



**CITY OF CAMAS
COUNCIL WORKSESSION
February 6, 2012
4:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Scott Higgins presided.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Present: Anderson, Chaney, Dietzman, Hazen, Smith, and Turk.
Hogan arrived at 4:35 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Bourquin, Bergstrom, Carothers, Coppola, Durgin, Halverson, Levison, Nelson, and Swinhart.

PRESS: Heather Acheson, Camas-Washougal Post Record.

PUBLIC:

Gene Dietzen, 1025 NE 5th Avenue, Camas, Washington:

Dietzen, Camas Art Market (CAM) representative, distributed an informational handout about the CAM. Dietzen explained that the CAM organizers are formally requesting permission from the City to use the City's parking lot on the corner of NE Franklin Street and NE Fourth Avenue on Wednesdays from June 13th through October 10th during the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Discussion ensued.

Mayor asked and Council concurred that this item would be discussed further at the March 5th Council meeting.

Mayor stated that due to the fullness of the workshop agenda and time constraints, the Public Works Agenda items will be carried over to the regular meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Cooperation Agreement Extension with the City of Washougal:

Nick Swinhart, Fire Chief, gave a PowerPoint Presentation that highlighted the overtime savings and the budgets for the Camas and Washougal Fire Departments. Swinhart explained the efficiencies and cost savings in detail that have been realized with the trial consolidation. Swinhart relayed staff's recommendation that the partnership be extended and a planning committee be formed that would explore the operational aspects and funding methodology of a regional fire authority (RFA). He explained that this topic will be coming before Council for consideration on February 21st.

Swinhart concluded the presentation by explaining the specifics of formally exploring the feasibility of establishing a RFA and added that the final decision of forming a RFA would require voter approval. Discussion ensued.

Swinhart responded to clarifying questions from Council.

Hogan expressed appreciation for the collaborative work of the two cities. Mayor and Council echoed the comments.

SAFER Grant Application:

Swinhart gave a brief overview and distributed the *Assistance to Firefighters Grant SAFER Staffing Grant Information* document. Swinhart explained that the grants are being accepted January 30th through February 24th and that the grants are being considered as they are being received. Swinhart commented that Camas has a very good chance of being awarded the grant and relayed staff's recommendation to submit the grant application before the February 24th deadline.

Questions were asked and clarifications were made.

Lloyd Halverson, City Administrator, affirmed that he and the Chief have been collaborating on the details and that he does support the effort to apply for the grant.

Mayor asked Swinhart to bring this topic back to Council to study the specific requirements if Camas is awarded the grant.

Clark County Arts Commission Presentation:

Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director, welcomed and introduced Donna Roberge from the Clark County Arts Commission. Roberge gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation that highlighted the mission and purpose of the organization and explained that the commission is increasing their outreach efforts to create partnerships with municipalities and art organizations locally and regionally at no cost.

Roberge distributed invitations to the Mayor and Council for the *Clark County Arts and Culture Summit* that is scheduled for March 3, 2012.

Mayor announced that due to a scheduling conflict, the order of the workshop agenda items has been changed. The Economic Development Incentives Committee Presentation will now come before the Sierra Club Presentation Regarding Coal Trains.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Planning:

Economic Development Incentives Committee Presentation:

Bourquin gave background information and distributed a handout to Council detailing the recommendations of the ad-hoc committee. Bourquin summarized the three concepts the committee recommended related to Transportation Impact Fees (TIF).

James Carothers, Engineering Manager, referred to the documents entitled *Funding Sources for TIF Project* and *Proposed New TIF Corridor Projects* to illustrate the first concept. Carothers elaborated on the TIF reduction factor and the funding options. Discussion ensued.

Bourquin stated that Camas currently uses the PM Peak to calculate TIFs and stated that the committee supports maintaining PM Peak rather than Average Daily Trips to calculate TIFs.

Bourquin also explained that Camas does not currently have separate TIF districts and that districting provides a way to establish impact fees that are based upon needed improvements to accommodate growth within a defined geographic area. He relayed the committee's recommendation of moving forward with two or three TIF districts that have the overall effect of reducing fees in employment areas.

In response to Chaney's inquiry, Bourquin stated that the ad-hoc committee included Mayor Scott Higgins; City Administrator Lloyd Halverson; Public Works Director Eric Levison; Engineering Manager James Carothers; Council Members Greg Anderson and Tim Hazen; Camas-Washougal Economic Development Association (CWEDA) Director Paul Dennis and himself.

Eric Levison, Public Works Director, referenced the document entitled *System Development Charges (SDC) Economic Development Committee Discussion* to illustrate the recommendations of the ad-hoc committee for a reduction in current SDCs. Discussion ensued.

Paul Dennis, CWEDA Director, 1700 Main Street, Washougal, WA:

Dennis gave Council a summary of the economic development incentives that the ad-hoc committee is proposing for Camas and explained how they would work. Dennis added that it is important that the incentives do not create competition between the partners in the development community. He added that this is a short-term investment for a long-term goal. Discussion ensued.

Bourquin, Carothers, Dennis and Levison responded to questions from Council.

Mayor proposed that the ad-hoc committee have one more meeting before bringing this matter forward for Council's consideration. Council voiced no objections to the proposed path forward.

Sierra Club Presentation Regarding Coal Trains:

Bourquin welcomed and introduced Rick Marshall, Building Project Developer; Warren Shoemaker, Clean Energy Developer; and Laura Stevens, Sierra Club. Stevens distributed an informational packet to Council. Stevens, Marshall and Shoemaker gave a Power Point Presentation to Council entitled, *Coal Exports and their Impacts on Camas*. The presentation detailed the proposed prospect of exporting coal to Asia by train and highlighted the adverse environmental, safety and health impacts as the uncovered rail cars move through the City of Camas. Stevens concluded the presentation by asking the City to express their concerns regarding the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts regarding this proposal.

Stevens responded to clarifying questions from Council.

Mayor asked and Council confirmed that this matter will come back to Council at a later date.

Mayor expressed his appreciation to the presenters for their flexibility in accommodating the agenda scheduling change.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Planning:

Interlocal Agreement with the School Districts:

Bourquin gave a brief overview of the topic and distributed a draft document entitled, *Interlocal Agreement for the Collection, Distribution and Expenditure of School Impact Fees*. Bourquin clarified that the interlocal agreement would include the Camas, Evergreen and Washougal School Districts. He explained that this agreement has been reviewed by Joan Durgin, Finance Director, and is currently being reviewed by the city attorney. Bourquin added that this item will be placed on the consent agenda for Council's consideration at a future date.

Engineering/Public Works:

Memorandum Items:

A memorandum was previously distributed to Council about the following Engineering and Public Work's Workshop items. The topics discussed in the memorandum are noted below.

Project Bid Openings:

Staff will be opening bids for the following four projects on Tuesday, February 14, 2012. It is anticipated that for all four items staff will recommend awarding the contracts to the lowest responsive bidder on the February 21st Consent Agenda:

1. 2012 STEP/STEF Tank Pumping for Project WS-720; the estimated cost is \$45,706.58. This project is in the adopted 2012 Budget and will be funded by the Sewer Utility Fund.
2. Crown Neighborhood ADA Ramps Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Project S-544; the estimated cost is \$285,000. This project is fully funded by a \$298,000 CDBG Grant.
3. SW 6th Avenue Sewer Extension for Project WS-710; the estimated cost is \$35,000. This project will be funded by the 2012 budgeted amount in the Sewer Utility Fund.
4. City Facility Light Fixture Replacements for Project 537A; the estimated cost is \$47,000. This project is fully funded by an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Adoption of the 2012 Standard Specifications (CD-Engineering):

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) generally publishes updated standard specifications for construction projects every two years. Camas has adopted and has been using the 2010 version of the Standard Specifications for road, bridge, and municipal construction for the last two years. WSDOT has issued the 2012 version and it is time for Camas to adopt these new specifications. Staff will prepare a Resolution for adoption of the 2012 specifications at the February 21, 2012, Council Meeting.

Carothers gave a brief overview of the topics addressed in the memorandum. He stated that the City will not be opening bids for the *SW 6th Avenue Sewer Extension* Project due to the City's ability to construct the improvements.

There were no questions from Council regarding the memo items.

FINANCE:

Interlocal Loan for Emergency Medical Services (EMS):

Durgin gave a brief overview of the topic and distributed a memorandum regarding the annual interfund loan to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund. There will be a resolution for Council's consideration placed on the February 21st Council Agenda.

Mayor asked and there were no questions from Council.

PUBLIC:

Dorethea Simone, 2828 NE Everett Street #20, Camas, Washington:

Simone distributed a letter to Council and expressed concerns regarding the potential health impacts of the coal trains moving through the City of Camas.

Diana Gordon, 642 I Street, Washougal, Washington:

Gordon distributed a letter to Council and echoed concerns regarding the potential adverse environmental impacts to the area.

Ann Degenshein, 2725 NW 24th Avenue, Camas, Washington:

Degenshein echoed concerns regarding the potential adverse health and environmental impacts of the coal trains.

Dave Miller, 3509 NW 3rd Avenue, Camas, Washington:

Miller distributed a letter to Council and echoed concerns regarding the adverse impacts that the coal export trains would have on the wildlife in the Gorge, specifically in the Steigerwald, Franz Lake and Pierce National Wildlife Refuges.

Samantha Lockhart, Friends of the Columbia George:

Lockhart echoed concerns regarding the potential adverse health and environmental impacts of the trains that would be exporting coal to Asia. She distributed and summarized letters written by Carl and Cynthia Strausbaugh, 2114 NW Fargo Loop, Camas, Washington and Linda Felver, 28818 NE Hancock Road, Camas, Washington.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk