

FIFE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Fife City Hall
Council Chambers

Date: March 27, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

Excused absence: Councilmembers Godwin, Johnson, and Roscoe.

Staff: Blackburn, Marcotte, Reinbold, Forbes, Smith, Blount, Reuter, Richards, Gill, Ringus, Schwan, Gentry, Hicks, and Recording Secretary Cheri Lindgren.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Edwards led the pledge of allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Gerald Albertson, 7911 50th Street E, Chair, Fife Planning Commission, invited Fife citizens to The Gathering Place open house scheduled for Saturday, March 31, 2007. The community has an opportunity to help shape the vision for The Gathering Place. He referred to land situated south of 20th Street and east of 54th Avenue. Planning Commissioners are suggesting the Council consider a moratorium on industrial development (in excess of 50,000 square feet). The land is valuable and provides an excellent location for other types of land uses. Mr. Albertson encouraged the Council to take a closer look at the area and perhaps develop a concept for future development that will make Fife a more livable community. He said he is interested in establishing a better transition between residential and industrial uses. Copies of the Planning Commission's March 5, 2007 meeting minutes were distributed to the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| a. Approval of Minutes: | Date: | March 13, 2007 Council Meeting |
| b. Approval of Vouchers: | | |
| Claims: #68116-68246 | | \$457,233.02 |
| Payroll: #42402-42459 | | \$278,614.97 |

ADOPT:

- c. #1624-07, Inattention to Driving

Motion

Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to adopt the consent agenda.

City Attorney Forbes read the title of Ordinance #1624-07; Inattention to Driving:

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, adding a new Chapter 10.30 entitled, "Inattention to

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The Community Center is now offering a seniors exercise class every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and another art class is scheduled for the next quarter. Councilmember de Booy encouraged Fife citizens to get out and enjoy the City's walking trails and to participate at The Gathering Place public meeting on March 31, 2007. The workshop begins at 10:00 a.m. and will be held at the Fife Community Center.

Councilmember Edwards reported CLICK! Channel 86 is moving to Comcast Channel 22. New broadcast times for City Council meetings are 9:00 p.m. on Thursdays, 2:30 a.m. on Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. on Sundays, and 10:00 p.m. on Mondays.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

PUBLIC HEARING

360Networks Franchise

Mayor Kelley reported the public hearing to consider the 360Networks Telecommunications franchise is a continuation of the February 27, 2007 public hearing.

Director Blount reported the proposed ordinance is housekeeping in nature. 360Networks provides long-haul transmission lines, but no direct customer services in Fife. The facilities are already in the ground and there are no immediate plans to construct new facilities. The license is expiring and the organization is moving to a franchise arrangement.

There was no public testimony. Mayor Kelley closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Abovenet Franchise

Mayor Kelley opened the hearing at 7:22 p.m. to consider the merits of a franchise to Abovenet for maintenance of fiber optic and conduit in Fife rights-of-way.

Director Blount reported the proposal mirrors that for 360Networks. There are no immediate plans to build new facilities. The company wants to operate under a franchise arrangement since the current license is expiring.

The Council was provided with a revised page 16 of proposed Ordinance No. 1626-07 amending Section 14, "Surety, surety fund."

There were no public comments.

Mayor Kelley closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

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ORDINANCES

**#1623-07,
360Networks
Franchise – First
Reading**

Interim Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Ordinance No. 1623-07:

An ordinance granting to 360Networks (USA) Inc., a domestic Nevada Corporation, a non-exclusive franchise to use the public rights-of-way to provide noncable telecommunications service, subject to certain conditions and duties as specified, consistent with Title 11, Fife Municipal Code.

Motion

Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 1623-07; 360Networks Franchise.

Discussion ensued about new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules for franchises and whether the new rules affect the proposed agreement. Mr. Blount reported that staff addressed the new rules with the applicants. City Attorney Forbes reported legal counsel also reviewed federal and state rules. The current franchise only regulates use of City rights-of-way. All new requirements have been satisfied.

Councilmember de Booy asked about the terms of the franchise agreement. Director Blount reported the term of the agreement is 10 years. City Attorney Forbes added the agreement also includes a renewal provision.

In response to a question from Councilmember Cerqui about fees, Director Blount confirmed both 360Networks and Abovenet are required to pay the applicable franchise fees in effect at the time of renewal.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**#1626-07, Abovenet
Franchise – First
Reading**

Interim Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Ordinance No. 1626-07:

An ordinance granting to Abovenet Communications, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, a non-exclusive franchise to use the public rights-of-way to provide noncable telecommunications service, subject to certain conditions and duties as specified, consistent with Title 11, Fife Municipal Code.

Motion

Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 1626-07; Abovenet Franchise. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

**#1107-07, Award
Parks and Recreation
Open Space Plan**

Director Reuter reported staff is seeking the Council's authorization to award a contract to Conservation Technix for completion of the City of Fife Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROSP). He outlined the Request for Proposals (RFP) process and identified the panelists on the March 8, 2007 interview panel. Four very qualified firms submitted an RFP and were invited to interview. Conservation Technix was the panel's top choice.

Interim Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution No. 1107-07:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington authorizing execution of a contract with Conservation Technix for completion of the City of Fife Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan.

Motion

Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to adopt Resolution #1107-07; Award Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan.

Councilmember Cerqui asked whether the PROSP will be adopted as part of the City's overall comprehensive plan. Director Reuter answered an executive summary will be incorporated into the Parks and Recreation element of the Fife Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Cerqui asked whether the PROSP will identify capital improvements. Director Reuter replied the goal is to identify long-range capital program needs for parks, trails, and recreation programs. Agencies offering grant funds require cities to have an updated and adopted PROSP to receive grant funds. The last plan was updated in 2001.

Councilmember de Booy conveyed confidence about the firm recommended for selection. Conservation Technix has completed similar projects and is familiar with the planning process and grant programs.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**#1108-07, City Net
Agreement with City
of Tacoma**

Assistant City Manager Reinbold reported during the City's recent change to a new telephone system, staff discovered that its provider, Eschelon, unbundled its system and started charging unit prices. The City of Tacoma has a system and service that offers a lower rate and will save the City approximately \$50 a month. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1108-07, authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the City of Tacoma for communication services.

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Interim Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution No. 1108-07:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington to authorize the City Manager to enter into an interlocal agreement between the City of Fife and the City of Tacoma for installation, maintenance, and operation of I-Net within the public rights-of-way.

Motion

Councilmember Edwards moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to adopt Resolution No. #1108-07; City Net Agreement with City of Tacoma.

Discussion ensued about the intent of item #4.5.2 at the bottom of page 5 of the proposed agreement. Assistant City Manager Reinbold clarified that the provision allows Fife to protect an area in the event of an emergency and to recover associated costs rather than waiting for Tacoma to respond.

Director Blount added the section falls under the “Construction, Installation, Maintenance, and Operation” section of the agreement. He provided an example illustrating how Fife would have the authority to respond to an emergency situation.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY MANAGER
REPORT**

Assistant City Manger Reinbold briefed the Council on the following activities and upcoming events:

- Fife’s Easter egg hunt, sponsored by the City’s Parks and Recreation Department and the Lions Club, is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on April 7, 2007 at Dacca Park.
- The Gathering Place public forum is scheduled for Saturday, March 31, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Fife Community Center.
- Many of the community attended the Latino meeting last week. He thanked the Police Department for its efforts to bring the community closer together.
- Tacoma has a “City of Destiny” awards program. David Kentland, a City of Fife employee is a recipient of a “Neighborhood Group/Community Partnership” award.
- Additional jubilee events in recognition of Fife’s 50th birthday are planned as follows:
 - ❖ April: Parks Appreciation Day on April 28, 2007 at Memorial Park beginning at 10:00 a.m.

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- ❖ May: Possible opening of 62nd Street
- ❖ June: New signal installation at 54th and 23rd Streets
- ❖ July: Community barbecue and movie is scheduled for June 21, 2007 at Dacca Park
- ❖ August: “National Night Out” and “Fife Night” at the Tacoma Rainiers game
- ❖ September: Dragon Boats competition with the City of Tacoma. Completion of the sidewalks along Valley Avenue is anticipated.
- ❖ October: The Fife Harvest Festival is planned for October 6, 2007 at Dacca Park
- ❖ November: (nothing yet scheduled)
- ❖ December: Tree lighting ceremony

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Edwards thanked City staff and the Parks Department for their work to ensure a successful 50th birthday party celebration. It was well attended and fun. Several staff members attended a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conference last week. Police Chief Blackburn described the recovery and mitigation for the all hazards class. There are things that can be done in the community to further address emergency preparedness. A meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2007 with Pierce County Emergency Management to talk about implementing some of the ideas.

Councilmembers Cerqui and de Booy reminded and encouraged the public to attend and participate in The Gathering Place public meeting.

Mayor Kelley reported the communities of Fife and Milton will have a daffodil float for the Daffodil Parade that will take place on Saturday, April 21, 2007. The float will also make an appearance in the Fife Harvest Festival Parade.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kelley adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Mike Kelley, Mayor

Jim Reinbold, Assistant City Manager

Prepared by Cheri Lindgren, Recording Secretary
Puget Sound Meeting Services