

Minutes of the
CANNON BEACH CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
Tuesday April 13, 2010
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Mike Morgan; Council President Sam Steidel; Councilors Nancy Giasson, Wendy Higgins and Melissa Cadwallader

Excused: None

Staff: City Manager Rich Mays and Administrative Assistant Brandy Brien

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morgan called the work session to order at 5:20 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

(1) Noise Control Exemption - Exemption for Simulation of Bells and Chimes.

Mayor Morgan read Bartl's staff report.

Giasson stated that she has a conflict of interest regarding this matter and she removed herself from the discussion.

Morgan noted that the additional correspondence on this issue.

David Robinson, Community Presbyterian Church Pastor, asked Council to consider an amendment to the municipal code that accurately reflect the history and purpose of the bells and chimes that rang in Cannon Beach from 1973 - 2000. He provided Council with some background regarding the system that failed in 2000.

Robinson reviewed that the purposed amendment would be to incorporate a phrase into Municipal Code, Section 8.16.040, Exception H to read "announce times of services, or celebrate special occasions (such as weddings and holidays)."

Robinson played a recording of the chimes and hymns to be played to denote the time of day and announce service times. He reviewed that a pattern of bell tones to be heard is established by the Church, generally a classic-chime sequence would denote the time of day, bells to announce times of services and bells with swinging bells pealing to celebrate special occasions.

Higgins stated that believes the sound of bells to be a nice tradition. Also, she noted that inquired around town and received positive feedback.

Robinson thanked Council and asked that a consideration be made to change the current text in the ordinance to reflect the tradition that began in 1973.

Mayor Morgan asked if anyone wished to comment on the matter. Members of the audience provided informal comment.

Betsy Ayres referred and reiterated her views in the letter that she sent to Council. She noted that her primary concern is the intrusiveness of this request to a residential neighborhood. The lights, traffic, noise and parking issues have already been quite intrusive to the neighborhood.

Ayres continued that she prefers peace and quiet and was pleased when the bells stopped ringing in 2000. She noted that she has her own religious beliefs, other businesses are not permitted to play music and she does not wish to listen to sounds by no choice of her own; however she understands that bells on Sunday would be appropriate. Ayres concluded that she only received notice for the construction of a new steeple, not for the installation of a new bells and chimes system. She believes that the information should have been included in the notice.

Betty Gearen stated that owns property adjacent to the Church and she too enjoys peace and quiet and the sounds of nature. Gearen asked that the bells be limited to Sunday only.

Tom Morris, 1587 S. Spruce, Cannon Beach noted his support for the bells and chimes.

Rex Amos reiterated comments from his submitted correspondence, noting his concerns that the purpose of the exception in the City's noise is to denote the time of day and he has heard that the times that the bells will ring are approximate. He agrees with Ayres that the notice should have included the issue of noise from the bells since the proposed hymns will be heard out side of the church.

Amos concluded that he believes this request violates the noise ordinance, and if the Church is granted this request then other businesses should also be granted the ability to play music. However, if this request is granted, the bells should be limited to Sunday.

Marlene Laws stated that she remembers the bells as a youngster. Cannon Beach is a village and she supports the chime system.

TR Factor reviewed her submitted correspondence and asked that Council carefully consider this request and ensure that the sounds to not exceed the maximum decibel level. She also noted concerns that this proposal is not for a traditional bell, rather an artificial sound that is more intrusive.

Steidel noted that sound is very difficult to measure; however code enforcement officers will monitor the levels to ensure that sounds do not exceed the maximum decibels.

Hank Johnson reiterated statements with regard to the intrusive sounds of unnatural man-made noises. He asked that the noise ordinance not be exposed or amended to allow for additional exceptions.

Gary Durham stated that he resides in the neighborhood adjacent to the Church. He expressed that it is already difficult to live next to the church due to its intrusiveness and he does not support the bells and chimes.

Council agreed that an interpretation cannot be made on this issue and asked that the Church make a formal application for a text amendment to the City's Municipal Code.

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

(2) Summer Parks Program by Mary Blake of Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District

Mary Blake, Sunset Empire Recreational District, distributed and reviewed the plan for this year's Summer Parks Program. She noted that the program will begin June 21 and commence on Friday, September 3, 2010. She noted that participates have taken advantage of the sliding fee, however there have been few scholarship requests.

Blake further reviewed that arrangements have been made with Cannon Beach Elementary School for rainy days when the Chamber of Commerce is unavailable. The Cannon Beach Program will partner with Seaside for swimming and other engaging events. She reviewed staff plans and noting that the budget is anticipated to exceed

approximately \$9,000 this year.

Blake thanked Council and welcomed suggestions and noted that if the City wished to expand with additional social building programs that SEPRD is interested in other endeavors.

Council thanked Blake for her presentation.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

(3) Tsunami Evacuation Building (TEB) by Jay Raskin, AIA, Ecola Architects, PC

Raskin provided Council with an update regarding the potential TEB structure and potential grants.

He noted that he is organizing a trip to the "Wave Lab" at Oregon State University (OSU) in Corvallis, Oregon. There will be a demonstration of simulated tsunami waves to exhibit the effect on a scaled model evacuation building.

Raskin asked that the Council consider budgeting funding for professional services. Council discussed the potential need to proceed with modeling, drilling for an analysis for the foundation/geotech testing.

City Manager Rich Mays arrived at 6:35 p.m.

In response to a question from Morgan, Raskin suggested that \$50,000 be budgeted for 2011.

Mayor Morgan recommended that it be discussed further at the budget session. Giasson suggested that the Council provide some direction to discuss with the Budget Committee. Council concurred.

In response to Mays, Council agreed to establish a line item for the TEB Study – Modeling and Geotech Testing.

(4) Cannon Beach Children's Center Financial Request

Mays reviewed his staff report.

In response to a question from Giasson, Johnson addressed the Council.

Buzz Johnson, Accountant for the Cannon Beach Children's Center, stated that this was not a surprise, there were a number of factors that contributed to the Center's shortfall. Enrollment has stayed close to our maximum capacity since mid 2008. To retain quality staff we added health care benefits for our teachers and aids. As a result, the Center has been able to maintain a very stable staff of qualified individuals to insure the high quality of teaching and care at the Center.

Johnson continued that the fund raising efforts, in general, have been strong and successful. The wine walk was a success raising \$10,064 exceeding the projection of \$9628 but not enough to sustain this shortfall.

Johnson concluded that, on behalf of the Cannon Beach Children's Center, he would like to request a supplemental payment of \$13,000 from the City.

The Council further discussed with the Center's Director Carol Lynch and Johnson plans for the future to ensure that the Center will be self-sustaining.

Mayor Morgan asked for a consensus. Council agreed to approve the supplemental request and allocate an additional \$13,000 to the Children's Center.

(5) Good of the Order / Public Comment

Jan Siebert P.O. Box 778, Cannon Beach, distributed materials and reviewed that the Campbell Group is planning to spray in the City's watershed.

Morgan asked Mays to follow up with Mark Morgans. Mays confirmed.

ADJOURNMENT

The work session was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Brandy Brien, Administrative Assistant

Mike Morgan, Mayor