



CITY OF BLAINE
344 H Street
Blaine, WA 98230
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, July 9, 2007

7:00 PM

Study Session – 5:30PM Building and Utility Fees Deferral

Present: Jason Overstreet, Bonnie Onyon, Bruce Wolf, Mike Myers, Ken Ely, John Liebert, Charlie Hawkins

Adjourned: 6:30pm

A. Executive Session – Land Acquisition

B. CALL TO ORDER: 7:06pm

- MOMENT OF SILENCE
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- ROLL CALL: Ken Ely, Charlie Hawkins, John Liebert, Mike Myers, Bonnie Onyon, Jason Overstreet Bruce Wolf
- Staff Present: Gary Tomsic, City Manager; Mike Haslip, Public Safety Director; Meredith Riley, Finance Director; Sheri Sanchez, City Clerk; Steve Banham, Public Works Director; Terry Galvin, Community Development Director; Jon Sitkin, City Attorney

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

1. John Choulochas, spoke regarding the July 4th celebration.
2. Richard Warsofsky, 1218 Mitchell Ave., spoke regarding improvements to disturbances at 1241 Mitchell Avenue and thanking the City for their efforts, particularly Chief Haslip.

D. CITY MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

1. State & Federal Projects – Steve Banham reported – GSA project on the US Port of Entry, including work that still needs to be done before the 2010 Olympics. Community meeting with GSA is scheduled for July 17th. State Department of Transportation wall details are still being worked out.
2. Lighthouse Point Update – Steve Banham reported – Department of Ecology is reviewing design package, as well as Rural Department of Community and Economic Development
3. Major Projects Update - None
4. Lighthouse Park Report – Terry Galvin reported – integration between lighthouse point and the park.
5. Planning Space Alternatives – Gary Tomsic reported – exploring interim option of getting more space for Planning and the Police Department by renting space next door from Freeman, who presented a proposal of \$15,000 to \$18,000 rent per year, which staff is reviewing. Council discussed exploring renting the old Red Apple building and having PW and Planning in the same building.
6. RFQ for Developer for City Hall – Gary Tomsic reported – Port of Bellingham just did an RFQ and shared it with staff. Staff is looking at developing a document to entice developers.
7. July 4 Recap – Mike Haslip reported – there were complaints of excessive fireworks in the evening, including around the rest home. They might look at a “hospital zone” for next year. There was overall positive public response. Council commented on the great efforts of the City.
8. Joint Council and Planning Commission Visioning Meeting – Terry Galvin reported – staff would like to initiate visioning with a joint meeting and also look into a committee and a possibility of a charette.
9. Developer Meeting Report – Terry Galvin reported – there were 10 to 15 people who participated, and staff felt that the meeting went very well. Comments regarding space and lack of communication between public works and planning were mentioned, and the hearing examiner system was supported.

10. Blaine Builder Award – Gary Tomsic reported – the award was presented to Don Walter by Bruce Wolf, celebrating his 80th birthday.
11. Upcoming projects – Gary Tomsic reported – staff will have a mid-year project report at the next meeting.

E. PUBLIC HEARING (MEETING)

1. None

F. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

1. Planning Commission – Jeff Arntzen reported – Woodell Daycare expansion and East Maple Ridge planned development.
2. Airport Commission - None
3. BTAC – Will be meeting in the morning.
4. Park & Cemetery - None
5. Ad Hoc - None

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter dated June 17, 2007, from Joel Douglas
2. Letter dated July 7, 2007, from Donald Walter

H. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Bills – Amount: \$ 154,002.05
2. Approval of June Payroll – Amount \$ 403,652.44
3. Approval of June 25, 2007, City Council Minutes

**MOTION BY KEN ELY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND
SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED
UNANIMOUSLY (7 – 0)**

I. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

1. Ordinance 07-2669, Title 15 Central Business District Building Fee Deferral – presented by Gary Tomsic and reviewed by Jon Sitkin.

2. Ordinance 07-2670, Title 13 Central Business District Utility Fee Deferral
– presented by Gary Tomsic and reviewed by Jon Sitkin

MOTION MADE BY KEN ELY TO INITIATE THE AMENDMENTS AND SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING ON JULY 23, 2007, AND SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS.

Discussion by Bonnie Onyon requesting that a revised draft be made available before the next meeting.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 5 – 0 (BRUCE WOLF AND JASON OVERSTREET RECUSED THEMSELVES)

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS

1. Bonnie Onyon noted that Bellingham Herald published article that the Blaine School placed top 5% in Washington State. A letter to the school was recommended.

L. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

M. ADJOURN – 8:14pm

MAYOR

CITY CLERK