

REGULAR GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22, 1999

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ekberg, Young, Owel, Dick, Picinich, and Mayor Pro-Tem Markovich. Councilmember Platt and Mayor Wilbert were absent.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2000 Budget - Mayor Pro-Tem Markovich opened the public hearing on this agenda item. Dave Rodenbach, Finance Director, gave a short explanation of the changes to the budget since the first public hearing.

Marie Sullivan - Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Sullivan first apologized for not attending the worksession on the budget, as she thought it would have helped clear up any confusion on the issue of hiring a Tourism Specialist and weekend office help for the Chamber utilizing the hotel/motel tax. She gave an overview of the importance of the two positions and encouraged Council to put this request back into the budget. She answered questions and explained that the Tourism Specialist would be required to submit a monthly report to assure they were meeting their objectives that would be shared with the Council.

Linda Gair - 9301 No. Harborview Drive. Ms. Gair explained that the focus at this time should be on community wide events to encourage people to come to Gig Harbor, spend the night, and to spend money. She said that this goal requires a professional and recommended that the issue of the Tourism Specialist be revisited and that Lauren Lund be hired for the position.

Chris Erlich - 6910 9th St NW. Ms. Erlich, Executive Director of the Gig Harbor Key Peninsula Historical Society, echoed the comments of Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Gair in support of the Tourism Specialist position.

Donna Lormor - 119 Pt. Fosdick Circle NW. Ms. Lormor spoke as the President of the Gig Harbor Waterfront Retail and Restaurant Association, member of the Board of Director of the Chamber of Commerce and BP for Tourism Committee. She explained that she would be reporting to the Chamber on a regular basis on the progress of the Tourism Specialist and would be happy to work with the City as far as reporting as well. She agreed with the other speakers and encouraged the Council to reconsider the inclusion of these two positions in the budget.

Wade Perrow - 9119 North Harborview Drive. Mr. Perrow said he was also a member of the Lodging Tax Committee and asked if the City would find a way to fund this position.

Mort Altman - Owner of the Rose of Gig Harbor Bed & Breakfast. Mr. Altman said that he is the Travel/Tourism Committee Chairman for the Chamber of Commerce and requested Council to reconsider funding the position.

Linda Gair - Ms. Gair said that she heard that the City of Fife had been fined for using Hotel/Motel Taxes for flower boxes and that this should be researched. She was assured that legislature had recently been expanded to include this use of the taxes.

The public hearing was closed at 7:29 p.m.

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 the November 8, 1999, City Council Meeting.
2. Correspondence / Proclamations:
 - a. Proclamation - World Aids Day.
3. City Hall Backup Generator Installation.
4. WWTP Generator Installation - Consultant Services Contract.
5. 38th Avenue Improvement Project/Survey Work - Consultant Services Contract.
6. Kimball Drive Improvement Project & Grandview Athletic Field/Survey Work - Consultant Services Contract.
7. Burnham Drive Waterline Extension Project/Engineering Services - Consultant Services Contract.
8. Department of Corrections Latecomers Agreement.
9. Purchase of Hardware/Software for Scanned Documents.
10. Approval of Payment of Bills for November 22, 1999:

Checks # 23703 through #23775 in the amount of \$308,094.00.
11. Liquor License Approval - Central 76, Gig Harbor Gasoline LLC.
12. Liquor License Renewals: JT's Original Louisiana Bar-B-Q; Harborview Grocery; Uddenberg's Thriftway #277.

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda.
Picinich/Young -

Councilmember Dick said he would like clarification on item number nine, and asked that it be moved to the end of new business.

MOTION: Move to move item number nine to new business for separate consideration.
Dick/Owel - unanimously approved.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda.
Picinich/Young - unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Second Reading of Ordinance – East-West Road Local Improvement District. Dave Rodenbach explained that the effort to form this LID was nearing completion. He

explained that the city had received letters from the property owners placing conditions upon their participation in the LID. He said that the letters indicate that legal action may be taken if the final cost of the assessments exceed the amount agreed to. He added that the city had responded to the letters asking the property owners for a letter of support. He introduced Cynthia Weed, Bond Counsel, to explain the LID process.

Cynthia Weed, Preston Gates & Ellis, Bond Counsel. Ms. Weed explained that the ordinance before Council is the end of the beginning of the first stage of the LID process. She continued to describe the three-stage process that would take place if the ordinance was approved. She said that it is very important that the city feel comfortable that it is not undertaking any undue risk with city funds and that there is support from the property owners in making the decision to proceed.

