

ACTION AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

TROUTDALE CITY HALL
104 SE KIBLING AVENUE
TROUTDALE, OR 97060-2099

Tuesday, March 25, 2008 – 7:00PM

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL, AGENDA UPDATE.

Mayor Thalhofer called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Present: Mayor Thalhofer, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Thomas, Councilor Canfield, Councilor Kyle and Councilor Daoust.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

2.1 ACCEPT MINUTES: February 26, 2008 Work Session, March 4, 2008 Work Session, March 11, 2008 Regular Meeting and March 11, 2008 Work Session.

2.2 RESOLUTION: A Resolution supporting the request for Transportation Enhancement funds for the Troutdale Road Sidewalk Infill project.

2.3 RESOLUTION: A Resolution supporting submittal of an Oregon State Parks Local Government Grant Application for certain improvements within Sunrise Park.

Councilor Canfield moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Kyle.
Motion Passed 6-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Please restrict comments to non-agenda items at this time.

None.

4. PRESENTATION: A presentation by David Bodway of Pauly, Rogers & Co. of the June 30, 2007 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Councilor Daoust moved that the Council receive the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Motion Passed 6-0.

5. RESOLUTION: A resolution of the City of Troutdale, Multnomah County, Oregon authorizing the issuance, negotiated sale and delivery of general obligation refunding bonds; authorizing submission of an advanced refunding plan to the Oregon State Treasurer; designating an authorized representative, bond counsel and underwriter; delegating the approval and distribution of the preliminary and final official statements; authorizing execution of a bond purchase agreement; and related matters.

Councilor Thomas moved to adopt the resolution (amended version provided at the meeting). Seconded by Councilor Daoust. Motion Passed 6-0

6. RESOLUTION: A resolution authorizing negotiation of a revolving credit facility, bond, and related documents.

Councilor Daoust moved to adopt the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Canfield. Motion Passed 6-0.

7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

John Anderson reminded Council that we will be having an Urban Renewal Agency meeting on April 1, 2008.

8. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Canfield read the following statement: The economic downturn, particularly the slowdown in the housing market, has had a noticeable affect on housing activity in Troutdale. According to city staff, during the first six months of this fiscal year, July 1st to December 31st, the number of permits issued, fees collected and inspections performed has dropped significantly. Staff tells us that the number of inspections performed were the lowest for any six month period over the last three years. Because of this reduction in revenue and work, staff reduced the hours of some city building inspectors. This staff reduction would have saved the City \$30,000 for the remaining four months of this fiscal year. The other factor involved was the decision by the cities of Fairview and Wood Village to discontinue their building inspection contracts with Troutdale effective June 30, 2008, which is a loss of \$230,000 in annual revenue. No one can predict if and when this building permit activity will pick up again in Troutdale. During a Troutdale City Council Work Session on March 11th city staff explained that the reductions in staff hours were necessary to prevent future deficits in the City's Building Department. However, the City Council, by a majority consensus, directed staff to reinstate the hours of the affected building inspectors for the remainder of the 2007-08 fiscal year. The reason identified by this Council was that it is in the budget so city staff had to spend the money. I objected strongly at the time and I still object strongly to the Council's decision. It doesn't make any sense to say that it is in the budget so the city staff has to spend the money. I was told by city staff that there was actually not enough work for these inspectors to do. Even though there was not enough work for the building inspectors, even though there won't be enough money to pay their salaries, and most importantly our city charter and city council rules prohibit the City Council from meddling in the day-to-day city operations, including staffing levels. According to the city charter and ordinances the City Council has delegated all day-to-day operational decisions to the City Administrator. And because of these reasons I object strongly to the City Council's interference with city management decisions. The City Council's interference in city management decisions can only hurt employee morale in the future. Why should an employee listen to their managers when they can come to the City Council who will overrule management? The City Council, I believe, made a terrible decision and broke the city rules to do so and Troutdale's taxpayers deserve better.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.