

## GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2003

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Ekberg, Young, Franich, Owel, Dick, Picinich, Ruffo and Mayor Wilbert.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:09 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

*These consent agenda items are considered routine and may be adopted with one motion as per Gig Harbor Ordinance No. 799.*

1. Approval of the Minutes of City Council Meeting of March 10, 2003.
2. Correspondence / Proclamations: a) Building Safety Week b) Chamber of Commerce Resolution
3. Re-appointments to the Gig Harbor Arts Commission.
4. Morris Sewer Request.
5. Puget Sound Energy Water and Sewer Extension.
6. Approval of Payment of Bills for March 24, 2003.  
Checks #39546 through #39683 in the amount of \$487,838.71.

**MOTION:** Move to approve the consent agenda as presented.  
Picinich / Ruffo – unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None scheduled.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. First Reading of Ordinance – Moorage Fees. Carol Morris, Legal Counsel, presented this amendment to the Municipal Code that would eliminate moorage fees at Jerisich Dock. She explained that by charging a fee, it eliminates the immunity from liability for unintentional injuries afforded under state statute. She answered Council's questions regarding the amount of collected annually and how this amendment would affect monitoring the length of stay. This will return for a second reading at the next meeting.

2. Consultant Services Contract – Sewer Pump Station 3A. John Vodopich, Director of Community Development, explained that the company that was responsible for support of the control system at the pump station had recently gone out of business. He said that this contract with ECS Engineering would provide 24-hour on-call technical support services for this station if required.

**MOTION:** Move to authorize execution of the Consultant Services Contract with ECS Engineering, Inc. for on-call support for Sewage Pump Station 3A in an amount not to exceed six thousand six hundred forty-seven dollars and no cents (\$6,647.00).  
Ruffo/Picinich – unanimously approved.

3. Closed Record Hearing – Final Plat for 'The Estates at Gig Harbor'.

Councilmember Ekberg recused himself from this agenda item as this is a business client.

John Vodopich presented this 51-lot subdivision and gave a brief history of the project. He said that the Councilmember's packet includes an analysis by the Hearing Examiner, and the conditions of the mitigated Determination of Non-Significance. John added that the final plat has been reviewed and is being recommended for approval by the City Attorney, the City Engineer, and himself.

**MOTION:** Move to adopt Resolution No. 607 approving the final plat of The Estates at Gig Harbor.  
Picinich / Ruffo – unanimously approved.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

GHPD –February Stats. No verbal report given.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

John McMillan – 9816 Jacobsen Lane. Mr. McMillan explained that he is a member of the Skansie Brothers Park Ad Hoc Committee, and that he is an artist and industrial designer. Mr. McMillan stressed that the entire property had historic significance. He said was concerned that the city was moving forward with modifications to the property without consulting with a certified preservationist. He asked that Council reconsider any repairs until there was a contract with the preservationist in place. He said that he spoke for many on the committee when he said that there is only one chance to do the right thing.

Mark Hoppen, City Administrator, explained that the fence was necessary from a liability standpoint, and that he had met with many of the committee members on-site to make modifications to the fence design to alleviate their concerns. He said that he and Dave Brereton had been in contact with Steve Mathis, a state certified preservationist and that only two things were being done before the site could be opened to the public; the fence and repairs to the roof of the net shed.

Councilmember Franich said that he had talked to a couple of the committee members, adding that he now favors having a preservationist look at the project in a broad scope before any work is done. He said that maybe the opening of the property should be postponed until next year when it could be done right.

Councilmember Ekberg said that the city has owned the property, but no move has been made to construct the fence until now. He said it seems to be insensitive to the Ad Hoc Committee to go ahead with changes before they have had a chance to complete their task. Mark explained that if the fence and roof are not completed now, the property will not be ready in time for the Maritime Gig, which had been one of Council's goals.

Scheduling concerns were discussed, and Mark was advised to discuss this information at the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting on Monday evening.

Councilmember Young said that he favored beginning the work as soon as possible to have at the grassy area of the property ready as a park. Mark said that Mr. Mathis recommended that they find historic photos of the net shed and try to match the materials as closely as possible during the repair. He said that he understands that the committee wants to maintain the historical integrity of the property.

Councilmembers discussed the need to consult with the committee in further repairs, and the need to move forward due to liability issues. Councilmember Picinich stressed that the remaining Skansie family should be consulted as a source to obtain historical information.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS / MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Councilmember Owel thanked Dave Brereton, Director of Operations, for the information on the West Nile Virus. Mark Hoppen said that the city would continue to work with the health department on a program to handle possible areas of concern. This will be shared with private property owners as well.

Councilmember Ruffo voiced support for our Troops. Other members echoed these wishes for their speedy and safe return.

Mayor Wilbert mentioned the proclamation passed during the Consent Agenda for "Building Safety Week." She thanked Dick Bower, Building Official / Fire Marshal, for bringing this to Council's attention.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** For the purpose of discussing property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b); litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(A); and potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(B).

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn to Executive Session for approximately twenty minutes at 7:49 p.m. to discuss property acquisition, potential litigation and pending litigation.  
Picinich / Ruffo – unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Move to return to regular session at 8:10 p.m.  
Picinich / Ruffo – unanimously approved.

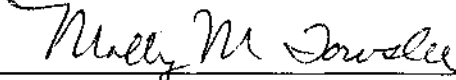
Councilmember Owel voiced concerns that the information on the lawsuit filed by the Sportsman's Club had not reached them in a timely manner. Mark Hoppen apologized for the error and explained how it occurred. Other Councilmembers agreed, and asked that for public relations concerns, to please give them a call to alert them to such action in the future.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.  
Picinich / Ruffo - unanimously approved.

CD recorder utilized:  
Disc #1 Tracks 1-9

  
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Gretchen Wilbert, Mayor

  
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City Clerk