

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Paul Helenberg called the June 11, 2012 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.

## BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

- Gene Frymire, 304 Growlers Gulch, thanked council for considering the city's position on the proposed Gifford Pinchot Mine on Mt. St. Helens.
- Mr. Frymire noted a problem at the intersection of Third Avenue SW and Cowlitz St West where he felt the centerline radius was not calculated correctly. Vehicles are forced to cross the centerline when making this turn as the corner was painted north of where it should be. Mr. Frymire requests that this striping be corrected.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### Police Chief Bob Heuer

Heuer reviewed the 2011 Crime Rate Report for Castle Rock:

- 2010 to 2011 Total Crime Rate -31.0%
- 2010 to 2011 Property Crime Rate -32.2%
- 2010 to 2011 Violent Crime Rate +7.8%
- 2003 to 2011 Total Crime Rate -81.2%

Heuer credits the crime rate reduction to a proactive approach by the Police Department. The increase in domestic violence offenses was attributed to a couple of repeat offenders. He noted that a few offenders can cause a significant crime rate increase in a small community. Mayor Helenberg and Councilmember Queen thanked Heuer for a job well done.

### Public Works Director David Vorse

- Vorse reports that the Street Funding Committee has met twice to discuss funding options. As a result, two Public Works Trust Fund Loan Applications were submitted for residential street funding and water main replacement. The PWTF applications were due by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Vorse reports that two \$10,000 planning grant applications were submitted for Cowlitz County Rural Public Facility Funds. One is for welcoming feature signage at both I-5 Exits and all three business districts. The second is to redesign the Front Avenue NW intersection to redirect northbound traffic to intersect with Huntington Avenue North at a right angle to improve visibility. Vorse will give a presentation on these projects during the Cowlitz County Commissioners Board Meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

- Mayor Helenberg read a letter from the Department of Ecology announcing that the Castle Rock Wastewater Treatment Plant will receive an Outstanding Performance Award for achieving full compliance of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit in 2011. Vorse noted that this is the second year in a row this award was received for attaining full compliance with no violations throughout the entire year.

#### Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington

- Covington reviewed the Cash and Investment Activity Report for April 2012. The Street Fund shows a deficit which was resolved with a Safe Routes to School reimbursement in May.
- The Exhibit Hall Society donated \$1,000 to supplement the Exhibit Hall Director's salary to avert any reduction to the Director's salary. In addition the Chamber of Commerce contributed \$600 toward internet service.
- Covington reports that a letter of intent to sell fireworks was received from Scouts 313 Fireworks Chairman Heather Wilbur along with a letter of permission to sell at the fairgrounds. Council had previously taken action to approve Scouts 313 verbal request of their intent to sell fireworks within City Limits. In addition, the Castle Rock Eagles have submitted a letter of permission to sell fireworks at the Rose Tree Restaurant from both the present property owner and the new property owner.

#### Librarian Vicki Selander

Selander reports that the "I Topped The Rock" event went smoothly.

#### COUNCIL AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Mayor Paul Helenberg

- Mayor Helenberg concurred with Selander, adding that approximately 250 participated in the "I Topped The Rock" fundraising event.
- Mayor Helenberg and David Vorse attended the Log Cabin Grand Opening at the Castle Rock Fairgrounds. An outstanding job was done restoring this historic structure. The quality of work from those volunteers is impressive.
- Mayor Helenberg noted that Parker's Restaurant stated they will begin moving into the former Rose Tree Restaurant location next Monday and plan to open Parker's Steakhouse in August.

##### Councilmember Earl Queen

Councilmember Queen attended a 911 Meeting and the Government Summit Meeting.

#### Student Representative Genevieve Grant

Grant reports that even though it rained, the 2012 Castle Rock High School graduation was very memorable. The majority of the class went on a Senior Trip to Idaho. Grant thanked the Police Department for watching their cars while they were gone.

#### RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Mayor Helenberg presented Student Representative Genevieve Grant with an award for outstanding service to the city as the first Student Representative assigned to the City Council. Refreshments were served following the meeting.

