

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tempore Earl Queen called the September 24, 2012 regular meeting of the Castle Rock City Council to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following councilmembers were present: Glenn Pingree, Mike Davis and Ellen Rose. Mayor Paul Helenberg and Councilmember Ray Teter were absent.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS****Police Chief Bob Heuer**

Mayor Pro Tem Queen reports that he and Heuer attended a 911 Committee meeting where Heuer was elected to a position on the committee.

**Public Works Director David Vorse**

Vorse reports that the Public Works Trust Fund Applications FY2014 for the Front Avenue North Improvement Project, both appear to be successful. An application was submitted for water main replacement and another for street funding.

**Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington**

Covington reviewed the Cash and Investment Activity August 2012 Report. The Municipal Water Capital Improvement Fund is awaiting an interfund transfer. Covington pointed out that the General Fund is using the fund balance to meet expenses. August 1<sup>st</sup> the General Fund had a total of \$201,681.22 at the beginning of the month and at month end, the total has decreased to \$169,810.33. This reduction is anticipated to continue until property tax revenue is received near the end of the year.

**COUNCIL AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS****Councilmember Glenn Pingree**

Councilmember Pingree reports that he will attend the upcoming CARE Coalition Meeting.

Mayor Helenberg and Councilmember Pingree attended the Bike Park Grand Opening last Saturday. That event was well attended.

**CEDC Representative Nancy Chennault**

Chennault displayed photos of City Hall before and after the new landscape design. An enormous amount of work has been accomplished this season by staff and volunteers. America In Bloom (AIB) Judges were impressed with Castle Rock's first year participation.

Chennault reports that the America In Bloom Symposium was held last week in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Castle Rock competed with other cities with populations of 3,000 and less, in the following categories:

- Floral Displays

- Landscaped Areas
- Urban Forestry
- Environmental Effort
- Heritage
- Overall Impression

AIB Judges Cindi Cope and Ed Rhinehart had a very active itinerary in Castle Rock on July 30<sup>th</sup> thru the 31<sup>th</sup>, visiting areas that focus on each of the categories in our community profile. Along with other activities, the judges:

- Met with Carolyn Kennington at Cowlitz River Dental where they learned of Cleanup Day accomplishments and the historic rustic theme of our newer downtown buildings.
- Walked the Riverfront Trail and landscaping at the North Trailhead with David Vorse.
- Attended a community potluck at Chennault Gardens where judges met a multitude of AIB participants.
- Began the second day at Castle Rock Fairgrounds and continued on to tour the community gardens and North County Sports Complex. There, CRHS Science Club Advisor Ryan Penner demonstrated environmental practices.
- The afternoon finished with a visit to Johnston Ridge where the judges were awed by the view into the crater of Mt. St. Helens.

During the Arkansas symposium Judges Cope and Rhinehart gave a presentation on their visit to Castle Rock. Chennault stated the AIB 2012 Evaluation was emailed today. The evaluation points are based on efforts in management, planning, maintenance, and innovation. The report also offers recommendations for areas of improvement. The evaluation will be thoroughly reviewed during the Castle Rock AIB Committee meeting on Thursday.

Also during the symposium, Proven Winners Director of Product Development John Gaydos gave a presentation featuring Castle Rock's efforts which included numerous photos taken in late August. As a result, Chennault has received inquiries from across the country.

Chennault submitted two additional AIB applications for National Criterion Awards. One for landscaped areas featuring the renovation of City Hall and the other for floral displays which included baskets and planters. Judges Cope and Rhinehart nominated Castle Rock for national recognition beyond the Criterion Awards.

Castle Rock received national recognition for:

- Best Hanging Baskets in all population categories; 27 other cities competed for this honor.

- Second Place for Best Floral Displays which includes planters and landscape areas.
- Third Place for Best Community AIB Website which includes the city website, the Chamber of Commerce website and Danielle Shulke's AIB facebook page. These photos illustrate changes throughout the season, from Cleanup Day to August.
- Second Place for Best City with Population 3,000 and less; 5 other cities competed for this honor. The First Place Winner, McCall, Idaho, was a third year participate that surpassed Castle Rock by only 2 points out of 1000 possible points.

The judges were very impressed with Castle Rock's first year accomplishments. Castle Rock also received Special Mention on the AIB website for Landscape Areas and Floral Displays.

Castle Rock received 714 points out of 1,000 possible points which received a score of three blooms (71%) with a Five Bloom maximum. Castle Rock was just short of a score of Four Blooms which begins at 72.5%.

Chennault detailed that these accomplishments would not be possible without the plants provided by Proven Winners and with local greenhouses, nurseries and Castle Rock High School Horticulture Department growing the plants.

Chennault concluded by reading from the evaluation, "The judges were so excited with the accomplishments at the North County Recreation Complex. Its overall area is 72 acres and in its infancy stage of planning and development of a little over ten years. This area had been a field of scotch broom and assorted weeds over six feet in height. The Mayor, Paul Helenberg started to cut it down and the program began and it is still in its growing stages. WOW!"

Chennault stated the committee intends to participate in the AIB Program again next year. She also noted there is a reduction in the enrollment fee for cities who recruit other cities to participate in AIB.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Rose to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2012 Regular Council Meeting. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Consideration of the second reading of Ordinance 2012-05 is tabled until October 8<sup>th</sup>, as requested by the applicant Gabe Gourde.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. In response to a question from Gene Frymire, Growlers Gulch, Covington clarified that the Humane Society retains all animal license fees. The contract for animal control has remained the same amount and terms as negotiated in 1984 by Mr. Frymire during his term as Mayor.

Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Davis to renew the contract with the Humane Society for 2013 animal control services in the amount of \$7,000. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

2. Vorse detailed that Growlers Gulch Racing requests a one-time expenditure for portable sani-cans used during the Bike Park Grand Opening.

Councilmember Rose made a motion, seconded by Pingree to approve a one-time expenditure of up to \$130 for portable sani-cans during the Bike Park Grand Opening. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

3. Vorse requests approval to remove the tree located in the right-of-way at 750 Aden Street SW, using city forces. This tree obstructs visibility of the stop sign and must be frequently trimmed by city forces. The property owner suggested removal. No replacement tree would be planted as that would create the same visibility problems. This is a healthy tree with high maintenance obligations due to the visibility obstruction at this location.

Councilmember Pingree made a motion, seconded by Rose to remove the tree in the right-of-way at the intersection of Aden Street with Second Avenue SW. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

4. Councilmember Davis requests that Vorse inspect the crosscut repairs on C Street SE as the ditch has settled. This crosscut at the intersection of Kirby Avenue SE was done as part of the C Street SE Water Main Replacement Project.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Earl Queen adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

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Mayor Pro Tempore John Earl Queen

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Clerk-Treasurer Ryana Covington