

**FIFE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

4A

**Fife City Hall
Council Chambers**

**Date: March 14, 2006
Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Kelley called the Fife City Council regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Godwin, Johnson, Edwards, Kelley, Cerqui, de Booy, and Roscoe.

Staff present: Worthington, Jacoby, Blount, Blackburn, Richards, Campbell, Reinbold, Kennedy, Reuter, Jurica, and Recording Secretary Valerie Gow.

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Roscoe led pledge of allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes: February 21, 2006 Study Session
February 25, 2006 Special Meeting
February 28, 2006 Council Meeting
- b. Approval of Vouchers:
Payroll: #39778 – 39954 \$833,728.74
Claims: #64682 – 64811 \$621,715.28
- c. Set a Special Meeting – Study Session March 21, 2006 at 7 p.m.
- d. Set a Special Meeting Executive Session March 25, 2006 from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at Poodle Dog Restaurant

RESOLUTION

- e. #1017-06 Authorize Purchase – Facilities Maintenance

ORDINANCE

- f. #1592-06 FMC Amendment – Fire Lane Revision

The minutes of February 25, 2006 were corrected to reflect an executive session was held beginning at 7:00 a.m. to 9:22 a.m.

Motion

Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Edwards, to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL
PRESENTATIONS**

**Millridge Village
Appreciation**

Mayor Kelley acknowledged Edwina Alexander, Executive Director of Millridge Village, with a certificate of appreciation for hosting a fundraiser for the Fife Senior/Community Center on February 24, 2006 by providing a spaghetti dinner and raffle fundraiser. The fundraiser raised \$1,615 for the center.

Ms. Alexander said next year, the fundraiser will include Milton and Edgewood as many of the seniors are from the surrounding area.

Mayor Kelley acknowledged the efforts of Julia White, Center Manager, Fife Community Center.

Fife City Council Meeting

March 14, 2006

Page 2 of 8

**Daffodil Princess
Presentation**

Mayor Kelley introduced Shallae Eugley as Fife's Daffodil Festival Princess for the 2006 festival season. Ms. Eugley volunteers her time at Children's Hospital and plans to become a registered nurse in the field of Pediatric Oncology.

Ms. Eugley invited the Council and community to attend the Queen's Coronation on March 24, 2006 and shared the dates for several of the festival's parades.

**Fife, Milton,
Edgewood Veterans
Memorial**

City of Milton Mayor Katrina Asay introduced several members of VFW Post #11401 representing the cities of Milton, Fife, and Edgewood. VFW members have been working several years to construct a Veterans Memorial. Currently, the memorial is undergoing the engineering design phase.

Mayor Asay introduced VFW Post #11401 Commander Dana McClain, who provided additional information about the members of VFW Post #11401 and their respective military service. He introduced members of the Veterans Memorial Committee who include Rod Hash, Charles Whitney, Frank Poleskie, Ralph Starr, and Lois Zaroudny.

Mr. McClain described the memorial project and asked for the City's assistance.

Ralph Starr outlined the activities the post sponsors for veterans and their families, sponsorship of local sports teams, purchase of U.S. flags for area schools, and sponsorship of four families in need during the Christmas season. The post also provides assistance to the USO and Battered Women's Clinic in Tacoma and Puyallup.

Mr. Starr reported the memorial will represent all veterans. He asked for the City's assistance in raising funds.

Jack Chandler shared how the post is raising funds for the memorial as well as how citizens can make a donation or purchase a brick to honor and support a veteran. He outlined the design and layout of the memorial on an overhead slide. The memorial will also become an attraction for visitors while visiting Milton, Fife, and Edgewood.

Mayor Asay requested the Council's permission to include donation forms in the City's foyer, on the City's website, authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the project, and provide financial assistance to the memorial. The City of Milton has contributed land and free services and well as waiving all permit fees. Hard costs associated with the memorial will be finalized in the next several weeks and can be shared with the City to ascertain each city's share.

Mayor Asay was recognized by VFW members for her time and contribution to the post and efforts involved in the memorial.

**COUNCIL
DELEGATE
REPORT**

Councilmember Cerqui reported on his attendance to a meeting involving local hoteliers and the Fife Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Roscoe and Assistant City Manager Reinbold also attended. The meeting went well and he said he is looking forward to working with the group and eventually creating the City's Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Councilmember de Booy confirmed her attendance to the Daffodil Queen's Coronation.

Councilmember de Booy reported the Pierce County Citizen Advisory Board reviewed applications for grant funding. The Board will publish the grant awards on March 22, 2006. Councilmember de Booy said she is working with others on a neighborhood watch program at an adult mobile home park as well as with Julia White to plan another function at the Community Center for seniors. Councilmember de Booy reported she will attend the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) seminar on economic development March 31, 2006.

Councilmember Roscoe reported on her attendance to the meeting with local hoteliers. Good ideas were shared along with an inquiry about the status of the soccer center. Chamber of Commerce Executive Director P.K. McDonald requested input from the hoteliers about the City's marketing plan.

Councilmember Roscoe said she attended Communities and Schools of North Pierce County and learned more about how the organization is linked with the North Pierce County Community Coalition for Youth and Families. There have been some successful programs through the organization's efforts to provide services to at-risk youths throughout the community.

**ORDINANCES AND
RESOLUTIONS**

**#1018-06 Planning
Commission Rules**

Interim Director Kennedy reported the proposed resolution is to approve new Planning Commission rules, which the Commission has developed over the last several months. The Planning Commission, at its February 6, 2006 meeting, recommended the Council approve the new rules.

City Clerk-Treasurer Campbell read the title of Ordinance #1018-06:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of fife, Pierce County, Washington approving Planning Commission Rules of Procedure.

Motion

Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Edwards, to adopt Resolution #1018-06; Planning Commission Rules.

Interim Director Kennedy and City Attorney Jacoby addressed several clarifying questions about the rules from Councilmember Cerqui.

Motion

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

**Board of Adjustments
– Hearing Examiner
Options**

Interim Director Kennedy briefed the Council on the proposal for the City to adopt a Hearing Examiner process replacing the City's current Board of Adjustments process. The proposed ordinance is an adaptation from several ordinances from local cities. Most of the language is boilerplate with some provisions specific to the City. The Council is requested to provide feedback about the proposed ordinance.

Interim Kennedy reviewed the draft ordinance and described some provisions pertinent to the City:

- Purpose
- Definitions
- Qualifications
- Conflict of Interest
- Powers
- Duties
- Public Hearing
- Examiner's Decision
- Reconsideration
- Rezones and Preliminary Plats
- Appeal of Examiner's Decision

City Attorney Jacoby noted the cost of a hearing examiner process cannot be fully recovered in the administrative fee. The administrative fee covers the cost of processing an application and/or appeal. However, it would only partially cover the cost. A hearing examiner process will incur some budgetary expense to the City.

City Attorney Jacoby pointed out the important provisions for consideration – scope of duties and the effect of the examiner's decision and whether the examiner's decision is appealable to the Council or to Superior Court.

City Attorney Jacoby reminded the Council the draft hearing examiner ordinance is meant to initiate discussion and generate Council preferences about how the process should be pursued within the City. Cities that have a hearing examiner process make a conscious decision that the base use of the Council's time is to focus on policy and not on individual applications.

Councilmember Cerqui expressed concerns about transferring some actions to the Hearing Examiner. He indicated a preference to transfer those duties currently under the auspices of the Board of Adjustments but retain processes that are currently under the responsibility of the Planning Commission and Council.

Councilmember Godwin expressed apprehension about adopting an ordinance when the City's zoning issues have not been resolved. He suggested the Council should ensure the zoning code is properly aligned and then adopt a hearing examiner process. City Attorney Jacoby reminded the Council they would also apply the current zoning code to applications as would a hearing examiner. There are some provisions in the zoning code that the Council would like changed. However, until the code is changed, it would be applied equally regardless of the body applying the provisions.

Of the 16 duties included in the draft ordinance, Interim Director Kennedy reviewed the current duties of the Board of Adjustments.

Councilmember Johnson expressed similar concerns about the zoning code in relationship to cohesiveness with the City's comprehensive plan and recommended allowing some time for the Council to review comprehensive plan policies, subdivision regulations, and various standards set forth in land use codes and other plans prior to initiating a hearing examiner process.

Assistant City Manager Reinbold said the draft was meant to be all-encompassing to provide the Council with a list of all duties that are possible to assign to a hearing examiner. Ultimately, the Council will decide on the specific duties. However, the City's insurer – Washington Cities Insurance Authority, highly recommends a hearing examiner process because of the technicalities of laws, regulations, and policies.

Councilmember Johnson suggested scheduling a study session to discuss the issues. Councilmember Cerqui agreed and indicated that at this time, he would only support transferring those duties currently held by the Board of Adjustments. Councilmember de Booy agreed and indicated it's important for the Council to determine the hearing examiner's authority. Councilmember Roscoe noted staff included a "laundry list" of duties and that it wasn't staff's intent that the entire list of duties would be assigned. She suggested in the future, it would be beneficial for staff to include a cover memo clarifying that the information is a draft. She agreed the initial duties of the hearing examiner should include only those duties of the Board of Adjustments. Additionally, she said she supports further discussion about the aspects of some decisions rendered final by the hearing examiner without appeal to the City Council.

Mayor Kelley acknowledged the Council's concerns but indicated he favors a hearing examiner process because the decisions are based on law and are not

subjective to emotions that can sometimes occur through a Council decision process.

City Attorney Jacoby confirmed staff will schedule a study session.

**Final Plats –
Stonebrook and
Radiance III**

Interim Director Kennedy reported Stonebrook is located on the west side of 54th Avenue E, between the UPRR and Levee Road. The plat includes 18 lots consisting of four-plexes. Staff reviewed plans for the building elevations last week. Each individual unit is to be sold separately. Internal streets are private and have been constructed.

City Attorney Jacoby advised that the Council will be asked to adopt the final plat after staff meets with the applicant and confirms that all the conditions of the preliminary plat have been satisfied.

Interim Director Kennedy reviewed Radiance III. Radiance I and II have been recorded. Radiance III is located east of 54th Avenue and includes 164 lots on four tracts. Infrastructure is under construction. A list of 96 conditions of approval was imposed, which is also applicable to Radiance III. The conditions have been met. The Planning Commission recommends that with adequate bonding, the City Council approve the final plat.

Interim Assistant Public Works Director Jurica updated the Council on the status of Radiance III construction activities.

Councilmember Johnson inquired about the pedestrian overpass. Director Blount said it will be the Council's decision and unless there is a downturn in the economy, the City will have the financial resources along with the developer's contribution to construct a pedestrian overpass. Upon approval of the final plat, the six-year clock will begin for utilizing the developer's contribution. Staff will work with the Council to determine a decision about whether to move forward with the overpass. Utilization of the funds must relate to the project, according to law.

Councilmember Cerqui inquired about whether the equipment for the neighborhood park meets City standards. Director Reuter reported staff and the developer are negotiating on the final selection of play equipment. The design element is to accommodate both tots and toddlers.

Councilmember Johnson commented that both projects are off 54th Avenue and will likely impact other roadways other than 54th. He inquired about future projects that may be a contributor to traffic congestion and how the Council can address the issue. City Attorney Jacoby reported he will look into the matter and provide a report to the Council. Director Blount added the underpass has involved a lengthy process and was only formally adopted by the Council in November 2005. Both projects were in the planning stage long

Fife City Council Meeting

March 14, 2006

Page 7 of 8

before the underpass project was established. Councilmember Johnson noted his intent is to ensure the City is prepared for future projects.

**Park Maintenance
Program
Implementation**

Director Reuter reported staff is moving forward in implementing a parks maintenance program. The Council approved two additional parks maintenance positions and staff has been hired. On April 1, 2006, the City will assume maintenance of the Fife Swim Center, Fife Community Center, Fountain Memorial Park, Centennial Park, and City Hall. On June 1, 2006, the City will assume maintenance duties of the Public Works and Police Station/Municipal Court properties.

Staff recently purchased a mower and is preparing to purchase a tractor and trailer.

The City currently maintains Wedge Park as well as maintenance responsibilities at Dacca Park.

Director Reuter addressed questions about temporary seasonal employees, maintenance responsibilities, and eventual assumption of all maintenance duties for City facilities and properties.

**Public Meeting Grant
Application CERB
Process**

Interim Director Kennedy reported the total project cost for the project to be partially funded with the Community Economic Development Revitalization Board (CERB) Job Development Fund Program grant is approximately \$8 million. Improvements will include five travel lanes, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaping, street lights, and water system upgrades on 70th Avenue E. The City made the first cut in the application process. The second application is due April 3, 2006. At the Council's next meeting, a resolution will be presented to authorize the submission of the application. Any public comments received during the meeting will be included within the application.

Director Blount reported the Council will receive a general update of the project at its March 21, 2006 study session.

There were no public comments on the application.

**CITY MANAGER'S
REPORT**

Assistant City Manager Reinbold provided an update on the disposition of the tree felled during the windstorm. The tree is currently being stored for future use.

Staff inspected the Torre property that includes discarded tires and chairs located on the south side of Wapato Creek. Staff is contacting adjacent property owners for removal of the debris. The berm by Gensco has been mowed. However, the City's property includes overgrown blackberries. Public Works will provide maintenance in the area of 70th and 20th where blackberries are overgrown.

Staff is currently working with the consultant on the new telephone system. No timeline has been established for the installation date.

CLICK services will be operational in some areas of the City within the next 60 to 90 days.

The Police Department met with local hoteliers to improve the relationship between the Police Department and hoteliers. Acting Police Chief Blackburn reported 12 hoteliers attended the meeting representing five hotels.

**COUNCILMEMBER
COMMENTS**

Councilmember Cerqui reported on the death of a long-time resident and business owner Mr. Hideo Kinoshita. He owned a Fife based business, and graduated from Fife High School in 1930. The Fife community will miss him dearly.

Councilmember Roscoe commented favorably about Celebration Park in Federal Way that includes a big toy by Kompan. She indicated she would like similar equipment in Fife's parks as well.

**CITIZEN
COMMENT**

Katrina Asay, Mayor of City of Milton, announced composer Andrew T. Miller's upcoming concert is on March 17 and 18, 2006 at the Knutzen Family Theatre in Federal Way. Tickets are \$25.

Mike Seeger, Fife Flowers, shared that he is a member of VFW Post #11401 and served as a helicopter pilot during the Vietnam war. He spoke of the sacrifices military personnel give to the county and urged the Council to support the memorial.

Mr. Seeger reported the Fife Harvest Festival will be held on October 7, 2006. The City's website will include information about the festival as well as applications for participation as a vendor.

Mr. Seeger inquired about the completion date for the construction project on Pacific Highway East. Director Blount reported the project will be completed and open to traffic within the next week.

**RECONVENE AND
ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Kelly adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.



Mike Kelley, Mayor



Marlyn Campbell, Clerk-Treasurer