

# WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2013

### 1. CALL TO ORDER



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

Present: Councilmembers Barbara Clark, Jerry Cummins, Mary Lou Jenkins, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.

Absent: Councilmembers Conrado Cavazos, Jr. and Shane Laib.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Tim McCarty, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Public Library Director Beth Hudson, Police Chief Scott Bieber, City Engineer Neal Chavre, WESCOM Manager Steve Ruley, Sustainability Coordinator Melissa Warner, Engineer Monte Puymon, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

### **3.PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

### **4.PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sharon Schiller, 1414 Topaz, Walla Walla, began to comment on the proposed restriping of Rose Street. Mayor Barrow suggested she hold her remarks until Item C on the Active Agenda is discussed.

### **5.CONSENT AGENDA**

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

A.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Ducks Unlimited/Walla Walla Chapter on April 19, 2013 at Assumption Church Parish Hall, 2098 E. Alder Street.

B.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Application in lieu of current privilege for Vintage Cellars, 10 N. 2nd Avenue.

C.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Whitman College Alumni Associations events on April 25 and April 26, 2013 at Reid Campus Center.

D.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Whitman College Alumni Associations event on April 27, 2013 at the Reid Campus Center.

E.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Annual renewal of nineteen licenses:

- 1.B.P.O. Elks Walla Walla Lodge, 351 East Rose Street.
- 2.Good Guys PDQ, 506 S. 9th Avenue.
- 3.7-Eleven Store, 1603 E. Alder Street.
- 4.Middleton Family Wines, 1102 Dell Avenue, #B. (Not cleared by Joint Community Development Agency.)
- 5.Proper Wines, 1102 Dell Avenue.
- 6.The Wild Walla Walla Wine Woman, 19 N. 2nd Avenue.
- 7.Mackey Vineyards, 14 N. 2nd Avenue #A.
- 8.Washington Vintners, 511 N. 2nd Avenue.
- 9.Washington Vintners, 511 N. 2nd Avenue, #A.
- 10.Hollys Flowers, 130 E. Alder Street.
- 11.Doubleback, 229 E. Main Street.
- 12.Wheat Ridge Lane, 216 E. Main Street. (Not cleared by Joint Community Development Agency.)
- 13.Middleton Family Wines, 315 E. Main Street, #A.
- 14.Vista Shell Gas Station and Grocery, 2112 E. Isaacs Avenue.
- 15.Middleton Family Wines, 1815 Portland Avenue, #1. (Not cleared by Joint Community Development Agency.)
- 16.Fraternal Order of Eagles, 350 S. 2nd Avenue.
- 17.Fat Duck Inn, 527 Catherine Street.
- 18.Toms Southgate Chevron, 857 S. 2nd Avenue.
- 19.Doubleback, 2900 Melrose Avenue.

F.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Application in lieu of current privilege for Escalante Spirits, 935 N. 9th Avenue.

G.Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for AAWCC Chapter of Walla Walla Community College, 500 Tausick Way, on May 21 and May 24, 2013.

H.Resolution No. 2013-40 authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Varsity Facility Services to provide janitorial services.

I.Resolution No. 2013-41 adopting a tourism promotion area business plan.

J.Resolution No. 2013-42 adopting a sustainability plan for City operations.

K.Resolution No. 2013-43 authorizing an agreement with Anderson-Perry & Associates for services related to city utility repair and replacement projects. (Brevor Drive and N. 8th Avenue water system replacement projects)

L.Resolution No. 2013-44 awarding bid for radio system upgrades to Tait North American.

M.Resolution No. 2013-45 awards the bids for the purchase of:

1. Police Sedan from Bill McCurley Chevrolet of Pasco, WA for \$26,321.14.

2. Half-ton pickup from Bud Clary Auto Group of Longview, WA for \$25,868.11.

3. A wheel loader from Case Power & Equipment of Auburn, WA for \$149,458.71.

4. 3-ton vibratory roller and trailer from NC Machinery of Tukwila, WA for \$43,626.43.

5. Rough area mower from RMT Equipment of Troutdale, OR for \$44,458.43.

6. Self-propelled street paint striper from Kelly-Creswell of Springfield, OH, including optional equipment, for \$72,410.88.

N.Resolution No. 2013-46 authorizing the City Manager to execute and accept utility easements in the vicinity of Myra Road.

O.Resolution No. 2013-47 authorizing a professional services agreement with Express Employment Professionals to provide a part-time Media Lab Director for the Public Library.

P.Ordinance No. 2013-06 authorizing and establishing a loan, with interest and repayment schedule, from the Vehicle Replacement fund to the Walla Walla Transportation Benefit District.

There was discussion on the proposed loan from the vehicle replacement fund to the Transportation Benefit District. City Attorney Donaldson reported the City can purchase the warrant from the Transportation Benefit District and the ordinance provides flexibility to accommodate the advice of the State Auditors office.

