

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Paul Helenberg called the June 27, 2016, regular meeting of the Castle Rock City Council to order at 7:36 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following councilmembers were present: Art Lee, Lee Kessler, Ellen Rose, and Earl Queen. Councilmember Mike Davis was absent.

Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Queen to excuse Councilmember Davis' absence from the meeting. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Wayne Lunday, owner of High Cascades Insurance Agency stated the Unum Short Term Disability insurance cost has been re-evaluated and is at a lower rate than initially quoted. The coverage is 60% of the gross salary; up to \$1,000 per week. Lunday stated staff has advised that this coverage is more than outlined in the collective bargaining contracts for clerical, police and public works and an MOU will be needed. Those contracts provide for short term disability coverage of \$300 per week during the first thirteen weeks of total disability or illness and \$325 per week during the second thirteen weeks of total disability or illness. Maximum period of disability benefits not to exceed twenty-six weeks of coverage. Lunday recommended city council change the contract wording to be 'not less than' \$300 per week of coverage. Covington proposed an MOU be developed to reflect the actual new policy coverage limits. This would place a cap on benefit levels and allow employees to know the exact benefits they are receiving. Covington advised council that the city still has not received a policy or an invoice from UNUM for coverage. Lunday stated this will be coming next week. Covington advised council that she will be processing payment for UNUM during the June month end payroll cycle; but would not send the check to them until the city receives a policy. She noted the city has been waiting two months to receive a policy for the mayor to sign. Currently Mr. Lunday has provided her with a copy of an email from the UNUM agent advising the city's costs, per employee. In answer to Mayor Helenberg's question; Lunday stated holding the check would not result in a lapse of coverage as long as UNUM gets the policy to the city within the next week or two.

Sergeant Neves speaking on behalf of the bargaining units; stated there will not be any issue with approving an MOU because these are greater benefits than currently offered in the contract language.

Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Queen to develop an MOU to reflect the new benefit levels offered in the UNUM short term disability benefit coverage. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Sergeant Scott Neves updated councilmembers on several recent police related incidents in Castle Rock.
2. Public Works Director Dave Vorse announced he attended the AWC RMSA Annual Meeting and the city received two \$500 Loss Control Grant awards. The City Transportation Benefit District also received recognition for no losses in 2015.

Vorse also reported the water line construction by the Park N Ride began this week. This will tie in

the water lines at Woodard and Balcer Streets with the other side of Huntington Avenue North.

3. Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington stated the Castle Rock City Transportation Benefit District was scheduled to meet quarterly; however no meetings have been held this year. Councilmembers directed Covington to schedule a meeting for July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

#### COUNCIL AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Councilmember Rose advised that she recently observed two vehicles using the wrong access to Parkers Restaurant. Vorse stated another business owner has notified him of the same issue and he will be working with the engineer for a resolution to this issue.
2. Mayor Helenberg asked who marked locates on the new pedestrian walkway on Mt. St. Helens Way NE. Vorse stated Comcast marked locates on the new concrete for a project they have on Salmon Creek Lane. He stated there is a procedure that could be used to avoid this and he would be discussing this with Comcast.
3. Nancy Chennault, Castle Rock CEDC representative, attended both an Economic Development meeting and a CEDC board meeting. It was announced that developers in Cowlitz County are now looking at \$4 billion dollars in capital projects within the county. Two of those developments are Millennium and NW Innovations. Both are undergoing required environmental processes.

Chennault noted extensive environmental processes required by State law have negatively encumbered development in the state. Sometimes it takes several years to complete the process. Mayor Helenberg stated it is poor practice when a developer needs to expend \$12 million dollars for the environmental process and has to wait four years to find out if their project will be allowed. Chennault stated this issue needs to be addressed by the state legislators.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve of the minutes of the June 13, 2016, regular council meeting. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Helenberg adjourned regular session at 7:50 p.m. and opened the public hearing to take testimony on the city's proposed Six-Year Transportation Plan; 2017 – 2022. City Engineer Tom Gower noted the city has included eight projects on the plan. Gower summarized each project and the proposed cost estimate.

