

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER



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

Present: Councilmembers Conrado Cavazos, Jr., Barbara Clark, Jerry Cummins, Mary Lou Jenkins, Shane Laib, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.

Absent:None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabil Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, WESCOM Manager Steve Ruley, Crime Prevention Coordinator Vicki Ruley, Utilities Engineer Frank Nicholson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilmember Clark led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A.Proclamation: National Night Out in Walla Walla on August 7, 2012.

Mayor Barrow read and presented the proclamation to Crime Prevention Coordinator Ruley. Crime Prevention Coordinator Ruley extended an open invitation to the National Night Out at Pioneer Park on August 7; reviewed the events and purpose of the National Night Out program; showed a brief video of last years event; and described the "Chief for a Day" program. Police Chief Bieber commended Crime Prevention Coordinator Ruley for her work and tireless efforts.

4.PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Conger, 1519 Whitman Street, Walla Walla, objected to having to pay a penalty for non-connection to the Citys sewer system. Mr. Conger reported he has a fully-functional septic system, cannot afford to hook up to the sewer system, and should not have to pay a penalty. There were comments by Council on the reason for the penalty to encourage hook-up to the sewer system to protect the Citys groundwater quality. Staff was asked to follow-up with Mr. Conger.

5.CONSENT AGENDA

City Clerk Hill introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A through G, as follows:

A.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Renewal of eleven licenses:

- 1.Don Carlo Vineyard, 6 W. Rose Street, Suite 105.
- 2.Log Inn Tavern, 526 Wellington Avenue.
- 3.Zip Zone, 110 S. 9th Avenue.
- 4.Safeway, 215 E. Rose Street.
- 5.Locati Cellars, 6 W. Rose Street, Suite 102
- 6.Colville Street Patisserie, 40 S. Colville Street.
- 7.Schooler Nolan Winery, 27 S. Palouse Street.
- 8.Laht Neppur Ale House, 53 S. Spokane Street.

- 9.Super 1 Foods, 710 S. 9th Avenue.
- 10.Grocery Outlet, 910 S. 9th Avenue.
- 11.Safeway, 1600 Plaza Way.

B.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Walla Walla Catholic Schools, 919 E. Sumach, on August 25, 2012.

C.Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for State Liquor Store #164 at 611 S. 9th Avenue.

D.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Walla Walla Community College on October 13, 2012.

E.Resolution No. 2012-52 ratifying a contract for public safety radio tower upgrades with ADCOMM Engineering and taking such further action needed therewith. (Radio tower at Fire Station 11-2)

F.Resolution No. 2012-53 authorizing a contract for public safety radio system upgrades and repairs related to the Walla Walla Police Department facility to ADCOMM Engineering and taking such further action needed therewith.

G.Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held June 27, 2012.

Mayor Barrow invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on any of these items.

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through G. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6.ACTIVE AGENDA

A.Resolution No. 2012-54 authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Gray and Osborne, Inc. to study radio read water

meters.

Public Works Director Bealey reported this resolution will authorize a contract with Gray & Osborne for services related to automated water meter reading in the amount of \$33,300. Public Works Director Bealey described the services to be provided and reviewed the need for compliance with new Federal "no lead rule."

There was discussion on:

- Whether the services could be provided by City staff. Public Works Director Bealey indicated that workloads and expertise preclude staff from being able to perform the necessary study.
- There are approximately six different companies manufacturing these types of water meters.
- Availability of information from other jurisdictions within Washington State that use an automated reading system for water meters.
- Availability of meters that allow water usage to be controlled or turned off remotely. Utilities Engineer Nicholson described technology availability, existing process for turning off water, and potential cost for technology versus labor costs.
- Contract requires report to be issued by consultant within 168 days.

Mayor Barrow invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

There were further questions and comments on:

- Funding for the contract will come from the water distribution fund. This funding is restricted to water-related uses.
- Identifying costs for having staff perform the work.
- Senate Bill 3874 amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to require all water system components to be lead free. The current meters do contain some small amount of lead. Other actions will also be necessary to be compliant with these new regulations. The city does not have staff available to perform the necessary work in house. Consultants are used to work on projects while staff attempts to be responsive to citizens.

- This new requirement is another mandate without any additional funding requiring the costs to be passed onto the consumer.

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-54. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Laib.

Councilmember Laib commented he is not against the project but felt staff should have included an alternative in the report to have the work performed in house. There were comments on the costs being directly related to the mandates.

B. Resolution No. 2012-55 authorizing the purchase of a mower from RMT Equipment, and taking such further action needed therewith.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont reported this eleven foot rotary mower is the largest mower in their system and is very highly used. It is scheduled for replacement in 2013. The City had applied to FEMA for funding related to winter storm damage at the aviary in 2008 but has been reluctant to expend the funds for aviary capital improvements due to the uncertainty with ongoing aviary operation. Staff submitted an alternate project for the purchase of two pieces of equipment. FEMA approved the purchase of this rotary mower as an alternate project with the requirement that funding be expended prior to September 30, 2012. Staff is proposing using the funds provided by FEMA for this purchase and then transfer the money from the equipment replacement fund if the decision is made to continue to operate the aviary.

There was discussion on:

- The money will be replaced by the equipment replacement fund if the decision is made to continue operating the aviary.
- This equipment is on the schedule for replacement and is highly utilized by park maintenance staff.
- It is unlikely the City will receive very much money for the existing mower due to the high number of hours usage on the equipment.

- This is a very creative way to preserve the Federal funds while delaying a decision on continued aviary operations.

Mayor Barrow invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-55. Councilmember Laib seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

C.Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 11, 2012.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 11, 2012. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Laib.

D.Approval of the accounts payable register dated June 30, 2012 covering check numbers 172491 through 172905, and 990503 through 990508 totaling \$4,311,918.09.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the accounts payable register dated June 30, 2012 covering check numbers 172491 through 172905, and 990503 through 990508 totaling \$4,311,918.09 with the exception of the checks to Jerry Cummins, Shane Laib, and Barbara Clark. Councilmember Laib seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Laib moved to approve payment of the checks to Jerry Cummins and Barbara Clark. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions by Councilmembers Clark and Cummins.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve payment of the check to Shane Laib. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Laib.

7.COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Laib reported attendance at the Work Session held July 16; and the open house at the ORourke/Nibler building held July 18.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Work Session held July 16; the Senior Roundtable waffle fundraiser held July 17; and the open house at the ORourke/Nibler building held July 18.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting held July 12; the Public Works Trust Fund Board meeting held July 13; the Work Session held July 16; the Finance Committee meeting held July 18; the open house at the ORourke/Nibler building held July 18; the Benton-Franklin Regional Council of Governments meeting held July 20; and an organizational meeting regarding establishment of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) held July 24.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to nominate Jerry Cummins to represent the City of Walla Walla on the Metropolitan Planning Organization formational committee. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion.

There was discussion on whether this is a position of the actual organization or just on the group exploring formation. It was clarified this is just a nomination to the formational group.

Mayor Barrow invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Work Session held July 16; and the Finance Committee meeting held July 18.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Work Session held July 16; the Finance Committee meeting held July 18; the open house at the ORourke/Nibler building held July 18; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting held July 18; the Valley Transit Board meeting held July 19; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held July 20.

Councilmember Cavazos reported attendance at the Work Session held July 16; and the Housing Authority Board meeting held July 23.

Mayor Barrow reported attendance at the Joint Community Development Agency Board meeting held July 9; the Work Session held July 16; a partisan candidates forum for U.S. Senator held July 17; the Emergency Management Board meeting held July 17; and greeted the Northwest United Way Executive Directors at their conference on July 18.

8.UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Laib asked staff to repaint the curbs in no parking zones to alleviate a safety issue. There was discussion on the use of signage instead of painted curbs; the current focus in budgeting for painting is within school zones; and possible use of volunteers or contracts with the juvenile justice agency or sheriffs department to

perform this service.

Councilmember Clark commented there are new standards for the striping of bicycle lanes.

Councilmember Cummins asked staff to look into getting the City enrolled in the automatic clearing house (ACH) for electronic payment of utility bills to reduce delay in the payment of utility bills.

City Manager Shawa recognized City Attorney Donaldson and City Clerk Hill for the framed pictures and sesquicentennial posters in the Council Chambers.

City Manager Shawa reported he had met with another citizen earlier this year regarding the failure to connect penalty for wastewater. The Municipal Code was reviewed and does not provide staff with any leeway regarding the assessment of these penalties. There were comments on the public safety nature of this penalty assessment and assistance provided to low income seniors and disabled persons by the utility discount program administered by the Blue Mountain Action Council.

City Manager Shawa reported staff is reviewing the electrical components and needs in the Council Chambers and electrical outlets at the Council desks will be a part of this review.

9.ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.