Renton City Council
Regular Meeting
June 16, 2003 Council Chambers
Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order
Mayor Jesse Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the
meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

Roll Call of Councilmembers
Kathy Keolker-Wheelter, Council President; Dan Clawson; Toni
Nelson; Randy Corman; Don Persson; King Parker; Terri
Briere.

City Staff in Attendance
Jesse Tanner, Mayor; Jay Covington, Chief Administrative Officer;
Russell Wilson, Assistant City Attorney; Bonnie Walton, City
Clerk; Gregg Zimmerman, Planning/Building/Public Works
Administrator; Abdul Gafoor, Water Utility Supervisor; Alex
Pietsch, Economic Development Administrator; Derek Todd, Assistant to
the CAO; Chief Lee Wheeler, Deputy Chief Glen Gordon and
Battalion Chief Chuck Duffy, Fire Department; Commander
Curtis Smalling, Police Department.

Special Presentations
Fire: 2002 Firefighter of the Year Award
See page 214 for the 2002 Firefighter of the Year presentation.
Planning: Explore Life Project
Alex Pietsch, Economic Development, Neighborhoods and Strategic Planning
Administrator introduced Maura O'Neill, CEO of the Explore Life initiative,
who gave a briefing on the Explore Life business plan. She explained that
Explore Life is an opportunity to become a global leader in new science
exploration and discovery. Explore Life could potentially create 100,000 new
jobs in the region over the next decade, and redevelop large tracts of unique
land.

Ms. O'Neill stated that Explore Life has four quantifiable goals as follows:

- Strengthen our existing world class research engines.
- Create vibrant new work/live environments that are focused on
  breakthrough science exploration and development.
- Build global partnerships and promote the region locally and globally as a
  world center for breakthrough global health sciences.
- Equip our people and their children with the skills to secure excellent jobs
  in life sciences.

She detailed the strategies that have been developed for each goal such as
providing research and auxiliary space to research universities; attracting new,
major tenants; building an international discovery station; securing regional,
national, and global partners; and conducting community outreach.

Continuing, Ms. O'Neill stated that initial funding of $1.5 million is required for
Explore Life, and ongoing annual funding requirements are approximately $2.5
million. Anticipated funding sources are federal grants, regional governmental
contributions, and institutional and corporate sponsorship. She detailed
Renton's role in the initiative, which includes being positioned as the new center
for bioscience, encouraging community involvement, resolving land availability
issues, and supporting region-wide Explore Life implementation. In conclusion Ms. O'Neill reported that the next steps for Explore Life are to finalize the plan, secure the next round of financing, and launch Explore Life with a community-wide 60-day outreach.

Councilman Parker expressed his appreciation for Ms. O'Neill's enthusiasm for the project, and stated that he is excited about the possibilities this initiative holds for the future. Councilman Corman commented that Renton needs to work on determining what property is available for the project.

Mayor Tanner expressed his excitement for the effort and recommended a $50,000 allocation to Explore Life for its continuation with hope that Renton's support would encourage others in the region to contribute. If no region-wide interest is expressed within the next couple of months, he recommended proceeding with the effort at the City level. (See page 215 for further discussion of this issue.)

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City’s recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 2003 and beyond. Items noted included:

- Renton swimming beaches at both Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park and Kennydale Beach Park will open on June 21, and lifeguards will be on duty at both beaches from noon to 8:00 p.m.

- Numerous questions have arisen about noise associated with the pile-driving activities at the Sam's Club construction project next to City Hall. This new building requires 719 steel casings (piles) be driven to depths of up to 70 feet to support the building foundation. This process is estimated to take three full weeks, but the time may vary depending on site conditions. Commercial construction activities are restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Citizen Comment: DeMastus - Highlands Community Association, Time Capsule

Sandel DeMastus, Highlands Community Association (HCA) President, 1137 Harrington Ave. NE, Renton, 98056, announced that Councilman Dan Clawson will speak on the issue of fireworks at the next HCA meeting on June 26. Ms. DeMastus also announced that HCA has a new website, and she reported that a time capsule will be installed in a pillar of the new Highlands Neighborhood sign on July 12.

Citizen Comment: Corrigan - Building Violations at 606 S 31st St Residence

Bill Corrigan, Victoria Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors Member, 700 S. 31st St., Renton, 98055, requested investigation of potential building code and setback violations at a home located at 606 S. 31st St.

Mayor Tanner assured Mr. Corrigan that a code compliance officer will investigate the matter. Councilman Clawson requested that Council be informed of the results of the investigation.

MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL SUSPEND THE RULES AND PROCEED WITH THE SPECIAL PRESENTATION REGARDING THE FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD. CARRIED.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Fire: 2002 Firefighter of the Year Award

Fire Chief Lee Wheeler announced that Battalion Chief Chuck Duffy was selected as the 2002 Firefighter of the Year. Chief Wheeler highlighted Mr. Duffy's accomplishments and contributions to the City, which includes formerly
holding the positions of fire marshal and training officer. Mr. Duffy accepted the award from Deputy Fire Chief Glen Gordon, and stated that this is one of the highlights of his career. He recognized the three other individuals who were in consideration for this award, and emphasized that it is an honor and a privilege to be a member of the Renton Fire Department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

Council Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2003


CAG: 03-037, Runway/Taxiway Lighting Signage & Paving, Gary Merlino Const Co

City Clerk reported bid opening on 5/27/2003 for CAG-03-037, 2003 Airport Taxiway Lighting, Signage and Paving Improvements; three bids; engineer's estimate $2,531,205; and submitted staff recommendation to award the contract to low bidder, Gary Merlino Construction Company, in the amount of $2,527,921.43. Council concur.

CAG: 02-072, Police Evidence Storage Building, CHG Building Systems

Community Services Department submitted CAG-02-072, Police Evidence Storage Facility Building; and requested approval of the project, authorization for commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of $5,677.34 to CHG Building Systems, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

Development Services: St. Anthony's Parish, Alley Dedication, Shattuck & Whitworth Aves S

Development Services Division recommended acceptance of a deed of dedication of the four feet parallel to the south side of the east-west alley between Shattuck and Whitworth Avenues S. to fulfill a requirement of the St. Anthony's Parish development agreement between the City and the parish. Refer to Planning and Development Committee.

Vacation: Whitworth Ave S & Alley, St. Anthony's Parish, VAC-00-003 & VAC-03-001

Technical Services Division submitted appraisal performed for the St. Anthony's Parish street vacations for portion of Whitworth Ave. S. and portion of alley running north and south between Whitworth and Morris Avenues S. and S. 3rd and 4th Streets; and requested that Council accept the appraisal and set compensation at $183,360 for VAC-00-003, and at $19,200 for VAC-03-001. Refer to Planning & Development Committee. (See page 215 for related correspondence.)

Utility: NE 10th St/Anacortes Ave NE Detention Pond & Storm System Improvement, Transfer of Funds

Utilities Systems Division requested approval to transfer $250,000 from the SW 7th St. Storm System Improvement Project to the NE 10th St. and Anacortes Ave. NE Detention Pond and Storm System Improvement Project. Refer to Utilities Committee.

SAD: East Kennydale Sanitary Sewer Infill Phase I

Utilities Systems Division requested authorization to establish the final East Kennydale Sanitary Sewer Infill Phase I Special Assessment District at the per unit assessment of $6,122.35 to ensure that the project costs are equitably distributed to those who benefit. Refer to Utilities Committee.

MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was read from Father Gary Zender, Pastor of St. Anthony's Parish, 314 S. 4th St., Renton, 98055, and Michael O'Laughlin, 2300 Jefferson Ave. NE, C-113, Renton, 98056, both requesting that the City reduce the amount of compensation the parish must pay for the Whitworth Ave. S. and
Parish, VAC-00-003 & VAC-03-001

alley properties to be vacated (VAC-00-003 & VAC-03-001). MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL REFER THESE LETTERS TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Finance Committee

Finance: Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claim Vouchers 215858 - 216399 and two wire transfers totaling $1,940,701.14; and approval of Payroll Vouchers 44455 - 44705, one wire transfer and 573 direct deposits totaling $1,773,526.66. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The following ordinance was presented for first reading and referred to the Council meeting of 6/23/2003 for second and final reading:

Utility: City Code Amends re Utility Rates Remission & Water Meter Service Charges

An ordinance was read amending Section 4-1-180, of Chapter 1, Administration and Enforcement, of Title IV (Development Regulations); and Sections 8-2-1, of Chapter 2, Storm and Surface Water Drainage, and 8-4-10, 11, 12, 18, 26, 33, and 34, of Chapter 4, Water, and 8-5-15 and 8-5-16, of Chapter 5, Sewers, of Title VIII (Health and Sanitation) of City Code to clarify remission of rates, increase charges to shut off and turn on water meters, and add an after-hours charge to turn on meters. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 6/23/2003. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Council: Retreat

Council President Keolker-Wheeler stated that Council wants to plan a retreat to discuss budget priorities and will be working with the Administration to determine a date for the retreat.

Fire: Dive Rescue Team Praise

Councilman Clawson shared a letter from City of Kent Mayor Jim White and Fire Chief Jim Schneider, 220 4th Ave. S., Kent, 98032, expressing appreciation to the Renton Fire Department's dive rescue team for their assistance in the search and recovery of the body of Kent City Councilmember Rico Yingling's son at Lake Fenwick on June 7.

Community Services: Farmers Market

Councilwoman Nelson announced that there will be new fruit and vegetable vendors at the Farmers Market tomorrow, and she encouraged everyone to attend.

Planning: Explore Life Project

Expressing his support for the Explore Life initiative, it was moved by Parker, seconded by Corman, Council approve the recommendation of the Administration to allocate an additional $50,000 to the Explore Life effort.*

Councilman Clawson stated that he is inclined to support the effort; however, he needs more time to review the issue, including the additional information on the Explore Life work plan forthcoming from staff. Council President Keolker-Wheeler expressed her hesitation to commit the funds prior to reviewing all of the information.

In response to Councilman Parker's inquiry regarding the project timeline, Mayor Tanner stated that there is time for Council to review the issue.

*With the concurrence of Mr. Corman as seconder, Mr. Parker withdrew his motion.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Issue Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Services: SW</td>
<td>Councilwoman Briere reported complaint from Lori Anarde who lives on SW 3rd Pl. regarding a short plat development causing drainage problems on her property. She noted that staff is investigating the matter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Pl Drainage Problems</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation: Stop Sign</td>
<td>Councilwoman Briere reported complaint from Kathy and Rico Galliano who live on Camas Ave. NE, near NE 20th St., regarding the lack of a stop sign on the south side of Camas Ave. NE while there is a stop sign on the north side. Ms. Briere requested that staff investigate the matter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation on Camas Ave NE</td>
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**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 8:37 p.m.

Bonnie I. Walton, City Clerk

Recorder: Michele Neumann

June 16, 2003