#### Community Economic Development Council (CEDC) Representative Nancy Chennault

- Chennault introduced Darlene Foster, Economic Environment Action Team member representing the Castle Rock Community Development Alliance (CRCDA).
- The CEDC Annual Luncheon was held last Friday. Keynote Speakers were from EGT, Kalama Energy and Bennu Glass. These companies will invest \$650 million for development at the Port of Longview and the Port of Kalama. Several million dollars in procurement spending is anticipated as a result of this development.
- The next meeting of the CRCDA is at 6:00 p.m. June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Castle Rock Fairgrounds, agendas were emailed. This will be the last meeting until next September.
- Judges for America in Bloom will be in Castle Rock July 29<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup>. Council and staff are invited to a welcoming potluck BBQ on Monday July 30<sup>th</sup>. Judges request an interview with council and the Chamber of Commerce on the 31<sup>st</sup>, to share observations. This event is not just to show what we have done, but also assess where we can go. Chennault recommends visiting the America in Bloom Facebook page for Castle Rock where Danielle Shulke's amazing photos are posted.
- America in Bloom is bringing attention to Castle Rock. A visitor from Proven Winners Group which donated the plants, emailed that she is impressed with the changes and plantings in Castle Rock. America in Bloom is making a presentation in southern California tomorrow featuring Castle Rock. Chennault stated this will inspire folks to come here.
- •Chennault thanked council for supporting the City Hall Landscape Project. This project evolved through creative input from volunteers and is now complete.

Educational and recognition signage will be posted. Mayor Helenberg thanked Chennault, noting that people are commenting on how outstanding that City Hall looks. Helenberg added that Chennault is a great organizer with expertise and a get it done attitude. Covington mentioned that classrooms have been making field trips through the landscaping. Vorse added that they have also been studying the plants on Cowlitz St West.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

- Councilmember Teter requests an amendment of the minutes to specify that the total amount allocated for purchase of the vacuum truck from the City of Longview is \$20,000. Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Teter to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2012 Regular Council Meeting, as amended. By roll call vote, Pingree abstained, the rest Aye, motion passed.
- Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington reports that Councilmember Pingree has reviewed May invoices. Councilmember Pingree pointed out that an officer was reimbursed for an out of town purchase of shelving which could have been purchased in Castle Rock. Otherwise he appreciates the effort being made to buy local.

Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Pingree to approve payment of May invoices in the amount of \$417,366.94, as described in the May 2012 Fund Transaction Summary Report. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Vorse reports that City Engineer Mike Johnson concurs with Mr. Verhasselt's strategy for release of the Maintenance Bond, however Johnson did point out concerns regarding the Performance Bond. Mr. Verhasselt was obligated to provide sidewalks within a year. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, two years will have passed. Johnson recommends an extension of the Performance Bond for one year to complete all sidewalks.

Mayor Helenberg tabled consideration of ABT Development President Vic Verhasselt's request for release of bond obligations, to allow the City Attorney the opportunity for review.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Councilmember Teter made a motion, seconded by Pingree to approve closure of the alley behind the Eagles Lodge from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on June 21<sup>st</sup> for the Annual Open House beer garden. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.
- Councilmember Queen made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve the placement of Mountain Mania signage and banner in the right-of-way, as in previous years. Discussion: In

response to questions from Councilmembers Pingree and Queen, Vorse specified that the signage will at the same location that other organizations have placed signage.

Vote: By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

- Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Teter to approve closure of the Senior Center Parking Lot from 1 to 5 p.m. on June 12<sup>th</sup> for a Jazz Band Concert. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.
- Vorse clarified that the signage and banner for the Fair will be placed at the same location as other organizations have placed signage. Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Teter to approve the Fair Board request to place signage in the right-of-way. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mayor Helenberg announced that the Arts & Vines Show Opening Reception will be held at the Exhibit Hall on June 28<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. Local artists will showcase their work while regional wines are sampled at venues along Spirit Lake Memorial Highway.

Mayor Helenberg and Councilmember Pingree observed that the wooden fish have been hung from the light poles on Cowlitz Street West. A great deal of effort was put into painting these fish provide local street art.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

---

Mayor Paul Helenberg

---

Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington