Call to Order

Mayor Young called the workshop to order at 5:45 p.m. In attendance with Mayor Young were Deputy Mayor Swatman, Councilmember Phil DeLeo, Councilmember Neil Johnson, and Councilmember Dave King. Councilmember Stephen Bricker, Councilmember Maureen Palecek, and Councilmember Jim Rackley were absent. Staff attending were Finance Director John Weid enfeller, Public Works Director Seth Boettcher, Interim Planning & Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Assistant Public Works Director Gary Leaf, City Engineer John Woodcock, Associate Planner Shannon Mayfield, City Attorney Jim Dionne, Debbie Ridge, and City Clerk Gayle Butcher.

Agenda Items

1. 6-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Hearing Comments

There were no comments from the public to discuss. City Engineer John Woodcock presented a brief overview of the proposed projects. Further discussion of Councilmember DeLeo’s request to add park trails on the 6-year TIP was held. Interim Planning & Community Development Director Bob Leedy noted the trails needed to be included in either the Park & Open Spaces Plan or the TIP in order to become listed in the City’s Capital Facilities Plan.

2. Bill Oltman, Rainier Communication Commission, to discuss merger of AT&T Broadband & Comcast Corp.

Mr. Oltman explained the proposed merger and noted the process was similar to other mergers, (Viacom to TCI, to AT&T/Tele-Vu). Hans Hickman of AT&T presented his company’s perspective.

3. Eric Larson, Assistant Director, WCIA,

Mr. Larson presented comments related to the City becoming an associate member of the insurance pool, with possible full membership this fall. He noted the City would benefit from better coverage because WCIA’s insurance is per occurrence versus claims made and he believes has better cash reserves.

Mayor Young called for a recess at 7:00 p.m. The Workshop was reconvened at 7:15 p.m.
4. Open Discussion

Motion by Councilmember Johnson, second by Deputy Mayor Swatman, to excuse the absences of Councilmember Rackley, Councilmember Palecek, and Councilmember Bricker.

Motion Carried Unanimously 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Swatman expressed concern with construction mud on SR 410 from the Wal Mart project. He also asked whether Planning Agency members are entitled to training classes. Mayor Young responded the Planning Director recommends training.

Deputy Mayor Swatman asked for an update on the SR 410 dumping. Interim Planning & Community Development Director Leedy noted the code enforcement process has begun.

Councilmember King noted concern with the recent service changes made by D. M. Disposal for recycling and garbage pickups.

Councilmember Johnson asked about the City acquiring its own zip code and Mayor Young noted the Chamber is working with the Postal officials.


There were no comments.

Old Business

Chip Vincent from Pierce County Growth Management Coordinating Committee presented an overview of the Countywide Policies listed below.

1. Res 947 Joint Planning Policies – Countywide Pierce County
2. Res 948 Buildable Lands Policies – Countywide Pierce County
3. Res 949 ESA Policies – Countywide Pierce County
4. Res 950 Elimination of Tiering – Countywide Pierce County
5. Res 951 General Cleanup – Countywide Pierce County

After the brief discussion, it was the general consensus to bring the resolutions back to the full Council next week.

6. Discuss proposed Ordinance No. 907 & Ordinance No. 916 relating to water/sewer rates

Public Works Director Seth Boettcher noted the ordinances had been developed per Council’s guidance on a percentage rate for Senior Citizen discount.
Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmember King concurred the ordinances should be moved forward.

7. Discuss Reclassification of Deputy City Clerk/Personnel Coordinator to one job share/one part-time positions (Tabled 4/2/02)

Finance Director Weidenfeller requested Council’s consideration to reclassify the Deputy City Clerk/Personnel Coordinator position to two part-time positions, with the personnel functions to be shared with another city. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked what other city had agreed to the proposal and Finance Director John Weidenfeller noted there was no agreement for this year, possibly next year. Deputy Mayor Swatman noted reclassification processes had occurred with the Deputy City Clerk/Personnel Coordinator position and he requested clarification. Councilmember King noted he did not completely understand the reclassification request nor was he in favor of the parameters involved in trying to job share a position with another city.

Mayor Young suggested the position be reclassified to a Human Resources Generalist with Administration ability, in lieu of a City Administrator position. Councilmember King noted a Deputy City Clerk was still needed. Councilmember DeLeo expressed concern with the proposal, believing a City Administrator position would be in the best interests of the City. Deputy Mayor Swatman requested additional discussion on the proposal when the full Council was available. He also noted that he would consider the proposal because such a position would not include an employment contract.

City Attorney Jim Dionne will draft a job description recommendation.

New Business

1. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process Review/Presentation

Using Power Point, Associate Planner Shannon Mayfield gave an overview of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process (sides attached). A brief discussion was held related to the Falling Waters application and its potential threat to the aquifer. It was pointed out that a thorough water study had been done. Interim Planning & Community Development Director Leedy noted he would further discuss the application with Public Works Director Boettcher.

2. Resolution No. 979– City of Character

Noting he thought the resolution should be discussed with the full Council, motion by Deputy Mayor Swatman, second by Councilmember Johnson, to table.

Motion Carried Unanimously 4-0.

There being no further business to discuss, Workshop adjourned at 9:25 p.m.