #412, Olympia

Ms. Beverly Taylor, 911 Adams St SE, spoke about this proposed amendment but didn't state a position for or against it.

7. Caton Way and Decatur Street Area Rezone

The following people spoke in support of this proposed amendment:

Mr. Steve Cooper, 3434 Martin Way, Olympia

The following people spoke against this proposed amendment:

Mr. Tom Howdeshell, 718 Sawyer St SE, Olympia

8. Cushing Street Rezone

The following people spoke in support of this proposed amendment:

Mr. Don Divers, 2802 N Warner St, Tacoma

The following people spoke against this proposed amendment:

Mr. Tom Howdeshell, 718 Sawyer St SE, Olympia

9. Capital Development Co. Property Text Amendments

The following people spoke in support of this proposed amendment:

Mr. John Donaldson, 2824 Madrona Beach, Olympia

The following people spoke against this proposed amendment:

Mr. Orville Armstrong, 3722 Plummer St SE, Olympia

Mr. Tom Howdeshell, 718 Sawyer St SE, Olympia

Mr. Gillis William, 703 Birch St SE, Olympia, discussed taxation concerns related to Urban Center (UC) and General Commercial (GC) business zones. He spoke of poor city services for either zone in this area and noted his water service has been disrupted several times this year. Mayor Foutch asked staff to contact Mr. William about his water service interruptions.

Mayor Foutch closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Johnson asked staff to provide the Council with a report on the history of WSECU's participation in the Commute Trip Reduction Program.

Mayor Foutch said the Council will meet in Study Session on the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments on October 3 and will direct staff to prepare documents for final action in November and December.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of September 12, 2006 Council Meeting
- B. 2006 Bid Award for Olympia Woodland Trail - Phase I (Julie McQuary, Parks)
- C. Rejection of Bids and Authorization to ReBid Bush Avenue Reservoir Replacement (Tom Meade, Public Works)
- D. Bid Award for Miller Avenue Sidewalk (Sheri Zimny, Public Works)
- E. Property Acquisition for Approval to Purchase Miller Avenue Sidewalk (Sheri Zimny, Public Works)
- F. Authorization to Submit Application for State Revolving Fund Loan Program for Onsite Septic Conversions (Eric Christensen and Andy Haub, Public Works)
- G. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Membership in the Sustainable Cities: PLUS Network (Michael Mucha, Public Works) *Pulled and Passed*
- H. Critical Areas Ordinance Update (Steve Morrison, Advance Planning)
- I. Budget Resolution in the Amount of \$3,630 for Historic Preservation Program Reimbursement (Jennifer Kenny, CP&D)
- J. Ordinance Closing out Safe Kids Coalition Revolving Account Fund (Patty Layton, Court Svcs.)
- K. Television Inspection of New Storm and Sanitary Sewer Lines (Craig Tosomeen, Public Works) 1 Ordinance on Fee Schedule 2 Budget Resolution in the Amount of \$37,000 3 Ordinance Revising Engineering Design and Development Standards

- L. Appropriations Ordinance in the Amount of \$26,500 for PBLA Green Machine (Finance Committee/Steve Friddle, CP&D)
- M. Budget Resolution in the Amount of \$4,450 for Donations from PARC Foundation & Alpine Experience Fundraisers to the Recreation Scholarship Special Account (Collin Murphy, Parks)

Councilmember Mah moved, seconded by Councilmember Kingsbury, to adopt the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Foutch pulled item 4G, *Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Membership in the Sustainable Cities PLUS Network*, for discussion after the Consent Calendar.

Motion passed unanimously, except Item 4G, Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Membership in the Sustainable Cities PLUS Network.

Item 4G - Approval of MOU for Membership in the Sustainable Cities PLUS Network

Public Works Director Michael Mucha reported Olympia is the first city in the United States to join PLUS Network and discussed the City Council's goal of putting sustainability into action.

Mayor Foutch moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ware, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Membership in the Sustainable Cities PLUS Network. *Motion passed unanimously.*

OTHER BUSINESS/LAND USE APPEALS

Ordinance Proposals

Councilmembers Mah and Kingsbury discussed recommendations and a proposed process to address increasing anti-social and illegal behaviors downtown and asked for Council consideration to move forward to improve the perception of public safety downtown.

Councilmember Hyer moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ware, to refer the five issues proposed by Councilmembers Mah and Kingsbury, as well as other related issues, to the General Government Committee for an expedited review and recommendations back to the full Council.

Council discussion included:

- The General Government Committee will include in its review an analysis of existing laws and to what extent they are being enforced, such as smoking within 25 feet of a business.
- Look at washing downtown sidewalks every morning and adding more public toilets.
- Involve Councilmember Mah in the scoping work related to mandatory minimum sentences and include the associated costs.
- Have a conversation with the Olympia Police Department about issues they can't solve because of limitations in the law.

Motion passed unanimously.

Visitor and Convention Bureau (VCB) Way Finding/Signage Plan

Communications Manager Cathie Butler introduced presenters Tamara Garcia (VCB Executive Director), and consultants Don Sellars (Illium Associates) and Kelly Brandon (Kelly Brandon Design) to share signage design concepts and a proposed area for initial implementation of the wayfinding plan.

Ms. Garcia reviewed work over the last 6 months by the wayfinding stakeholder group and discussed partnering with the State Department of General Administration for future work related to the Capitol Campus and gateway signage.

Mr. Sellars and Mr. Brandon gave a brief presentation and discussed the Wayfinding Master Plan, sign types and tools, phase I cost and implementation strategy, timeline, and future phase options for Council consideration.

Council discussion included:

- Positive comments about the design of the signs.
- Old signage will be removed as new signage replaces it to eliminate clutter.
- Future signage work should include preliminary design and a cost estimate for implementation.
- Parking signage should be a high priority for future signage work.

The Council agreed with the signage design concepts and implementation focus presented.

Highway 101 - College Station Area Annexation

Mr. Hall introduced the topic and Community Planning & Development Senior Planner Todd Stamm discussed the rationale for the City initiating the annexation process and described the location and size of the proposed area.

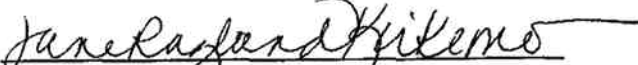
Mayor Pro Tem Ware moved, seconded by Councilmember Mah, to direct staff to initiate annexation of the entirety of that contiguous part of the Olympia Urban Growth Area in the vicinity of Highway 101, Mud Bay Road, and the College Station project. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

REPORTS

Councilmembers didn't have intergovernmental assignments to report about but discussed recent community events and activities they attended, as well as anticipated topics at upcoming meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting recessed to Executive Session at 10:50 p.m. to discuss a real estate matter related to property acquisition for the Log Cabin Road extension. Mayor Foutch announced no decisions will be made, the meeting is expected to last no longer than 30 minutes, and the Council will adjourn immediately following the Executive Session.


Jane Ragland Kirkemo, City-Clerk Treasurer