

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Paul Helenberg called the October 24, 2011 regular meeting of the Castle Rock City Council to order at 7:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following councilmembers were present: Ray Teter, Glenn Pingree, Earl Queen and Ellen Rose. Councilmember Jack Reilly was absent.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

- John Ball, 311 Kirby Avenue NE, pointed out issues with the Cedar Street Water Main Replacement Project:
 1. Communication with residents is poor.
 2. Water is pooling in the ditch line.
 3. The blacktop around the fire hydrant was not properly completed.
 4. The water valve near the hydrant is covered with blacktop. This could cause a serious problem during an emergency.
 5. There is an excessive amount of mud at 140 Maple Street NE.
 6. The stormwater ditch is eroding which has the potential to cause the hillside to slide toward the Red Canoe Credit Union.
 7. The ditches were not properly compacted. The ditch in front of the mailboxes is very deep from the mail delivery truck. The new pipe could be broken by traffic.
 8. It took three weeks to respond to his request to compact the ground around the hydrant and no rock was used. This has the potential to begin erosion at the foundation of the house.

Mr. Ball requests that these concerns are documented in the minutes of this meeting.

Mayor Helenberg requested that the public works director review these issues.

- Comcast Cable Government Affairs Manager Tim Goodman explained Internet Essentials from Comcast for low income families. This program provides broadband internet connection to families that have a student eligible for free lunches through the National School Lunch Program. Participants will receive the internet for a fixed price of \$9.95 per month with no activation fees or equipment rental. This program also includes internet training and a voucher to purchase a laptop computer for \$149.99 plus tax.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Helenberg adjourned regular session at 7:45 p.m. to take public testimony regarding two separate issues:

- #1. The creation of a new accounting fund entitled, Stormwater Capital Improvement Fund, including revenue and expenditure appropriations for the current fiscal year, as outlined in Ordinance 2011-12
- #2. Public input to establish the estimated Ad Valorem taxes for the fiscal year ending

December 31, 2012. Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington specified that Mayor Helenberg has reviewed preliminary General Fund revenue estimates and determined the need for Ad Valorem taxes in the amount of \$325,000.

There being no public comment provided on either issue, Mayor Helenberg closed the Public Hearing and resumed regular session at 7:50 p.m.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Attorney Frank Randolph

Randolph reports that a public hearing on the proposed zoning code amendment for medical marijuana collective gardens will be held with the Planning Commission on Wednesday.

City Engineer Mike Johnson

- Johnson reports that the contractor has completed pouring the sidewalks and street on the 100 block of First Avenue for the Cowlitz Street West Revitalization Project. First Avenue will be open to traffic once the concrete test results indicate the cure has set. The installation of street lights and striping will begin this week, followed by landscaping and compilation of a project punch list.

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Project Engineer Joe Phaluta from Gray and Osborne, summarized digester improvements:
 1. The sludge was removed from the digester and both the interior and exterior washed.
 2. The diffuser was removed, inspected and the membranes replaced.
 3. The ductile iron air pipe from the blower room to the diffuser was replaced with stainless steel air piping.
 4. The interior surface of the digester was inspected, sandblasted and mortar surfaced prior to application of 1/8" of high performance Raven 405 Epoxy Coating System.
 5. Since the exterior coating on the digester contained lead, the entire vessel was encapsulated to contain particulates during blasting. The hazardous dust was contained, removed and properly disposed of. Epoxy filler was applied to fill the cracks, then two coats of epoxy paint before a finish coat of UV resistant urethane paint.
 6. The catwalk and railings were also sandblasted and painted and the effluent box was removed and replaced with a pipe spool which is less susceptible to corrosion.

He stated that a couple of minor items remain to be completed.

In response to a question from Councilmember Pingree, Phaluta verified that the coating is warrantied through the manufacturer, Raven.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington

- Covington reviewed the September Cash and Investment Activity Report. The Arterial Street Fund is awaiting reimbursement from the Cowlitz Street West Revitalization Project. The balance of the Municipal Water Capital Improvement Fund will be resolved with a transfer from the Water Fund.
- Covington reviewed third quarter revenue comparisons from 2007 through 2011 for the General Fund. Year to date revenues for this timeframe remain comparable to prior years.
- Covington reviewed Third Quarter Water and Sewer Revenue and Expense Comparison. Sewer expenses continue to exceed revenues. This year, \$111,473.74 has been used from the beginning fund balance for the Water/Sewer Fund.

Librarian Vicki Selander

Selander reports that the new hours at the Library seem to be working well.

Exhibit Hall Director Karen Johnson

On behalf of Festival of Lights Chairperson Stephanie Misner, Johnson reports that a float will be entered in the Longview Christmas Parade on Saturday December 3rd. Cowlitz Regional Conference Center Executive Director Mike Moss has given approval to assemble and store the 'Bigfoot' themed float at the conference center. The Annual Wreath Making Day at the Exhibit Hall will also be held on December 3rd.

The Community Dinner at Hatties, Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Cowlitz Street West Grand Opening will be on December 13th. Johnson requests assistance from the Public Works Department to place a donated 25 foot cut Christmas tree in front of the Post Office. Baskets of greenery will be hung from the light posts on Cowlitz Street West. Approximately \$325 has been received towards these baskets with an estimated total cost of \$500. Donations of lights, ornaments, gift certificates for the coloring contest and offers to decorate storefronts have been received.

In response to a question from Mayor Helenberg, Johnson reports that approximately 150 visitors attended the All Holiday Bazaar.

COUNCIL AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTSMayor Paul Helenberg

Mayor Helenberg reports that Councilmember Reilly indicated that he would submit a letter of resignation after the November 8th election. The candidate that prevails in the election for that position can then be appointed early to complete Councilmember Reilly's term.

Councilmembers

- In response to a question from Councilmember Teter, Public Works Director David Vorse detailed that Greg Marcil needs help assembling the quarter pipe for the Skate Park. Church youth groups have shown interest in assisting with this project. Councilmember Pingree added that Tom Byrne would also like to assist assemble this large piece of equipment.
- Councilmember Pingree asked Vorse to work to resolve the concerns of the residents affected by the Cedar Water Main Replacement Project.

Police Chaplain Steve White reports that the CARE Coalition will be sending anti marijuana mailings.

- In response to a question from Councilmember Rose, Vorse indicates that currently electricity is not available at the Lions Memorial Park. A power source could be provided at this park as part of the Front Avenue North Improvement Project, which includes new street lights. Councilmember Rose suggested that the fir tree at the north end of this park could be lit for Christmas. Vorse will research power availability and costs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Teter made a motion, seconded by Pingree to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2011 Regular Council Meeting. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Teter to approve Ordinance 2011-12 establishing a new accounting fund entitled, Stormwater Capital Improvement Fund, with a budget of \$30,000 transferred from the Stormwater Management Fund, on second reading. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

- Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Teter to approve Ordinance 2011-13 establishing Ad Valorem taxes for fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, on first reading. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

- Councilmember Teter made a motion, seconded by Queen to approve Ordinance 2011-14 amending the 2011 fiscal year interfund transfer for the REET Fund and Street Fund, on first reading. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Paul Helenberg

Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington