

0005 Mayor Barbara Larsen 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, Earl Queen, Jack Reilly and Mike Mask.

0068 Councilmember Mask made a motion, seconded by Reilly to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2008 Regular Council Meeting. By roll call vote, Councilmember Yund abstained, the rest Aye, motion passed.

0163 Public Works Director David Vorse reports that on June 4th the Cowlitz County Dive Rescue Team assisted the Castle Rock Regional Water System by clearing the water flow into the intake located on the Cowlitz River. Vorse noted the blocked intake created a critical situation for the Regional Water System, which supplies the City of Castle Rock and Cowlitz County's systems both west of Castle Rock and up to Toutle. Because of the blockage, the system was at potential risk due to a limited ability to provide safe potable water and maintain fire flow levels. In addition, Cowlitz County Public Works Department was in the process of recoating their water reservoirs and had a need for more than the usual flow amounts. Although this was not "life threatening", it had the potential to affect the entire north region of Cowlitz County.

Vorse read a letter from Mayor Larsen which described the efforts of the Cowlitz County Dive Rescue Team and gave particular recognition to team members; Brett Duling, Bob Moore, Chase Childs, Sandee Hewitt and Steve Hoover . Vorse stated that the dive team cleaned the intake screen which had an algae growth 1 ½" thick over the entire screen. In addition, Cowlitz Dive Team has also offered their services to perform an annual inspection and cleaning of the intake screen as a component of their training dives until the city can find a permanent solution.

Mayor Larsen presented Cowlitz County Dive Rescue Team representative Chase Childs with a Certificate of Appreciation plaque. Vorse noted that these volunteers provide this service without compensation using their own equipment and manpower.

0475 Lynda Frantsvog, Gift & Beauty Nook at 28 Cowlitz Street West, requests that the one way southbound designation on the 100 block of First Avenue SW remain the same. She presented over 400 signatures of people opposing a change of the one way direction.

0580 Councilmember Mask made a motion, seconded by Queen to keep the one way southbound designation on the 100 block of First Avenue SW the same, thus reversing the motion to change the one way direction made during the July 14, 2008 Regular Council Meeting.

During discussion: Councilmember Queen noted that council does not prefer one direction over the other, but thought people wanted the direction to be changed. Councilmember Reilly added that the downtown demographics have changed, which is the reason to again ask the business community for their preference.

Vote on motion: By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

- 0686 City Attorney Tom O'Neill reports that he has reviewed the Franchise Agreement with Cascade Network, but does not recommend approval in its present form. He will contact Cascade Network to resolve his concerns.

In addition, O'Neill stated that he is reviewing the dangerous animal ordinance.

In response to a question from Councilmember Mask, O'Neill indicated that he has had no contact with Tetra Tech/KCM.

- 0754 Police Chief Bob Heuer has reviewed the letter from the Chamber of Commerce that was discussed at the Regular Council Meeting on July 14, 2008. This letter was requesting enforcement of the two hour parking limit. Heuer reported that officers have been patrolling the downtown business district for parking violations two to three times per week. Eleven parking infractions have been issued in the last two months. Most parking violations are committed by business owners or apartment tenants and are resolved with contact.

Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington stated this letter was presented to the Mayor from a business owner attending the last Chamber of Commerce meeting.

- 0862 Heuer reports that, like many cities with a Park N Ride adjacent to the freeway, the Park N Ride located at the north end of town has been plagued with car thefts and vehicle prowling complaints. Heuer credited Officer Jeff Gann's efforts to seek and submit a grant application to fund purchase of wireless video surveillance equipment to be installed at the Park N Ride. The city received notification on July 15th from the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority that \$7,000 was approved for the purchase of the equipment. This grant will provide for the installation of two cameras that will show the entire Park N Ride facility. A live view will be available on the website and at the Police Department where the video will also be stored for review. The server is upgradeable and capable of running up to 32 video cameras that could monitor problem areas throughout the city.

In response to a question from Mayor Larsen, Gann indicated that the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority will provide funding for the purchase of this equipment that the city will then retain ownership of.

- 1090 Heuer reports that in the last two years, grant funding has been received from the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission

for the purchase of video equipment for police vehicles. Two patrol cars are now equipped with video cameras as a result of this funding.

- 1166 City Engineer Mike Johnson reviewed Phase 2 of the Downtown Parking Improvements Project which is a component of the Cowlitz Street West Revitalization Project. Phase 2 will include asphaltting, striping and lighting the parking area. Phase 3 will be the relocation of underground utilities on Cowlitz Street West.

Johnson requests approval of the engineering services proposal with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for Downtown Parking Lot Improvements Phase 2 in the amount of \$11,956.

In response to a question from Councilmember Yund, Johnson stated that the direction of traffic flow from the 100 block of First Avenue SW should not affect access to the downtown parking lot. However, providing a parking area for the downtown business district is an integral component of the Cowlitz Street West Revitalization Project. Phase 2 improvements will be funded from the Cowlitz County Rural Development Grant.

- 1268 Councilmember Yund made a motion, seconded by Reilly to approve the Engineering Services Agreement with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for Downtown Parking Lot Improvements Phase 2 in the amount of \$11,956. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

- 1295 Public Works Director David Vorse reports that the Mountain Mania Festival went extremely well. The Mountain Mania Fun Run/Walk had 118 participants who donated over \$2300 for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Program.

- 1223 Councilmember Mask noted that the Public Works Department has been doing a good job at keeping the city clean.

In response to a comment from Mayor Larsen, Vorse noted that the Mountain Mania Committee did a great job of cleaning up as soon as the event was finished. This committee did an excellent job particularly as it was their first year organizing this event.

- 1432 Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington reviewed the Second Quarter Budget Report. She noted that expenditures are approximately 50% of appropriations. General Fund revenues are \$11,385 less than they were this time last year. In addition, Covington reported a year to date net loss of \$11,608 for the water and sewer utility service fund. Water revenues are still supplementing sewer expenditures. The Street Fund balance remains in deficit. The deficit is the result of two factors; the city is waiting for grant reimbursement for the Sidewalk Replacement

Project and anticipated Real Estate Excise tax revenues are significantly less than estimated.

In response to a question from Councilmember Reilly, Vorse specified that approximately \$28,000 was awarded for the Sidewalk Replacement Project.

1638 Covington reports that staff research revealed that during the January 14, 2008 Regular Council Meeting a leak adjustment limitation was established, by direction of council. This limited leak adjustments to not more than two within a twelve month period for the same customer account. This policy had not been included as an amendment to the utility service ordinance.

1683 Vicki Selander reports that the All Library Summer Reading Program Picnic will be held tomorrow from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Longview Public Library. This is a free event for countywide Summer Reading Program participants and their families.

1723 Report of Meetings

Councilmember Marcil attended an Army Corps of Engineer informational meeting on the dredging of the Cowlitz River. The Corps reported that funding is not available for dredging in the Castle Rock area.

In response to a comment from Councilmember Queen, Councilmember Marcil noted that one foot of sediment has settled in the Cowlitz River below the mouth of the Toutle River. Only jet boats are now able to navigate the Cowlitz River in that area.

Councilmember Reilly attended a Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments meeting on Thursday. He also attended a meeting with representatives of Senator Murray and Representative Baird's offices regarding flood protection levels.

1852 In response to a question from Councilmember Mask, Vorse reports that the final documents for the Boat Launch Project have been submitted to the permitting agencies. The review period alone will keep this project from meeting the in-water work window in August. However, the uplands work can begin as soon as the permits are issued. The grant funds from the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (now the Recreation and Conservation Office) are available until March 2010. The Port of Longview has not indicated that there is a time limit to use the funds that they have contributed toward this project. Vorse noted that inflation increases for material and equipment may decrease the amount that can be purchased with the available funding. The project scope may need to be reduced.

1935 Mayor Larsen reports that yesterday Councilmember Marcil and Tim Johnson graded the access road to the 'High Banks' area. This volunteer effort significantly improved access to this popular fishing area.

- Councilmember Marcil specified that they began grading at 7 a.m. and was finished by 9:30 a.m. The fishermen on site expressed appreciation for this improvement.
- 1970 Councilmember Marcil made a motion, seconded by Reilly to approve Resolution 2008-05, the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan from 2009 to 2014 for the City of Castle Rock, on second reading. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.
- 1990 In response to a question from Councilmember Queen, Vorse stated that Waste Control indicated that they would not have a problem with the Lions Club locating a newspaper recycling bin at the city Recycling Center as long as access to their recycling bins are not blocked. As of this date, Vorse has not been notified of the dimensions of the Lions Club bin.
- 2042 Councilmember Mask made a motion, seconded by Queen to permit the Castle Rock Lions Club to place a newspaper recycling bin at the Recycling Center if the bin size is acceptable. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.
- 2078 Mayor Larsen adjourned regular session at 8:05 p.m. for a 20 minute executive session to discuss personnel issues. No action is anticipated.
- 2108 Mayor Larsen reconvened regular session at 8:23 p.m. then adjourned the meeting with no action taken.

Mayor Barbara Larsen

Clerk-Treasurer