John Rose, Pope Resources - PO Box 1780, Poulsbo. Mr. Rose explained that before development takes place, a risk/reward model is used to make prudent decisions. He said that the difficulty with this project has been to identify a cost estimate and the reward portion of the equation. He said that the current market doesn't support moving ahead at this time, and in order to get a level of comfort to proceed, a letter was submitted to the city asking for clarification of nine issues. He added that staff had responded to those nine issues, and then today, another letter arrived asking the property owners to waive all contingencies and conditions. He said that this did not help to build a level of comfort and added that he could not respond to this letter at this time. He asked for additional time to discuss this and other utility issues and to develop a level of trust and comfort to proceed. He requested to meet with staff, other property owners and a couple of Councilmembers to discuss these issues.

Scott Miller - 6602 Cromwell Drive. Mr. Miller echoed Mr. Rose's comments. He said that he did not view the questions on his letter as "conditions." He continued to say his basic issue was a guarantee for road capacity for his project. He also voiced a desire to meet with staff and Councilmembers to discuss these issues.

MOTION: Move we table action on the second reading of this ordinance until the December 13th meeting.
Dick/Owel - unanimously approved.

2. Second Reading of Ordinance – 2000 Budget. Dave Rodenbach presented the second reading of the ordinance to approved the 2000 budget. He gave an overview of the changes since the first reading. Councilmembers discussed the request to bring back the Tourism Specialist and Summer-Weekend Chamber staff positions.

MOTION: Move we add the two positions, \$16,000 for a part-time Tourism Specialist and \$1,000 for a Summer-Weekend Office Staff back an an expenditure from the Hotel/Motel Taxes.
Dick/Picinich - unanimously approved.

MOTION: Move we approve Ordinance No. 831 approving the 2000 Budget as amended
Ekberg/Owel - unanimously approved.

3. Second Reading of Ordinance - Variance From Public Works Standards. Dave Skinner presented this ordinance to allow the Public Works Director to allow variances from the Public Works Standards. He explained that at the last meeting, Council requested clarification regarding the factors to be considered for a variance request. He added that the ordinance had been amended after meeting with the Public Works Committee to clarify these issues.

MOTION: Move to adopt Ordinance No. 832 as presented.
Picinich/Owel - unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. First Reading - Amendment to the 1999 Budget and Amendment to the Capital Facilities Element of the 1996 Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Dave Skinner explained that the amendment to the plan would facilitate the city's purchase of the Borgen property. He said that the funds are available and recommended adoption of the two ordinances after their second reading.

Marian Berejikian - 307 30th Ave Ct NW. Ms. Berejikian explained that she is the new Technical Director for the Peninsula Neighborhood Association. She said that she was present this evening to commend the City Council on behalf of PNA for the purchase of the Borgen Property.

There was no further public comment and the public hearing on this item was closed.

2. Legal Services Agreement. Mark Hoppen presented this annual update to the contract for legal services. He gave an overview of the increase in rates and recommended approval. Carol Morris answered Council's questions.

MOTION: Move to approve the Legal Services Agreement as presented.
Ekberg/Young - unanimously approved.

3. Employees' and Supervisory Employees' Guild Contracts. Dave Rodenbach presented these contracts and gave an overview of the changes to the contracts.

MOTION: Move we authorize the execution of the two bargaining agreements.
Dick/Ekberg - unanimously approved.

4. Purchase of Hardware/Software for Scanned Documents. Councilmember Dick explained that he had removed this item from the consent agenda as he had a question

regarding the process, but had subsequently answered his own questions and made the following motion.

MOTION: Move to approve the purchase of hardware/software for scanned documents to New Techniques in the amount of ten thousand, twenty one dollars and seventy-six cents (\$10, 021.76.)
Dick/Young - unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT/DISCUSSION:

Jake Bujacich . Mr. Bujacich said that for over a month the driveway to St. Nicholas Church has been impassable, and he knows many people who are complaining. He said that he had planned to come to the meeting to complain, but they had begun repairs this afternoon and he just wanted to say thank you.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Young spoke about the decision by the County Council to not support the Fairfax trade for the Tallman property. He said that he wanted to know if there was any interest in the city taking part in an effort to purchase the property. He asked Council to consider the issue and let him know whether or not to pursue the issue.

STAFF REPORT:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For the purpose of discussing pending litigation per RCW 42.30.110(i) and personnel issues per RCW 42.30.110(g). No action will be taken after the session.

MOTION: Move to adjourn to executive session at 8:47 p.m. for approximately five minutes.
Picinich/Young- unanimously approved.

MOTION: Move to return to regular session at 8:51 p.m.
Picinich/Owel - unanimously approved.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 8:52 p.m..
Ekberg/Picinich – unanimously approved.

Cassette recorder utilized.
Tape 550 Side B 032 - end.

Tape 551 Both Sides.
Tape 552 Side A 000 - 234.

Jonathan Alvest
Mayor

Mally M Jowles
City Clerk