



City Council Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 15, 2020, 7:00 PM
REMOTE PARTICIPATION

NOTE: Please see the published Agenda Packet for all item file attachments

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McDonnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Ellen Burton, Bonnie Carter, Don Chaney, Steve Hogan, Shannon Roberts, Greg Anderson, and Melissa Smith

Staff: Bernie Bacon, Sherry Coulter, Catrina Galicz, Jennifer Gorsuch, Cathy Huber Nickerson, Mitch Lackey, Shawn MacPherson, Heather Rowley, Nick Swinhart, and Steve Wall

Press: No one from the press was present

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ira Blumberg, 137 N 45th Circle, Camas, commented about the condition of Lacamas Lake.

Randal Friedman, 1187 NW 10th Avenue, Camas, commented about the North Shore Plan and downtown Camas.

Marie Callerame, 3724 NW El Rey Drive, Camas, commented about the Lacamas Shores biofilter.

Jeryln Holland, Ogden Court, Camas, commented about police.

Terah Pitchford, Clark County, commented about cannabis laws.

Adam Kluka, 7021 NW Friberg-Strunk, Camas, commented about street improvements.

Phil Williams, 936 NE 41st, Camas, commented about public comments and the Mayor's video message about policing.

Additional public comments received via publiccomments@cityofcamas.us are attached to these minutes.

The Staff Presentation agenda item was moved to follow Mayor comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

These materials are archived electronically by the City of Camas. DESTROY AFTER USE.

1. June 1, 2020 Camas City Council Special Meeting Minutes - Draft
2. \$ 1,933,974.04 Automated Clearing House and Claim Checks Numbered 144515 to 144635
3. \$78,353.66 for May, 2020 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Write-off Billings; Monthly Noncollectable Balance of Medicare and Medicaid Accounts (Submitted by Cathy Huber Nickerson)

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

4. Staff

There were no comments from staff.

5. Council

Burton commented about the lakes in the community, and the country's current social situation and the local response.

Hogan commented about the country's current social situation and the Mayor's video message about policing, and about the condition of Lacamas Lake.

Chaney commented about Mayor's video about policing and our local response, about the condition of Lacamas Lake, and about the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency's (CRESA) budget.

Anderson commented about the country's current social situation and the local response, and about the condition of Lacamas Lake.

Carter commented about the condition of Lacamas Lake, and about the country's current social condition and the local response.

Roberts commented about the country's current social situation and the local response, and about the Mayor's video message about policing.

MAYOR

Mayor commented about police records being public, and about the Mayor's pledge for a call to action. Mayor reminded everyone about the June 29, 2020 Zoom Town Hall meeting and about the 2020 Census.

STAFF PRESENTATION

6. 2021-2022 Biennial Budget Kick-Off Presentation
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Huber Nickerson provided an overview of the budget; discussion ensued. This item will be placed on a future Council meeting agenda.

MEETING ITEMS

7. City of Camas Proclamation of Civil Emergency COVID-19
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

Gorsuch provided an overview of the Civil Emergency Proclamation; discussion ensued.

It was moved by Chaney, and seconded, to reaffirm the Mayor's Proclamation of Civil Emergency dated March 18, 2020, and the Supplement dated April 15, 2020, be reaffirmed with the exception that section 6 of the Supplement be stricken. The motion passed unanimously.

8. NW 38th Ave Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation Agreement Amendment
Presenter: Steve Wall, Public Works Director

Wall provided an overview of the amendment.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, to approve the NW 38th Avenue Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Professional Service Agreement Amendment 1 in the amount of \$32,700. The motion passed unanimously.

9. NE 3rd Ave Bridge Seismic Retrofit Professional Services Agreement Amendment 3
Presenter: Steve Wall, Public Works Director

Wall provided an overview of the contract amendment; discussion ensued.

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, to approve the Contract Supplement 3 agreement with HPR for Construction Management and Administration in the amount of \$399,937. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Resolution No. 20-006 Revising the Comprehensive Street Program for an Additional Six Years
Presenter: Steve Wall, Public Works Director

Wall provided an overview of the resolution; discussion ensued.

It was moved by Chaney, and seconded, that Resolution No. 20-006 be read by title only. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, that Resolution No. 20-006 be adopted, as amended per Council Member's Chaney's comments. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Backyard Habitat Certification Program
Presenter: Steve Wall, Public Works Director

Wall provided an overview of the program; discussion ensued.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia Land Trust for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randal Friedman, 1187 NW 10th Avenue, Camas, commented about downtown commercial businesses.

Emma Cox, 639 NW Fremont Street, Camas, commented about council comments.

Phil Williams, 936 NE 41st, Camas, commented about public and council comments.

Mahsa Eshgi, 729 NW Grand Ridge Drive, Camas, commented about Brady Road.

Adam Kluka, 7021 NW Friberg-Strunk, Camas, commented about the City's Comprehensive Street Program.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Bernie Bacon

From: Mahsa Eshghi <mahsa.esh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment (June 15) - Brady Rd Traffic Safety Improvements
Attachments: Brady Road Improvements.pdf

Dear City and Council Members,

I'd like to thank you for your considerations and adding the Brady Rd and Grand Ridge Intersection improvements to the City's 6-Year Transportation Plan.

Here, I'd like to share with you a short report in regards to the Brady Road traffic and accessibility issues for its segment between the City limit to the McIntosh Rd Intersection. This segment of Brady Rd is the only part of this corridor that carries old county road style with narrow travel lanes and overhead utilities close to the travel lane, no shoulder and no pedestrian or bike access which makes it an unsafe road not only for cars but also for kids and families to walk or ride bikes to and from 192nd Ave. As a transportation engineer, I believe traffic safety and appropriate accessibility around Prune Hill area will not be provided unless we consider street improvements to the City standards for this remaining segment of Brady Rd.

In addition to the Grand Ridge Intersection improvements, I am requesting to add Brady Road improvements from the City limit to the McIntosh Rd Intersection (as it is outlined in my report) to the City's 6-Year Transportation Plan.

I appreciate your time in reviewing my report and considerations in advance.

Best Regards,
Mahsa Eshghi
729 NW Grand Ridge Dr, Camas, WA 98607

Brady Road Improvements

(From the City Limit to McIntosh Rd)

Background Information:

Brady Road is a major road in the City of Camas Transportation system. This road which provides access to many neighborhoods, school and other major roads has been improved to the City standards for some of its segments (see Figure 1 showing the full street improvements on the south side of the 16th Ave Intersection). However, the western segment of the Brady Road from the City limit to the east side of McIntosh Rd is the only part of the road that still remains an old county style road.

Figure 1 – Segment of Brady Road Section with City’s Standard Improvements



Figure 2- Western Segment of Brady Rd with an Old County Road Style



Facts:

As Figure 2 indicates, the western segment of Brady Road has narrow travel lanes with no shoulder, no sidewalk or bike lane, and no street lights. This road at the intersection of Grand Ridge and other private roads has no turn lane and has inadequate sight distance which causes traffic back up and safety issues. It is almost impossible to have walking or bike access from McIntosh or Grand Ridge Rd to 192ne Ave.

In order to provide safe access for cars, pedestrians and bicyclist, this segment of Brady Road needs to be improved to the City standards similar to the section shown in Figure 1.

The full road improvements to meet the City standards include adequate travel lane widths, bike lanes, curbs, planter strip, sidewalk and street lights on both sides; plus center turn lane at all the intersections similar to the McIntosh Intersection (Figure 3). As part of the road safety improvements, the intersection of Grand Ridge and Brady Road needs to be improved to have an adequate sight distance and safe turning movements. Traffic safety at the private road's intersections need to be evaluated (Figure 4).

Figure 3- Left-Turn Lane at the Intersection of McIntosh Rd and Brady Rd Provides a Safe Turning Movements



Conclusion:

Brady Rd from the City limits to McIntosh Rd needs to be improved to the City standards in order to provide safe access for cars, pedestrians, and bikes (see Figure 4 for the extend of the proposed improvements). In addition to the Grand Ridge Intersection improvements, this whole segment of Brady Rd should be considered to be included in the City's 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

Figure 4 - Brady Road (West Side) Improvements to Provide Traffic Safety and Accessibility



This segment of Brady Road does not meet the City of Camas standard. The full street improvements to meet traffic safety and accessibility include:

- Adequate sight distance at intersections,
- Bike lane & sidewalk on both sides,
- Adequate travel lane widths
- Turn lanes at the intersections to avoid traffic back up
- Street lights and landscape strip

Please see Figure 1 for the northern segment of Brady Rd with full street improvements.

City Limit
End of sidewalk

Intersections to be included in the traffic safety analysis and improvements

End of sidewalk on the north side.
No sidewalk on the south side.

Bernie Bacon

From: Douglas Strabel <dstrabel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS
Attachments: 06152020 - COUNCIL MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS.docx

Attached are my comments for review during the public comments portion of the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday 06/15/2020.

**The topic is:
City Update on EXPENSE REDUCTION**

**Additionally - WHY is the TOWN HALL meeting going forward and being conducted 6/29 on ZOOM?
A meeting scheduled for JULY or AUGUST held at CROWN PARK would allow face to face discussion.
This is what people want.**

thank you.....Douglas Strabel

There has been NO discussion of any of these comments / questions.

WHEN WILL THEY BE ADDRESSED ?? – WE ARE STILL WAITING !!

I think you would agree that the City of Camas would like to avoid the “Oh S... Moment” that other Municipalities, Counties, States and the US Treasury is going to face in the future.

Camas needs to get ahead of the REVENUE shortfalls that are coming in the years ahead.

To that point still outstanding are the following:

- 1. Since the 2019/2020 budget goes through the end of the year what is the LINE ITEM DETAIL of the \$191K monthly PHASE 1 Spending Cuts beyond what you covered in your 5/28/2020 video??**

Maintaining a 17% reserve was stated as being the line in the sand BEFORE it is necessary to implement Phase 2.

- 2. What are the LINE ITEM DETAILS of the PHASE 2, 3 and 4??**
- 3. When do the TAXPAYERS see the WHOLE PLAN??**
- 4. Where is the TOTAL PLAN for 2020??**
- 5. What are your plans for the rest of the year?**
- 6. How much do you believe you need to save in spending for the next 7 months?**

EXPENSE REDUCTION

One of the key elements to address is EXPENSE REDUCTION. Make the plan for deep cuts now:

- ***Redo the balance of the remaining 2020 budget with an 18% target reduction in TOTAL spending***
- ***Take the same approach with the upcoming 2021/2022 budget process***
- ***Start with a hiring freeze – including City Administrator and any other replacement positions***
- ***Stop OT now – Right now it is running at 6% of payroll for the last 2.5 years***
- ***Stop Incentive Payouts – 3% of payroll for the last 2.5 years***
- ***Does anybody know what Incentive Payouts really are?***
- ***No COLA in 2020/2021***
- ***Take a hard look at reassignment of idled staff for better utilization of available time***
- ***Consultants and Outside Contractors – have these been reviewed and only allowed to work on City Critical items. Has the WSP Contract been reviewed?***

And most importantly!!!

Nobody buys anything discretionary or any capital items even though it is in the budget

Additionally has the City addressed the following??

- ***Renegotiation of Service Contracts***

It still seems like the GOAL of this whole exercise is to TRACK SPENDING.

The GOAL should be REDUCE SPENDING!!

This needs to be a PROACTIVE vs. REACTIVE Process.

Bernie Bacon

From: Randal Friedman <randalfriedman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 7:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McDonnell, Council, it is a sad day when conversation about our core future is relegated to one-way efforts of written questions lacking serious answers. Relegated to a loudspeaker I feel I'm in a dystopian sci-fi story.

You said we have to do a North Shore plan to know the "look and feel" of buildings and materials. The look and feel of Downtown doesn't seem to matter.

You say plan North Shore because the owners may sell the property and there is no detailed plan. Georgia Pacific's owners, sitting in Atlanta, could decide tomorrow to sell all or part of the 27-acre lab site. The only City rule or guideline is Heavy Industry. Any of a number of downtown owners could also sell and there is no plan. That doesn't matter.

You say do a North Shore plan because the families have been there a century. The Mill was before Camas as a city. It has been a good, giving neighbor central to our history. Yet It doesn't deserve a plan.

You ridiculed efforts saying the alternative to a North Shore plan is to hope the owners lock current uses into a "time capsule." Aside from dismissive, you have a point.

There is a time capsule in Camas: this City's treatment of Downtown. Our comprehensive plan considers our lovely Downtown a locked time capsule. In this capsule the mill will still be the functioning heart of Downtown in 2035. Quaint brick buildings will remain in their current form. There's no need for a plan.

How absurd and sad?

Beyond are questions your video didn't answer. How much spent to date on the North Shore? What is the budget? I'm told the City lacks the ability to track the project cost. There is no budget. You chose to not answer these questions.

A City watched a neighborhood pool get torn down and replaced with a \$78 million-dollar bond measure. The North Shore is well on its way as an encore.

The people of Camas spoke last November. They do not want the status quo to continue. They want to be listened to and taken seriously. You got off to a good start but the strong current has pulled you back. It is time to recapture what was started.

Bernie Bacon

From: Phil Williams <pw54.city@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Please add this comment to the meeting minutes for the June 15, 2020 regular city council meeting

I'd like to start by celebrating and adding my support to comments made by my neighbors Ira, Randal, Marie, Jeryl and Adam. Passionate, reasonable people come before this council week after week and they deserve action that this council doesn't deliver.

In the past, I've been urged by this council and this mayor to say more positive things about this council and this mayor. My response to that has been that our time to speak here publicly is limited, and that timing is limited by this council's choice. So because I need to be brief, the most efficient use of my voice as a citizen becomes mentioning what I feel is the most relevant and urgent matter that I can elevate during those 3 minutes. Unfortunately, more often than not in the course of the last couple years, I've seen more bad than good come out of this body and that's where my focus has needed to be and I stand by all of my past comments.

Of course, this week is not a normal week in Camas or in our country. This week, I need to use my time almost solely in praise of an action taken by Mayor Barry McDonnell recently. The mayor's video released about the #8CantWait campaign where he also shares his own experience immigrating to this country as a boy, was an important use of his office in my opinion, and I'd like to plainly thank him for using his platform to send that message. In my experience, people in power can shy away from controversy in public discourse regardless of how they feel privately. It's a sad reality that many lack the courage, but I applaud the mayor for removing the line between his private and public thoughts in this time when we need every leader, in every governing body, to get serious about using their influence to make our communities stronger and safer for EVERYONE.

The mayor's video was a strong OPENING statement, and there was followup action promised by way of a conversation between the Mayor and Police Chief Lackey, I think that conversation should be held publicly and in front of an audience of citizens, without rehearsal or script. I hope part of that conversation is about how Camas hasn't (at least based on demographics) really experienced the pain and the fear of many marching in the streets of towns like Portland and Seattle as we speak. I hope that conversation mentions how regardless of our individual experiences, Camas has an opportunity here, like any small American town where change can happen quickly with the will to support it. We can introduce ACTUAL policy that makes us a leader for our neighbors by example. Let's be that example on the future of safer policing with a more restrictive use of force policy including an outright ban to things like chokeholds or strangleholds and a renewed focus on de-escalation.

So Mr. Mayor, thank you again, from my family, for your public comment on this issue. We hope it's only the start and that strong words are followed closely with strong policy that you urge the city council to approve without delay. To the council, I welcome you each to take a moment following my comments to individually express your support for the mayor's position, here and now, on the record.

Thank you.

-Phil Williams

Bernie Bacon

From: Randal Friedman <randalfriedman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McDonnell, I haven't talked about the rest of Downtown and how it needs a plan. I realized yesterday sitting for breakfast at Natalia's why that is so. The view is so nice, Lutz's, Feast, the other charming buildings. But what can become of them?

The Downtown Commercial zone has no height limits or set-back requirements. The apartments on 6th show what Downtown Commercial can do.

Imagine sitting at Natalia's only with apartments above the storefronts rising 3-4 floors above the street. Imagine boxes lining the blocks of the Downtown core. Imagine streets jammed with people trying to park.

Some might say there are Downtown Design Guidelines. Yes there are. So if the Lutz's sell, the buyer knows what kind of awnings, street trees, windows are required. But those guidelines say nothing of height or use. The Clara apartments show what the City has allowed, all without parking, and if that is now the precedent then consider what our charming downtown could look like.

I firmly believe we need more people living Downtown. Imagine a thousand more people the last few months buying the take-out food from our restaurants and keeping our businesses going. However, we all want to understand the "look and feel" of this future development before Downtown's charm is lost.

Sounds like we need a plan. Sounds like this plan is perhaps more pressing than a North Shore plan.

Place the resolution I submitted on the agenda for a public vote. We deserve to know how each of you feel about our Downtown versus a design studio for North Shore owners.

It's not words that matter it is actions.

I have to close and react to the needed discussion of social justice and equity. Frankly, if you truly believe Camas needs to be more inclusive of social equity issues, spending a half-million dollars of public money to plan what will likely be a wealthy enclave on the North Shore is going against the tide. If you believe in social equity, take a look where Camas can do something and that is Downtown. This is the conversation we need.