Projects priority are as follows:

1. Exit 49 Pedestrian Improvement Project, Phase 2 – estimated cost \$261,200
2. Huntington Avenue South overlay – estimated cost \$416,000
3. Dougherty Drive Reconstruction, Phase 1 – estimated cost \$1,456,000
4. Dougherty Drive Reconstruction, Phase 2 - estimated cost \$1,248,000
5. Huntington Avenue Riverfront Trail Extension, Phase 2 – estimated cost \$490,000
6. Exit 49 Pedestrian Improvement Project, Phase 3 – estimated cost \$230,000
7. Cowlitz River Pedestrian Bridge – estimated cost \$2,080,000
8. Cowlitz River Bridge Replacement – estimated cost \$26,981,200

Covington asked why the Cowlitz River Bridge Replacement is included on the city's 6-Year Transportation Plan, when this bridge is considered State Highway. Vorse explained for transportation related projects to obtain funding; they must be included on this list. Replacement of the bridge would require a partnership between the city and state department of transportation. The benefit to the city would be to raise the bridge roadway approach to eliminate flooding over the roadway during high water events.

There being no public comments offered, Mayor Helenberg closed the Public Hearing at 7:57 p.m. and reopened regular session.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Lee to approve Ordinance No. 2016-04, an ordinance amending the 2016 budget for the Police Department (General Fund) in the amount of \$6,000. Castle Rock Police Department has entered into an interlocal agreement with Cowlitz County Health and Human Services for shared allocation of a Washington Traffic Safety Commission grant relating to alcohol enforcement/education activities, on second reading. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.
2. Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Queen to approve Ordinance No. 2016-05, an ordinance amending the Street Improvement Capital Fund to include contributions from utility companies for the SR-504 pedestrian improvement project, on second reading. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.
3. Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve Ordinance No. 2016-06, an ordinance authorizing the acquisition of personal property (police vehicle) and execution of a financing contract through Local Agency Financing (LOCAL) and related documentation for the acquisition of listed property, on second reading. By roll call vote, unanimous 'Aye'.
4. Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Queen to approve Resolution No. 2016-03, a resolution declaring the 2002 Ford Crown Vic patrol vehicle as surplus, on second reading. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.
5. Councilmember Rose made a motion, seconded by Kessler to approve Resolution No. 2016-04, a resolution relating to financing through the Local Agency (LOCAL) and outlining reimbursement obligations, on second reading. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution No. 2016-05, a resolution authorizing the city to submit an application for grant funding assistance for Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) project to the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board as provided in Chapter 79A.15 and 79A.25 RCW, WAC 286 and other applicable authorities, on first reading.

Discussion: Vorse stated the project would include extending the pedestrian access trail segment

from the Huntington Avenue North bridge to the new Visitor Center. Estimated project cost is \$490,000. The grant requires a local match of 10% and Vorse will be submitting for additional transportation grants to be used as matching funds. If the city decides not to do the project; they only have to withdraw their application. The only city commitment would be construction of a restroom facility at the north trailhead. That project would be using city work forces.

Vorse stated this resolution only authorizes the city to submit an application; but does not financially obligate the city to accept the grant. Vorse summarized the steps within WWRP funding cycle.

By roll call vote on the above motion; unanimous 'Aye'.

2. Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Kessler to approve Resolution No. 2016-06, a resolution adopting the Six-Year Transportation Plan, 2017-2022, on first reading. By roll call vote; unanimous 'Aye'.
3. Councilmember Kessler made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution No. 2016-07, a resolution asking qualified voters of the City of Castle Rock to fund by Special Excess levy the furnishing of public library services, on first reading.

Discussion: Mayor Helenberg noted this resolution is required to allow placement on the General Election in November. If the levy passes in August; this resolution would be nullified.

By roll call vote on the above motion; unanimous 'Aye'.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mayor Helenberg recessed regular session at 8:05 p.m. for a 10-minute Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. No council action to follow.

Mayor Helenberg reconvened regular session at 8:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Helenberg adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

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Mayor Paul Helenberg

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Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington