Mayor Pro-Temp Ed Smith called the regular meeting of the Castle Rock City Council to order at 7:30 p.m., with the following councilmembers present: Khembar Yund, Greg Marcil and Julie Bean. Mayor Larsen was absent, due to illness and Councilmember Skeie was out-of-state.

Mayor Pro-Temp Smith dispensed with approval of the November 22, 2004 minutes and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Temp Smith opened the public hearing at 7:33 p.m. to take testimony on the proposed budget for fiscal year ending December 31, 2005 including proposed rate increases for utility services.

There being no public testimony, Mayor Pro-Temp Smith closed the above public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Temp Smith opened the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. to take testimony on proposed budget amendments for the police department and DOT Spoil Site Fund due to unanticipated expenses which occurred in 2004. Clerk-Treasurer Covington summarized proposed amendments as follows:

Police Department: Impacts relating to shortages in the police department labor force resulted in overages of appropriations for salaries and overtime costs. In addition, there was an unanticipated increase in dispatch service costs amounting to $7500. Covington recommended a budgetary amendment to increase expenditure allocations in the amount of $40,000 from General Fund resources.

DOT Spoil Site: The Riverfront Trail project was anticipated to be completed in 2003 and therefore was not included in the 2004 budget. In addition, the city has received an additional grant award for design of a boat launch and $100,000 from Cowlitz County for infrastructure improvements at the Sports Complex project. Covington recommended an increase in expenditure allocations in the amount of $578,265 for fiscal year 2004.

There being no public comment, Mayor Pro-Temp Smith closed the above public hearing at 7:39 p.m.

Councilmember Bean made a motion, seconded by Yund to approve November expenditures in the amount of $627,184.46 as described in the Summary of Claims and further described as check numbers 32565 through 32692 for general expenditures and check numbers 17786 through 17858 for payroll expenses. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
Councilmember Marcil made a motion, seconded by Bean to approve payment for the Department of Labor and Industries invoice in the amount of $162.90. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.

Covington stated that issues pertaining to the adoption of budgetary ordinances require approval of at least four councilmembers. Due to lack of a quorum, Councilmembers agreed to consider issues slated for this meeting on December 20th at 7:30 p.m. If budgetary issues are resolved on December 20th, councilmembers agreed to cancel the final council meeting scheduled for December 27th.

Mayor Pro-Temp Smith continued the meeting until December 20, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the remaining agenda issues.

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer