

**MINUTES
PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 25, 2004**

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(Note: These minutes are not verbatim. Recorded tapes are available upon request.)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Pierce County Council was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Moss.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The pledge was led by Moss, followed by a Moment of Silence in tribute to our men and women in the Military.

III. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Shawn Bunney, Barbara Gelman, Calvin Goings, Terry Lee, Harold Moss, Dick Muri, and Kevin Wimsett.

Council Staff Present: Patty Face, Deputy Clerk of the Council; Steve Gross, Deputy Legal Counsel; Susan Long, Administrator for Legal and Operations; Hugh Taylor, Research Analyst; and Tom Weber, Administrator for Research and Policy.

There were approximately 35 visitors present.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Wimsett moved approval of the Agenda; motion seconded and passed on a voice vote.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes

1. The minutes of the April 27, 2004, regular Council meeting.

b. Action on Ordinances (refer, set date of hearing)

1. PROPOSAL NO. 2004-40, AN ORDINANCE OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR TIMBER LAND CLASSIFICATION UNDER CURRENT USE ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED

WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED BOUNDARIES OF PIERCE COUNTY; AND ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT. (APPLICATION NO. OST18-03, JIMMY AND ALETA BRAZZLE - SILVER LAKE AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST27-03, WAYNE ARNOLD AND BONNIE JO CHRISTNER - TULE LAKE/McKENNA AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST28-03, DARRELL AND MARIA THERESA BROWN - SILVER LAKE AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST29-03, J. JOSEF AND LISA M. GAHMS - SILVER LAKE AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST30-03 - JEFFREY AND YUMI VAUGHT - TULE LAKE/McKENNA AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST32-03, CARL LINDEN AND SIDNEY PORTER - ALDER LAKE AREA; APPLICATION NO. OST34-03, CHARLES AND LYNN BUTLER - EATONVILLE AREA; AND APPLICATION NO. OST35-03, MICHAEL AND NONA JACKSON - ORTING AREA)

Sponsored by: Councilmember Calvin Goings

Contact person: Chad Williams, 798-3683

For referral to the Community Development Committee
To be heard in the Community Development Committee on
June 7, 2004

Suggested date of Council hearing: June 29, 2004

2. PROPOSAL NO. 2004-41, AN ORDINANCE OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR OPEN SPACE CLASSIFICATION UNDER CURRENT USE ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED BOUNDARIES OF PIERCE COUNTY; AND ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT. (APPLICATION NO. OS14-03, QUINNETT FAMILY TRUST - EATONVILLE AREA; APPLICATION NO. OS19-03, ALICE JANET McABEE - GRAHAM AREA; APPLICATION NO. OS31-03, JOANN AND BRUCE DOUGLASS - PARKLAND AREA; APPLICATION NO. OS33-03, PETER SETO AND NATALIE BATES - ANDERSON ISLAND AREA; AND APPLICATION NO. OS36-03, WILLIAM AND ANN CUNNINGHAM - SPANAWAY AREA)

Sponsored by: Councilmember Calvin Goings

Contact person: Chad Williams, 798-3683

For referral to the Community Development Committee
To be heard in the Community Development Committee on
June 7, 2004

Suggested date of Council hearing: June 29, 2004

c. Action on Resolutions (refer, set date of hearing)

1. PROPOSAL NO. R2004-79, A RESOLUTION OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE "PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL STRATEGIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN"; AND REQUIRING AN UPDATE OF THE PLAN EVERY TWO YEARS.

Sponsored by: Councilmember Harold Moss

Contact person: Mardy Fairchild, 798-7778

For referral to the Rules & Operations Committee

2. PROPOSAL NO. R2004-80, A RESOLUTION OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE SOUTH HILL URBAN VILLAGES IMPLEMENTATION STUDY; SETTING FORTH A PHASED IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE; INITIATING AMENDMENTS TO THE PIERCE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND DESIGN STANDARDS AFFECTING THE SOUTH HILL COMMUNITY PLAN AREA, IN TITLE 18A AND CHAPTER 18J.50 OF THE PIERCE COUNTY CODE; REQUESTING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW; REFERRING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND SOUTH HILL LAND USE ADVISORY COMMISSION; SETTING A DATE FOR THE COMMISSIONS TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS BACK TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL.
Sponsored by: Councilmembers Calvin Goings and Kevin Wimsett
Contact person: Anna Graham, 798-6253
For referral to the Community Development Committee
To be heard in the Community Development Committee on June 7, 2004

d. Other Items

Wimsett moved approval of the Consent Agenda; motion seconded and passed on a roll call vote of seven to zero.

VI. MESSAGES FROM EXECUTIVE/JUDGES/PROSECUTING ATTORNEY - None

VII. PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, AND/OR APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Presentation: "Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant" awarded to Pierce County's Chambers Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, presented by the Department of Ecology to Pierce County Executive and County Council.

Moss introduced Kelly Susewind, Washington State Department of Ecology (WSDOE), Water Quality Programs. Susewind explained water quality operations and award criteria. He commended Pierce County's Wastewater Treatment Plant and presented the award to Mark Newport, on behalf of Pierce County. Newport acknowledged team members and thanked the Department of Ecology for the award, and Councilmembers for the recognition. Executive Ladenburg commended the Department for their high level of competence.

2. Presentation: Chambers Creek Properties Master Site Plan for leadership in the development of Parks & Public Lands presented by Michael Kattermann, President, Washington Chapter American Planning Association (APA),

to Pierce County Executive and County Council. Received at APA National Conference on April 27, 2004, in Washington, D.C.

3. Presentation: Chambers Creek Properties Master Site Plan for "demonstrated excellence in the Planning profession and for raising the standards for effective County planning", presented by Michael Kattermann, President, Washington Chapter American Planning Association (APA), to Pierce County Executive and County Council. Received at the National Association of County Planners (NACP) Annual Meeting on April 27, 2004, in Washington, D.C.

Moss introduced Kattermann, who provided a history of APA, project criteria and selection.

Kattermann recognized Joe Scorcio and Anne-Marie Marshall-Dody, Public Works and Utilities Department, for their demonstrated excellence in planning, and the success of the Chambers Creek Master Site Plan, and presented them with the awards. Kattermann congratulated County Executive Ladenburg, Councilmembers, predecessors, County staff, project team members, and the public on the Chambers Creek Properties Master Site Plan Project.

Ladenburg commended the Department and Staff Members for their accomplishments.

Scorcio thanked Kattermann, the Executive and Councilmembers, for the opportunity to receive professional recognition for the Project.

Marshall-Dody thanked Kattermann, the Executive and Councilmembers, for the honor.

VIII. ORDINANCES

PROPOSAL NO. 2004-20, AN ORDINANCE OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR OPEN SPACE CLASSIFICATION UNDER CURRENT USE ASSESSMENT ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED BOUNDARIES OF PIERCE COUNTY; AND ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT. (APPLICATION NO. OS2-03, ROBERT L. BERG - ORTING AREA; APPLICATION NO. OS4-03, KIMBERLEY POWELL - EATONVILLE AREA; AND APPLICATION NO. OS6-03, NICK AND JOLEEN REYNOLDS - WAUNA AREA)

Wimsett moved adoption; motion seconded. The Clerk read the title into the record.

Gross explained the current use assessment program and provided information on the Proposal.

The Chair called for public testimony; there was no response. The Proposal passed on a roll call vote of seven to zero.

IX. RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSAL NO. R2004-68s, A RESOLUTION OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL FINDING THAT THE PROVISIO INCLUDED IN ORDINANCE NO. 2003-107s RELATING TO THE CHAMBERS CREEK GOLF COURSE HAS BEEN SATISFIED; AUTHORIZING FURTHER EXPENDITURES FROM THE CHAMBERS CREEK GOLF COURSE FUND CONSISTENT WITH THE ADOPTED 2004 BUDGET; ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR CONSIDERING FUTURE EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE GOLF COURSE; ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS RELATED TO THE GOLF COURSE; REQUESTING THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF LODGING FACILITIES BE EXPLORED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GOLF COURSE; REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE TO SEEK FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE AND THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD FOR ANY NEEDED OFF-SITE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS RESULTING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHAMBERS CREEK GOLF COURSE; ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR CONTINUED REPORTING OF GOLF COURSE RELATED EXPENSES; AND EXPRESSING THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL'S INTENT REGARDING BOND FUNDING FOR THE CHAMBERS CREEK GOLF COURSE PROJECT SHOULD IT BE CONSTRUCTED.

Wimsett moved adoption; motion seconded. The Clerk read the title into the record.

Taylor provided Proposal history, highlighted the substitute's changes, and stated the substitute Proposal received a do pass recommendation from the Rules and Operations Committee on April 26, 2004.

Executive Ladenburg thanked the Council for working on the Project. He emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships at the County, and commented on the public process that will be involved as the golf course project moves forward. Ladenburg stated he did not see a need for an amendment.

On behalf of County employees, Ladenburg highlighted several large projects in which County employees have done excellent work. Ladenburg urged Councilmembers to adopt the Resolution.

In response to Bunney's question regarding whether the Proposal adequately searches and explores the private sector,

Ladenburg stated the Robert Trent Jones team is among the best experts in the world.

Lee asked the Executive for a timeline on the golf course project. Ladenburg stated the timeline will depend on several factors, including the design project, project modifications, the weather, and grow-in period. He estimated the earliest potential completion date to be in 2006.

Wimsett moved Council Amendment No. 1 on blue; motion seconded. A copy of the amendment is included with these minutes as Attachment I.

Moss explained the motion was a striking amendment. The Clerk read the title into the record.

Wimsett thanked Muri for co-sponsoring the amendment. He provided a brief overview of the amendment and its alternative path. Wimsett explained that the current Resolution places an overwhelming majority of financial risk on Pierce County and he believes the County should seek private developers to finance the project and take the financial risk. Wimsett stated a safer and conservative approach would involve leasing the property to a private developer so the County would have a guaranteed annual income, and minimize the risk. Wimsett urged fellow Councilmembers to support the amendment.

Muri thanked Wimsett for his work on the amendment. He expressed Economic Development concerns regarding golf courses in the County that are not performing well financially. He commented on two other golf courses being built in the County, one at DuPont and the other at Mount Rainier. Muri expressed support for a golf course through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to a private developer. Muri encouraged fellow Councilmembers to support the amendment.

Public Testimony

Joseph Price expressed project concerns at taxpayer expense. He supported the amendment.

Curtis Titus expressed project concerns. He supported the amendment.

Fred Shanaman, Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Commission, expressed concerns for a high-end privately owned golf course for the wealthy.

Karl Anderson opposed the amendment.

James Postma presented his proposal for a limited liability partnership; a leased golf course and resort. His plan would include PGA tours contributing to revenues, and lowered green fees for the general public, without bonds and loans. A copy of his handout is contained in the Resolution file. He supported the amendment.

Don Johnson thanked Councilmembers Muri and Wimsett for the amendment. He expressed opposition to a high-end golf course, but was supportive of leasing the land to private developers to develop a golf course. He supported the amendment.

David Thompsen testified on the amendment.

Edward Dales commented on the state of several golf courses across the Country, and testified that he finds it difficult for the County to invest in a high-end golf course and lodging.

The amendment was defeated on a roll call vote of five to two.

The Chair called for public testimony on the Proposal.

Public Testimony

Karl Anderson testified that a public high-end golf course would be a remarkable asset and he urged Councilmembers to adopt the Resolution.

Curtis Titus testified that great communities are for everybody and he was opposed to the Resolution.

Joseph Price read a statement from Dick Susa into the record, opposing the Resolution and its use of taxpayers' public monies; and expressing support for the Wimsett and Muri amendment for private funding.

Brad Moeller, representing the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Commission, and The Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitor Bureau, applauded the County's efforts and supported the Resolution. He testified that a golf course would be a great place to host amateur high school state championships; the USGA; the PGA; and others, and promote tourism revenues in the County.

Bruce Kendall, President, Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board, testified in support of the Resolution. He testified that the EDB has looked at the proposed golf course and their analysis determined there would be new revenues resulting from a high-end golf course, while protecting the sewer utility and preserving its sewer treatment capacity.

Bob Henkel testified his opposition to the Proposal and to the Council's Rules and Operations Committee meeting not being televised. Henkel was gaveled out of order by Chair Moss.

Moss clarified that the Rules and Operations Committee meetings are seldom televised, and the Council received short notice from the golf course contractor for the Rules and Operations Committee meeting.

Moss reiterated the Council's intent is to make sure a thorough airing and discussion takes place. He explained that the Council is conducting the business of the people on the expenditure of millions of dollars if the project goes through, and he requested Henkel be respectful of the process and of the people elected to serve.

Don Johnson testified that the golf course should be privately owned and operated.

David Thompsen expressed concerns regarding bond financing and stated government entities should not participate in private enterprise. Moss explained the Resolution would allow the Executive to proceed with the design phase.

Alton McDonald expressed concerns regarding how the funds will be disbursed once the golf course is built.

Dale Washam testified in opposition to the use of sewer fees for a golf course and in opposition to the Proposal.

Councilmember Comments

Lee spoke in support of the Resolution.

Wimsett spoke in opposition to the Resolution.

Muri spoke in opposition to the Resolution.

Gelman spoke in support of the Resolution.

Bunney spoke in support of the Resolution and commended Staff for their work on the project.

Moss spoke in support of the Resolution and acknowledged Hugh Taylor and Council Staff, and Executive Ladenburg's Staff for a tremendous job on the project.

The Proposal was adopted on a roll call vote of five to two.

PROPOSAL NO. R2004-78, A RESOLUTION OF THE PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE NAMING OF THE REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER NEAR ROGERS HIGH SCHOOL AND ZIEGER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THE "HERITAGE RECREATION CENTER AT SOUTH HILL"; AND REQUESTING ALL EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS TO CHANGE COUNTY DOCUMENTS TO REFLECT THE NEW NAME.

Wimsett moved adoption; motion seconded. The Clerk read the title into the record.

Goings briefed Councilmembers on the Proposal. He explained that Ad Hoc Committee Members, including school district representatives, Wimsett and he, held a public forum and unanimously agreed on the name for the new sports complex.

The Chair called for public testimony; there was no response. The Proposal was adopted six to zero on a roll call vote. (Bunney was excused.)

X. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced the conclusion of the televised portion of the business meeting.

Pierce County Council Meeting
May 25, 2004

XI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alton McDonald expressed County race relations concerns.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at
5:00 p.m.

Attest:

Patricia L. Face, Deputy Clerk of the Council

Approved:

Councilmember Harold Moss, Council Chair Date Approved

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