

CALL TO ORDER The Regular meeting of the Seaside City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Don Larson.

ATTENDANCE Present: Mayor Don Larson, Council President Stubby Lyons, Councilors Don Johnson, Larry Haller, Tim Tolan, Gary Diebolt, and Dave Moore, Student Representative Clare McEwan.

 Absent: None

 Also Present: Mark Winstanley, City Manager; Neal Wallace, Public Works Director; Russ Vandenberg, Convention Center General Manager; Kevin Cupples, Planning Director; Dale Kamrath, Seaside Fire Chief; Bob Gross, Seaside Police Chief; Mikaela Norval, Tourism Director; Rod Jones, Seaside Signal; Pamela Robel, Daily Astorian.

 Mayor Larson asked to move agenda item 12, comments from the student representative before agenda item 7, consent agenda.

 Council consensus to move agenda item 12 before agenda item 7.

AGENDA Motion to approve the December 17, 2007, agenda with the change; carried unanimously. (Tolan/Lyons)

MINUTES Motion to approve the November 26, 2007, minutes; carried unanimously. (Johnson/Diebolt)

CONFLICT Mayor Larson asked whether any Councilor wished to declare a conflict of interest.

 No one declared a conflict of interest.

COMMENTS – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE Clare McEwan stated students were excited to have a week off from school because of the storm. Ms. McEwan further stated she was working on her Pacifica Project, the Festival of Trees which was a fundraiser for Providence Seaside Hospital. The Festival of Trees event raised \$100,000.00 for the hospital. Ms. McEwan further stated the school was working on winter week, raising canned foods for the food bank and decorating the halls.

 Mayor Larson asked if \$100,000.00 was the highest amount that had been raised.

 Ms. McEwan stated \$100,000.00 was the highest amount raised and this was the tenth year for the event.

CONSENT AGENDA Motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$523,222.03; carried unanimously. (Johnson/Lyons)

VACANCY – COMMUNITY CENTER & SENIOR COMM. Mayor Larson stated there were two vacancies on the Community Center and Senior Commission with no applications received. Mayor Larson asked the press to keep advertising the vacancies.

VACANCY – PLANNING COMMISSION Mayor Larson stated there was one vacancy on the Planning Commission and one application that was withdrawn and one application received from Sara Fasoldt. Mayor Larson asked Council what they wished to do.

 Councilor Johnson stated the vacancy should be left open for more applicants.

 Councilor Diebolt stated Council should appoint the applicant.

Motion to appoint Sara Fasoldt to the Planning Commission; carried unanimously. (Diebolt/Tolan)

 Term expiration for Sara Fasoldt would be December 31, 2011.

VACANCY – TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE Mayor Larson stated there were five vacancies on the Tourism Advisory Committee and five applications received. Mayor Larson asked Council what they wished to do.

 Councilor Diebolt stated the applicants should be interviewed.

 Mayor Larson asked Council if they wished to close the applications.

 Councilor Haller stated applications should be left open until the first meeting in January.

 Councilor Tolan suggested the interviews be scheduled for the first meeting in January.

 Council consensus to interview all applicants prior to the City Council meeting January 14, 2008.

 Mayor Larson asked the press to keep advertising the vacancy.

**VACANCY –
BUILDING BOARD
OF APPEALS**

Mayor Larson stated there was one vacancy with no applications received for the Building Board of Appeals. Mayor Larson asked the press to advertise the vacancy.

**VACANCY –
LIBRARY BOARD**

Mayor Larson stated there was one vacancy with no applications received for the Library Board. Mayor Larson asked the press to advertise the vacancy.

**CONV. CTR. COMM.
MEMBER APPEAL**

Mayor Larson stated there was an appeal letter received from Nancy McKeown to stay on the Convention Center Commission. Mayor Larson asked Ms. McKeown if there was anything she would like to add to the letter.

Ms. McKeown stated she would like to have the opportunity to continue serving on the Convention Center Commission and she understood the importance of attending the meetings.

