COUNCIL WORKSHOP
August 6, 2002
5:30 p.m.

Minutes

“Where Dreams Can Soar”

Call to Order

Mayor Young called the workshop to order at 5:33 p.m. In attendance with Mayor Young were: Deputy Mayor Swatman, Councilmember Bricker, Councilmember DeLeo, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Palecek, and Councilmember Rackley. Councilmember King was absent. Staff members attending were Finance Director John Weidenfeller, Planning & Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Assistant Public Works Director Gary Leaf, Building Official Ray Cockerham, Senior Center Director JoAnne Knecht, Police Lt. Mike Strozek, Deputy City Attorney Jeff Ganson, and City Clerk Gayle Butcher.

Roll Call

Agenda Items

1. Open Discussion

Responding to Councilmember Bricker’s inquiry, Planning and Community Development Director Leedy said the Hagwood property (188th) has been issued a request to respond, and that the 30-day response period has not yet ended.

Councilmember Bricker requested that an ordinance related to elected officials use of city vehicles be placed on the next Council workshop.

Councilmember Rackley noted that the Salmon Enhancement culvert replacement project at Elhi Creek may not cost as much as requested in the budget.

Deputy Mayor Swatman requested traffic control on opening day for the Wal Mart Store.

Deputy Mayor Swatman discussed the possible timeframe to either transfer or renew the franchise agreement with the Valley Water District that serves the 214th to 234th area. Councilmember Johnson asked when was the opening date, and it was noted that final inspection may occur in 2 weeks and that store stocking would take approximately 6-8 weeks.

Councilmember Johnson requested an update on the Design Commission and Planning and Community Development Director Leedy said the Commission is meeting on a regular basis and that rules of procedure have been drafted. Deputy Mayor Swatman urged a schedule to begin some type of process implementation in order to avoid years of recommendation. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy said that the Commission is looking at an incremental schedule so that recommendations can be phased in to the Planning Agency and on to the City Council.

Councilmember Rackley noted that the City of Sumner had entered into an agreement related to garbage services and asked that the City of Bonney Lake seriously look into a similar arrangement.

Councilmember Palecek read into the record a July 19, 2002 letter from Quinn Dahlstrom. Summarizing the letter, Ms. Dahlstrom feels the City has stopped her freedom of speech by
blocking her ability to email city staff members. Ms. Dahlstrom’s letter documented that she had not been asked by the City to stop sending emails nor did she receive a notice that her emails were bothersome. Councilmember DeLeo asked Mayor Young about the City’s policy on who determines, and on what basis, to block email. Mayor Young noted he was not aware of the situation. Finance Director John Weidenfeller confirmed he made the determination. After a brief Council question period attempting to obtain clarification on the reasoning behind Ms. Dahlstrom’s email being blocked, Councilmember Johnson stated that he believed the determination was severe and that the City needs a clear policy regarding such authority. He stated that regardless of whether administration agrees with Ms. Dahlstrom’s opinions, she is a member of the Planning Agency and a citizen and that the City must be above board.

Councilmember DeLeo asked Planning and Community Development Director Leedy about the Bartholomew wetland determination. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy explained the process of using the applicant’s wetland specialist and the review of the report by the City’s wetland specialist. Councilmember DeLeo noted this process confirms his concern as stated during the Wellhead Protection ordinance discussion.

Planning and Community Development Director Leedy responded to questions about an administrative determination regarding garage sales and clarified that accessory buildings, such as garages, sheds, and shops were different than accessory dwelling units.

2. Presentation on Possible Zoning Change

Dave Parker of Pacific Resource Development introduced his representative to review a proposal to be known as Park Place. Councilmember Bricker noted this proposal is a high-density project and that the developers are here to get a sense whether such a project should be pursued. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy explained the timeframes needed for the annual Comprehensive Plan update and rezone request process. It was noted that a rezone application would need to be part of next year’s cycle. Deputy City Attorney Jeff Ganson also briefed Council on the public hearing process that would come before the Council.

3. Draft Minutes: July 23, 2002

There were no corrections to the draft minutes.

Old Business

1. Issues related to broadband

Councilmember Palecek noted that broadband is scheduled to be available to the City first quarter next year. She reviewed that with the technology, some privacy issues arise, such as the broadband 2-way sensors being able to pick up viewing patterns. She noted that Rainier Cable Commission is working with right to privacy issues, similar to the City of Seattle’s cable “Bill of Rights.”

2. Public Hearing on Surplus Discuss and Review Resolution No. 1018 to surplus utility items

The resolution would move forward to an upcoming meeting and no public testimony was received.

Mayor Young called for a recess at 6:30 p.m. and he reconvened the meeting at 6:37 p.m.
3. Discuss Skateboard Park

Assistant Public Works Director Gary Leaf presented bid information, noting one was not responsive. He reviewed 2 proposals for a 10,000 Sq. Ft. and 15,000 Sq. Ft. park and reviewed possible cuts to keep proposals within Council’s budget. Council had budgeted for a 10,000 square foot park and the design for this proposal would suit intermediate and advanced skateboards. Councilmember Johnson believed a beginning level needed to be addressed. Councilmember DeLeo suggested that Cumulative Reserve funding be used for added square footage. Councilmember Bricker countered he’d prefer a signal at Locust and Deputy Mayor Swatman expressed his desire for a street sweeper.

Majority of the Council reached consensus to continue with the 10,000 Sq. Ft. proposal. Councilmember DeLeo asked to table the final decisions for 2 weeks in an effort to get additional community donations now that he has a bid sheet. Council supported Councilmember DeLeo’s request.

4. Information Technology Coordinator Position Discussion

Finance Director John Weidenfeller briefed Council on his request to change the title of the Computer Support position to Information Technology Coordinator. (Council authorized the position July 23, 2002 via Ordinance No. 957.) Council did not express any objections.

5. Building Presentation on permits (Planning and Community Development Director Leedy)

Planning and Community Development Director Leedy presented a brief overview of his building permit processing memorandum. He highlighted that since April 2, 234 permits had been received, and 209 were issued, i.e., on average, the turnaround is rather quick. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy noted there were some permits that necessitated additional information. Councilmember Rackley requested a permit aging report or an updated Excel spreadsheet be provided at the next workshop. In response to Deputy Mayor Swatman’s question related to Tenant Improvement permit turnaround, Planning and Community Development Director Leedy stated that the division is looking into improvement options, one being a disclaimer process, similar to the one the City of Redmond uses. He also explained the diligent tracking that is in place to assist with the “clocking” of the review process as allowed by state law. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy noted that 2 of the 3 Youngberg permit issues are resolved. Councilmember Palecek summarized the discussion by urging Mayor Young to revisit the issues surrounding Ms. Dahlstrom, Ms. Youngberg, and Messrs. Decker to make sure there are no lingering unjust situations. Mayor Young responded that he is talking to staff and that staff must comply with the laws.

New Business

1. ACTION ITEM: Resolution No. 1020, Data Exchange Sharing Agreement

Finance Director John Weidenfeller requested Council’s consideration to adopt the Data Exchange Sharing Agreement with Pierce County to share data with the Planning/Permit Center. He explained the action was required this evening to fast track the agreement.
Motion by Councilmember Rackley, second by Councilmember Bricker, to adopt Resolution No. 1020.

Motion Carried Unanimously 6-0.

Mayor Young called for a recess at 7:30 p.m., prior to an Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. He expected the Executive Session to be approximately 20 minutes.

At 7:57 p.m. the workshop was reconvened with no action taken by the Council and workshop was adjourned.

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Bob Young, Mayor Gayle Butcher, City Clerk