

RENTON CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Meeting

April 27, 2009  
Monday, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers  
Renton City Hall

MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Law called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL OF  
COUNCILMEMBERS**

RANDY CORMAN, Council President; GREG TAYLOR; RICH ZWICKER;  
TERRI BRIERE; KING PARKER; DON PERSSON; MARCIE PALMER.

**CITY STAFF IN  
ATTENDANCE**

DENIS LAW, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer;  
LAWRENCE J. WARREN, City Attorney; BONNIE WALTON, City Clerk;  
ALEX PIETSCH, Community and Economic Development Administrator;  
GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Public Works Administrator; MARTY WINE,  
Assistant CAO; DEPUTY CHIEF MARK PETERSON, Fire Department;  
COMMANDER CHARLES KARLEWICZ, Police Department.

**PROCLAMATION**  
National Crime Victims'  
Rights Week -  
April 26 to May 2, 2009

A proclamation by Mayor Law was read declaring April 26 to May 2, 2009 to be "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" in the City of Renton and encouraging all citizens to join in this special observance. MOVED BY TAYLOR, SECONDED BY BRIERE, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE PROCLAMATION. CARRIED.

Police Commander Charles Karlewicz accepted the proclamation.

**APPEAL**  
**Planning & Development**  
**Committee**  
Appeal: Ram Short Plat  
Variance, Varma & Ram,  
V-08-123

Planning and Development Committee Chair Parker presented a report regarding the Ram Short Plat Variance appeal. The Committee heard the appeal on 4/23/2009. Pursuant to RMC 4-8-110F, the Committee's decision and recommendation is limited to the record, which consists of, but is not limited to the Hearing Examiner's Report, the Notice of Appeal, and the submissions and presentation made by the parties.

The subject property is a plat located on 3619 Queen Ave. NE, Renton, WA. In an earlier proceeding, the applicants Kursal Varma and Kajal Ram were granted approval for a six (6) lot short plat on the property, subject to specific conditions. One of those conditions was to remove the existing house on the subject property in order to meet the necessary setback requirements.

Months thereafter, the applicants applied for two variances on the subject property: 1) from the landscaping requirements, and 2) from the minimum setback standards. The purpose of the two variances was to enable the applicants to retain the existing house as part of the six lot subdivision. After reviewing the request City staff denied both variances, finding that it failed to meet the four requisite criteria set forth in RMC 4-9-250B5. The appellants appealed this decision to the Hearing Examiner. After a public hearing was held on 2/10/2009, the Hearing Examiner issued his decision on 2/24/2009, affirming the denial of the variance, and finding that the applicants failed to meet their burden to show that the City's decision was arbitrary and capricious or made in error. The appellants filed a timely appeal of the Hearing Examiner's Decision, and accordingly, appeared before the Planning and Development Committee to present their case.

Having considered the comments made by and on behalf of the appellants, and having reviewed the files and evidence in this matter, the Committee makes the following recommendations to the City Council:

1. That the City Council finds that the Hearing Examiner did not make any error of fact or law in affirming the denial of the variance.
2. That the City Council adopt all the Findings and Conclusions set forth in the Hearing Examiner's Report dated 2/24/2009.
3. That the City Council **affirms** the decision made by the Hearing Examiner to deny the variance.

Councilmember Parker explained that the City has development standards that need to be adhered to, and what the appellants were proposing would not work. He emphasized that City officials and staff are sensitive to citizen requests, however, decisions that are made must meet City regulations and be in the best interests for the community.

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY BRIERE, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

#### AUDIENCE COMMENT

Citizen Comment: McOmber - Townhall Meeting Event in Renton Highlands & 2009 Budget

Howard McOmber (Renton) suggested that the City perform the following two proposals as an effort to increase communications with the public: 1) conduct a townhall meeting event in the Renton Highlands to allow citizens an opportunity to express concerns and opinions with City officials, and 2) publish a paper outlining the recent measures that the City has taken as an effort to minimize costs and operate within a reduced budget without raising taxes.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

Council Meeting Minutes of 4/20/2009

Approval of Council Meeting minutes of 4/20/2009. Council concur.

Police: Memorandum of Understanding, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

Administrative, Judicial, and Legal Services Department recommended approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with 19 participating jurisdictions, which outlines their responsibilities related to the 2009 Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. Council concur.

City Clerk: Quarterly Contract List, 1/1/2009 to 3/31/2009

City Clerk submitted quarterly contract list for period of 1/1/2009 through 3/31/2009 and expiration report for agreements expiring 4/1/2009 to 9/30/2009. Information.

Annexation: Shamrock, NE 10th St & Jericho Pl NE

Community and Economic Development Department recommended a public hearing be set on 5/18/2009 to consider the proposed Shamrock Annexation and R-4 zoning of approximately 124 acres located generally south of NE 10th St. and east of Jericho Pl. NE. Council concur.

Fire: 2009 Storm Event, WA State Military Department Grant

Fire and Emergency Services Department recommended approval of an agreement with the Washington State Military Department for a public assistance grant to receive up to 75 percent of the eligible non-insurance covered damages sustained by the City during the January 2009 storm event. Estimated eligible expenses are in excess of \$4.8 million. Council concur.

Lease: Addendum #2, AirO Inc, LAG-03-002

Transportation Systems Division recommended approval of an addendum to airport lease LAG-03-002, with AirO, Inc., to defer rent payments and late fees to 8/15/2009 in exchange for a significant penalty and collateral. Refer to Transportation (Aviation) Committee.

Utility: City 196 Zone Water Reservoir Evaluation, RW Beck

Utility Systems Division recommended approval of a contract in the amount of \$69,043.35 with R.W. Beck for consultant services for evaluation of a site for a future City 196 zone water reservoir in the Black River quarry area. Council concur.

Utility: Water Audit &  
Cost/Benefit Analysis, RW  
Beck

Utility Systems recommended approval of a contract in the amount of \$46,629 with R.W. Beck to perform a water audit and cost/benefit analysis for the City's evaluation of membership with the Cascade Water Alliance. Council concur.

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### Utilities Committee

Utility: Release of Easement  
Request, Certified Land  
Services Corporation

Utilities Committee Chair Zwicker presented a report recommending concurrence in the staff recommendation to grant a Release of Easement for portions of the area covered by the utilities easement recorded under King County Recording No. 9203030201 upon property obtained by Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) as part of the Stage 2 I-405 work. In addition, a partial release of the same easement shall be granted for portions across tax parcel 7221400270, which shall not impair the rights needed by the City of Renton's Surface Water Utility for future storm drainage facilities. The Committee also recommended that the compensation amount of \$500 shall be set and placed in the appropriate utility funds. The Committee further recommended that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary release of easement documents upon approval by the City Attorney. MOVED BY ZWICKER, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

### Finance Committee

Lease: Park & Ride Garage  
Agreement, City Center  
Parking Garage, King County

Finance Committee Chair Persson presented a report recommending concurrence in the staff recommendation to approve Amendment Two to LAG-04-003 with King County for parking spaces at the Renton City Center Parking Garage to extend the lease term to 12/31/2009, and continue the pricing terms of the first lease amendment. The Committee further recommended that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the addendum. MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

## RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE #5456

Annexation: Mackay,  
148th Ave SE & NE 26th St

The following ordinance was presented for second and final reading and adoption:

An ordinance was read annexing approximately 7.4 acres of property generally located west of 148th Ave. SE, south of NE 26th St., east of Lyons Ave. NE, and north of SE 102nd St.; Mackay Annexation. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY BRIERE, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL. ALL AYES. CARRIED.

## NEW BUSINESS

Development Services:  
Decorative Awnings  
Regulations

Council President Corman requested information regarding regulations for having decorative awnings on business buildings in downtown Renton. Mayor Law responded that the Administration will review the matter and provide the information as soon as possible.

Public Safety: Gang Issues and  
Strategies

Stating that that the Washington State Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates' briefing on gang issues and strategies was extremely informative, it was MOVED BY TAYLOR, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL REFER THE ISSUE OF GANG ISSUES AND STRATEGIES TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR A BRIEFING. CARRIED.

## ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY TAYLOR, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 7:17 p.m.

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Bonnie I Walton, CMC, City Clerk