Councilor Haller stated he knew that Ms. McKeown's business was important and if Ms. McKeown wanted to serve as a member on the Convention Center Commission the date of the meeting should be remembered so she was able to attend.

Ms. McKeown stated she agreed.

Motion to reappoint Nancy McKeown to the Convention Center Commission; carried unanimously. (Haller/Lyons)

**UPDATE/RECOMMEND
CONV. CTR. COMM.**

Russ Vandenberg, Convention Center General Manager, stated the update and recommendations would come from the Convention Center Commission members. Mr. Vandenberg further stated the detailed report for the Convention Center would be on the City Council agenda in February.

Dana Phillips, Convention Center Commission President, thanked the Commission members and Council for the support in the budget process, the Commission would not have been able to accomplish the projects that had been done the last several years. Ms. Phillips stated the projects that had been completed at the Convention Center the last twelve months had been a 42" Plasma Information Screen and a 32" screen in the west lobby installed, renamed the Main and Exhibit Hall to the Pacific and Necanicum Rooms, installed new stage flooring in the Pacific Room, implemented a new scheduling and booking program, installed new sound system in Pacific Room, upgraded lighting system in Pacific Room, installed third side of reader board on south side of exterior sign, installed new baby changing stations in lobby restrooms, developed new logo, designed new interior office space, developed new web-site with enhanced facility layouts, and replaced metal railing on balcony with new glass enclosure. The projects that were pending were installing new interior signage and installing a new stage curtain.

Jeff Kilday, Convention Center Commission Member, stated the Commission had looked at the focus and thought about where the future was. What was going on, what was happening, and what needed to be fixed. The Commission was looking further down the line with what would happen in the future for meetings, planning and parking. Over the years there had been several potential meetings that could not be held at the Convention Center because of the size of the facility. The facility was drawing more and more people which was good and the bad part was the facility was actually not large enough. Mr. Kilday further stated what the Commission would like to propose was to look at the potential of enlarging the Convention Center facility in some fashion. The proposal was for a multi purpose facility and parking structure. The area that was being looked at was directly west of the Convention Center where there were two lots of land which was now being used for parking. This would increase the amount of space that was available for meetings and increase the parking for the Convention Center and businesses downtown. Mr. Kilday further stated the entire facility was pretty much booked every weekend from now until summer. As the facility received more conventions the one parking area was being filled with people at the conventions and the public. Mr. Kilday further stated there was information added to the Council packet for Convention Center Lost Business Opportunities for 2007. The information provided was for businesses that wanted to book a convention and were turned away because there was nothing available to them. If the facility were considered the funding would come from outside the City, for instance room tax revenue from tourist, potential lottery dollars, grants from transportation and state tax received from room revenue all could be applied for. Mr. Kilday further stated one of the largest revenue producers was the Les Schwab Convention that was held in Seaside for the last several years which became so large that the facility could not accommodate them anymore. The Les Schwab Convention could be held in a multi use facility along with wrestling tournaments, ballet dance competitions, cheerleading championships, winter auto shows, and concerts among other events. Mr. Kilday further stated the Commission was interested in the City Council developing an Ad Hoc Committee to take a look at whether a multi use facility would be potentially right for the City. There could be a workshop with the City Council and invite the public so everyone was aware of what was going on and the issues could be discussed.

Councilor Haller recommended Council schedule a workshop with the Convention Center Commission sometime after the New Year.

Council consensus to schedule a workshop to discuss the potential of establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for a multi use facility proposal.

Mayor Larson asked Council if they would like to schedule the workshop for Thursday, January 17, 2008, at 6:30 pm.

Council consensus to schedule the workshop for Thursday, January 17, 2008.

Mayor Larson stated the meeting could be held at the Convention Center.

Mr. Vandenberg stated he would check the availability of the Convention Center.

**BID RESULTS –
2008 DOWNTOWN
CROSSWALKS**

Neal Wallace, Public Works Director, stated the City of Seaside received one bid from Clean-Sweep Maintenance for the 2008 Downtown Crosswalks Project Bid; their bid came in at \$169,609.18. Clean-Sweep was the contractor on the first Downtown Crosswalk Project and the project was done very well. Staff recommended accepting the bid from Clean-Sweep Maintenance.

Motion to accept the bid from Clean-Sweep Maintenance in the amount of \$169,609.18 for the 2008 Downtown Crosswalks Project; carried unanimously. (Haller/Johnson)

Mayor Larson asked what intersections would be redone.

Mr. Wallace stated the intersection at 1st and Holladay, crosswalk at Oceanway and Holladay, intersection at Avenue 'A' and Franklin, and the two crosswalks on each side of the Avenue 'A' Bridge.

Mayor Larson asked what the deadline would be.

Mr. Wallace stated the deadline was to have the project completed before Presidents Day.

RESOLUTION #3640

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SEASIDE, OREGON, RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY AND IDENTIFYING THE INITIAL EFFORTS THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO HELP ADDRESS THE ISSUE AT THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL

Kevin Cupples, Planning Director, stated the resolution was a follow up to information the City Council and Planning Commission had been working on. The resolution would set up a list to help lay a foundation to develop affordable housing in Seaside and within the entire region. There was a housing market that was somewhat inflated in price over and above what was normally expected for the area simply because of the second home buyers that were entering into our market which then drives the price of housing and rentals up. In order to help alleviate the problem the resolution basically set up a number of items the City Council, Planning Commission and City as a whole could work on and would establish a couple of things as short term and long term.

Mayor Larson asked for public comments and there were no comments.

Mayor Larson asked for Council comments and there were no comments.

Motion to read Resolution #3640 by title only; carried unanimously. (Haller/Johnson)

Motion to adopt Resolution #3640; carried unanimously. (Haller/Johnson)

**STORM REPORT –
FOLLOW UP**

Mark Winstanley, City Manager, stated the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Public Works Director, Convention Center General Manager and Seaside Parks and Recreation Director would all speak about the storm week. Mr. Winstanley further stated the partnership with the Park and Recreation District was a very important factor during the storm because without that partnership the City would not have been able to function as well. This was certainly one of the most severe storms Seaside has had in a long time and with the storm there were many challenges in the community. Through the dedication of the City employees, department heads, Staff working with the department heads, as well as the resourcefulness of an educated group of citizens in the community the City was able to not only handle the storm but actually thrive through the adversity of the storm. Mr. Winstanley further stated that he wanted people to understand the water system was not compromised at any time during the storm. The sewer system was handled relatively easy for a couple of days but there were a number of challenges the other days the electricity was out. An employee in the sewer department, Tom Hecox, made two trips to Portland in one day to make sure one of the generators that were being used to run the sewer treatment plant and several of the pump stations was working. The Public Works Department was out in the City during the storm to remove trees and solve other issues that were being presented to them because of the severity of the storm. When the storm was over the department was still out there removing trees, replacing signs and fixing the buildings. The Police Department did an unbelievable job and again Police Officers were out in the middle of the storm to take care of any problems and to make sure the City was safe. The Police Officers were doing welfare checks after the storm was over. The Police Department increased the number of officers that were out in the City to make sure there were no problems and that both property and people were safe during the event.

The community knows what a wonderful Fire Department the City has and the dedication of the volunteers. The Fire Chief and Fire Marshall both worked an unbelievable number of hours and in addition there was a dedicated group of volunteers that were out handling emergency rescue calls, fire calls as well as helping the Public Works Department handle trees with power lines down. The fire station had fire personnel in the building continuously during the five days. The fire department also went over to help out with moving the assisted living people from the third floor to a lower floor so the staff could care for them better. The Community Center and the Park and Recreation District did a marvelous job providing an area where people could come to get warm, something to eat and stay if they needed to. Mary Blake and her staff took care of many fragile people during the five days. The library was open the entire time the City was without power and the library was very busy with book readership going up. The library provided the opportunity for people to interact with other people in the community. The last group that needed to be complimented was the citizens of Seaside. There were people volunteering to help remove trees to make sure streets were open, checking on neighbors to make sure they were ok, donated food to the community center and other places so people had things to eat and people donated their time to help out elsewhere in the community.

Bob Gross, Seaside Police Chief, stated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated first thing Monday morning and at the same time the shelters were activated which was a challenge because staff could not get to the shelter because of fallen trees. The Police Department handled 1,453 incoming phone calls for the five days with no electricity. The number of calls received and outgoing were approximately 3,000 in the five day period. During the daytime there were four officers on shift including the Lieutenant and Police Chief. During the evening there were four officers and a Sergeant to make sure no one took advantage of the power outage especially in the downtown and business areas in the Community. The storm caused damage to commercial buildings with lost windows and damaged roofs. There were three significant gas leaks and one required the evacuation of a neighborhood. There were twenty-eight welfare checks conducted, five unsecured premises, three accidents, one burglary of a business, two gas thefts, one generator stolen, one drunk driver arrested and a party that was out of hand and five people were arrested. Most every officer in the department worked twelve to sixteen hours a day through the five day period and many of the officers visited all three shelters to just say hi and find out how people were doing. Chief Gross further stated by Wednesday some people were back to their routines, joggers jogging down the street, and people raking up their yards which was remarkable to see people's resilience in the community. The other remarkable thing was approximately an hour and half after the power was turned on the community seemed to be pretty much back to normal.

Dale Kamrath, Seaside Fire Chief, stated the fire department was very busy from the first initial storm related call on Sunday. Thirty-two hours later the fire department had responded to forty alarms which the majority were wires down and trees in the roadway. In the five and half days during the storm there were sixty-five storm related and recovery calls. During the storm the fire department averaged twenty-three volunteers in the facility to respond to calls and there were seven to eight families that hung around the fire station. Monday the department averaged seventeen to twenty-three personnel during the day, reducing down to fourteen on Tuesday, and thirteen on Friday. The majority of the activities were medical, downed wires, trees in roadways, and roofs off structures. The department assisted the Public Works Department Tuesday through Friday in clearing roadways and public right of ways. Chief Kamrath further stated Friday when the power was turned on there was ninety wild minutes of frustration chasing the electrical issues around.

Mary Blake, Parks and Recreation District Manager, stated the week of the storm was one of the most emotional experiences she had ever gone through. Staff and volunteers were at the Community Center to provide food, shelter and care and were able to do all of these things with patience, compassion, laughter and joy. The kitchen was set up and Thugz off Drugz showed up and were there helping from the beginning to the end. There were people who worked at the Community Center on a volunteer basis that not only helped out but spent the night there. The first night there were twenty-one people who spent the night, second night there were twenty-two with the number of people dropping off each night. There were one hundred and forty eight continuous hours that started with pancakes Monday morning at 10:00 am and finished with a meal at 2:00 pm when Congressman David Wu was going through the Community Center. There were approximately six thousand meals served and meals also went out to people who were house bound and on the Meals on Wheels program. The Ham Radio Operators were at the Community Center and were the communication for the City. There were calls from 12th Avenue Grocery and Kens Market who offered us thousands of dollars of food. Taco Time also offered us food to use at the Community Center and there was also fresh crab and fettuccini that was served one night. Since we were keeping people overnight Red Cross brought in cots and blankets and there was a nurse to take care of people. The week brought out the absolute best out in people. Ms. Blake further stated the Community Center was contemplating having a neighborhood get together on a monthly basis.

Mayor Larson stated once Ms. Blake and her staff opened up the Community Center then people really started volunteering and even brought blankets to sleep with. There were people that had a marvelous couple of meals and there were people who were very fragile.

Russ Vandenberg, Convention Center General Manager, thanked all the volunteers in the City who stepped up to help their neighbors and people they did not even know get through the storm. Mr. Vandenberg stated he was in the EOC office several days through the week and saw the critical roles the team members played. Mr. Vandenberg further stated the Convention Center donated a room for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to set up headquarters for those people who experienced losses in their homes and their businesses to apply for federal aid. The agency would be at the Convention Center in the Riverview Room for at least two to three weeks, every day Monday through Saturday, 9:00am to 6:00pm. Individuals could also apply by phone and by website. Mr. Vandenberg further stated there was also a Community Service Representative, Small Business Representative, Employment Agency, Insurance Advocate, Hazard Mitigation Team and Applicant Assistance Personnel at the Convention Center.

Neal Wallace, Public Works Director, stated he had the opportunity to go out in the Community and area outside of Seaside to get some photos thanks to Gary Terrill at Seaside Helicopters. Mr. Wallace further stated the cooperative effort during storm week was awe inspiring. Mr. Wallace presented photos by PowerPoint to the Council and the public.

Mayor Larson stated he was amazed because Sunday afternoon there were approximately thirty fire fighters around the station. Mayor Larson further stated he covered the whole City driving and watching. The EOC went smoothly and to see Mr. Winstanley and the EOC at work was super. Frank Kaim was downstairs at the Police Department running the Ham Radio. Mayor Larson further stated he had never ever seen a Community that showed so much love, care and concern. The three places that opened to feed people and give them a place to go was amazing. Mayor Larson further stated it was very hard to say Thank you and mean it deep enough and people should be proud to live in Seaside because everyone cared. Mayor Larson thanked everyone kindly from the bottom of his heart. The City Staff was at City Hall answering the door, counter and occasionally the phone.

Mr. Winstanley stated he had the pleasure to meet with more than one Portland Television Channel Crew. The reporters that came to Seaside to cover a disaster were disappointed because there was not a disaster to provide for them. The remarks the reporters made off camera was they came to Seaside and found a small Community where people cared about other members of the community and took care of each other. The reporters knew they would not get the story on the news because they were not sent here to cover what they found. Mr. Winstanley further stated small communities take care of themselves and that was what our community did.

COMMENTS – PUBLIC Russ Earl, Seaside, stated there were possibly other alternatives that could be taken instead of the Burkhart Farm as a bio-solids disposal area. Mr. Earl further stated he would like to discuss the issue further down the road.

COMMENTS – COUNCIL Council President Lyons stated he took a drive through the Lewis and Clark Road and traveled by special invitation through Surf Pines. Mr. Lyons further stated he had not seen hills and vegetation shot up like that since he was in the Marine Corp in Korea. Council President Lyons further stated there was a State Football Championship won in 1994. There was a great athlete named Casey Jackson and his dad Larry Jackson owned Jackson and Son Oil and Wednesday before the electricity came on Casey Jackson was on a six or seven foot ladder and pumped over twenty-two hundred gallons of gasoline in five gallon tanks by hand.

Councilor Moore stated he was impressed with how well the EOC handled everything.

Councilor Johnson stated there were not enough thanks in the world for what the citizens and Staff had done and it was really heartfelt to see the community pull together like Seaside did.

Councilor Haller thanked the staff and everyone for doing a great job. Ms. Blake always makes things nice for everyone and did a great job. Councilor Haller further stated he was lucky to live in a community like Seaside.

Mayor Larson stated he spoke on the phone today with some members of the Clatsop County Disaster Relief Fund and through the Oregon Community Foundation they would be giving funds as early as this Thursday. The relief would be for food, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene items, heat, transportation, utility expenses, and the list goes on and on. There would be a press release on the information Tuesday, December 18, 2007. Mayor Larson further stated he met with the Governor who promised there were problems that needed to be taken care of with the communications system in the State of Oregon.

COMMENTS – STAFF None

ADJOURNMENT The regular meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Kim Jordan, Secretary

DON LARSON, MAYOR