

STAYTON CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
January 31, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Scott Vigil

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Scott Vigil	Councilor Henry Porter
Councilor Larry Emery	Councilor Brian Quigley
Councilor James Loftus	

PEG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alan Kingsley, Chair
Susan Brandt, Vice-Chair
Glenn Hilton

STAFF: Don Eubank, City Administrator
Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder

1. PEG DISCUSSION

a. Staff Report: Don Eubank, City Administrator: Mr. Eubank reviewed the staff memorandum that was distributed to both the City Council members and PEG Committee members, outlining questions that staff feels need to be asked of the Council.

- Does the current City Council want to continue to provide access on cable television?
- Should Government Programming be provided only by the City or should the City authorize the PEG Commission to develop a Plan to establish Public and Educational programming material?
- If the City is going to allow others to provide programming material, should that material be limited to public events? (ie: school sporting competitions, chamber of commerce luncheon speakers, and/or school board meetings) and should self-produced content also be allowed? (ie: Fly fishing on the North Santiam River, art lessons and dramatic productions).
- Should the City develop, over time, its own production facilities and equipment that might be available to members of the public for producing content?

b. PEG Chairman Alan Kingsley Comments: Mr. Kingsley stated that in order for the PEG Committee to move forward, they need to know what the Council's long term goals will be.

c. Council Discussion: Councilor Quigley asked how many times the second access channel had been used, or if someone had asked to use it. Mr. Eubank stated none. Councilor Emery stated the PEG Commission needs to let the Council know what they need and it is up to the Council to try to find the funding, not vice versa. They don't need to be micromanaged, he said. Councilor Porter stated in the 1980's

he utilized the city's own equipment to produce local videos along with students from the high school. The current PEG proposal has too much legalese in the document and he would like to see the language simplified. What's important is getting the information out to as many community members as possible, he said.

Councilor Loftus stated the Council needs to decide what functions they want to have ie: city council meetings, civic events, town forums. Also, type of content and material folks want to air on the channel, should they have access to broadcast equipment, and does the city want to invest in a studio and loaner equipment. By answering all of these questions it will give the PEG Commission some direction from the Council.

Mayor Vigil suggested utilizing two channels, one for public type meetings and one for other events. Council meetings, broadcasting sports events, and school board meetings are the types of things we want to see aired; and asked if there is a way the City can limit what's aired to only these types of events.

Mr. Eubank stated the problem that you would run into is that you would not be making it a public channel. In conferring with Attorneys they say once the Commission develops a plan the City can move forward with what they want to have.

Mr. Kingsley stated the Commission's frustration is not knowing which direction the Council wishes to proceed. If you just want to do the government you should probably dissolve the Commission because its' up and running. If the Council wishes to proceed and go to education and the public side of things, let the Commission know and they will put together a good step by step plan to get towards the long term draft that the Commission put together.

Mayor Vigil stated the consensus of the Council was to continue to provide access on cable television. Councilor Vigil suggested adding administrative costs for the second channel. Councilor Emery asked if the city could charge fees, as currently there is no fee structure involved and utilizing a second channel, the City will need to purchase equipment.

Ms. Brandt suggested pursuing grants for the purchase of equipment. A grant would not pay for an operator to run the equipment but would cover the purchase, she said.

Consensus of the Council was that they agreed with Item 2. to "...authorize the PEG Commission to develop a plan to establish PEG material". And that Item 3. "Should the material be limited to public events", they agreed with also. Part two of Item 3. "...should the content be self produced also...", Mayor Vigil stated it appeared the Council wanted to move forward in that direction.

Mayor Vigil stated he would like to see the PEG Commission bring a proposal to the Council that would include the City purchasing their own equipment and look into a fee schedule. Mr. Kingsley stated that if the City were to purchase equipment, there's

always the risk of the equipment becoming obsolete.

From the audience, Don Lawrence, CEO for SCTC, asked why the city is pursuing the cable television path when the world is moving to the internet. If you want to get video out there put links on the City's website. SCTC has expertise to put items on the internet, but they have a problem putting it on the cable side for their competitor, he said.

Councilor Loftus suggested broadcasting the Council meetings through the internet and streaming it over channel five.

Mr. Eubank stated that Mike Reding, SCTC will be attending the February PEG meeting to discuss the City working together with SCTC, with a possible follow-up presentation to Council.

Councilor Quigley stated he would like to keep the WAVE Broadband piece working as some people in town don't have the internet.

Mayor Vigil stated he would like to see the PEG Commission keep doing what they are doing.

Councilor Emery stated he too would also like to see the PEG Commission keep doing what they are doing without micromanaging from the Council.

Councilor Porter stated he would like to reach the widest possible group of individuals to keep the public informed.

Councilor Loftus stated if the city were going to purchase cameras they need to also look at voice over IP.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully transcribed by Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder, this 7th day of February 2011.