Council asked if the City is statutorily required to have a sustainability plan on file. Staff indicated they were unaware of any statutory requirement.

Council questioned whether local vendors were given an opportunity to bid on the vehicles being purchased by the City. Staff responded affirmatively.

Council requested Item J be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

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

**Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through P with the exception of Item J. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

J.Resolution No. 2013-42 adopting the sustainability plan for City operations.

City Manager Shawa reported the Council had established the Sustainability Committee. This committee has worked on development of a sustainability plan for City operations. This plan was reviewed with the City Council at a recent Work Session. The plan is very concise and its goals are worthy. The concerns of staff are having adequate time to fit in the plan objectives with existing workloads. The committee is aware that not all objectives may be met due to existing workloads.

There was discussion by Council on staff workloads, impact on existing financial resources, anticipated gains by passage of the plan, and impact on current projects. Staff stressed that the Sustainability Committee understands that this plan will not take precedence over current projects. There were additional comments by Council on the compatibility of this plan with the current difficult economic conditions.

Mayor Barrow invited public input.

Alex DeMambro, 603 Boyer Drive, Walla Walla, Chair of the Sustainability Committee, commented that the committee is very aware of current economics and budgets are very tight. The gathering and use of the data identified in the sustainability plan may enable the City to qualify for grants. The data identified for collection within the first year is information that should be easily available.

Sandra Cannon, 803 Valencia, Walla Walla, member of the Sustainability Committee, reported the plan provides a guide to formally track efforts and provides a visual measurement. This will be helpful for applying for grants.

**Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-42. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Council thanked the members of the Sustainability Committee for their efforts.

## **6.ACTIVE AGENDA**

A.Ordinance No. 2013-07 amending the 2013-2014 maintenance and operations budget; and

Ordinance No. 2013-08 establishing new capital projects and amending the 2013 capital improvement project budget.

City Manager Shawa reported this is the first budget amendment of the 2013-2014 biennium.

Deputy City Manager McCarty highlighted the proposed adjustments. The most significant is the actual beginning fund balance is significantly higher than projected due to expense reductions by City departments. This is good news because the current budget does not include any cost of living adjustments for any of the three union contracts currently under negotiation.

Councilmember Cummins reported the Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed amendments and recommends approval.

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

**Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-07. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-08. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

B.Resolution No. 2013-48 annexing approximately 32.88 acres of property commonly located at 2863 and 2915 Melrose Street as part of the City of Walla Walla.

City Manager Shawa reported this is a request by the Port of Walla Walla to bring this property into the City of Walla Walla. A portion of the property is currently in the City and this will bring the entire parcel into the City for a possible economic development project. There is no negative impact and staff recommends approval.

Council asked if the current "revenue ramping" agreement with the County will impact this annexation. City Attorney Donaldson responded the property is not currently developed so the agreement does not apply. The City has planned for this property to be within the City and has planned for a light industrial designation.

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

**Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-48. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

C.Direction regarding reconfiguration of traffic lanes on Rose Street.

City Manager Shawa reported the City Council had reviewed the engineers recommendation to change the striping on Rose Street from four lanes to three lanes. The Department of Transportation hasnt provided any clear direction to staff on the impact of the \$280,000 safety corridor grant if the City should decide not to reduce the number of lanes. The grant for the traffic signal at Rose Street and 13th Avenue could be at risk without the lane reduction. There have been over three hundred reported accidents along this corridor. The Police Department has been consulted and supports going from four lanes to three in the interest of public safety. Council has been provided a copy of an email from Councilmember Laib expressing his opposition to the proposed reconfiguration.

Staff introduced John Bosket, Senior Project Manager with DKS Engineering. Mr. Bosket reviewed the efficiencies and safety benefits to be gained by the proposed reconfiguration to three lanes.

There was discussion on:

- Gates at the railroad crossing and frequency of trains crossing this intersection.
- Impact on traffic with buses stopping to load and unload passengers.
- Difference between Rose Street and examples provided of streets in other communities.
- Statistics show a thirty percent reduction in accidents if Rose Street is reconfigured to three lanes.
- Traffic load on streets running parallel to Rose Street.
- Whether the time estimate for the loading and unloading of buses is realistic.  
Staff reported the time estimates were provided by Valley Transit.

- Consistency of the proposed reconfiguration with the roadwork being done on Rose Street by the City of College Place. Staff explained the transition of the lanes and consistency with the plans of the City of College Place.

Mayor Barrow invited public input.

Sharon Schiller, 1414 Topaz, Walla Walla, commented she is an avid cyclist and uses Rose Street to travel to College Place. The use of the current multi-purpose path by cyclists creates conflicts with pedestrians. The proposed Rose Street reconfiguration would benefit cyclists and approval is encouraged.

Erendira Cruz, 624 Canary, Walla Walla, Chair of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, felt the reconfiguration of Rose Street from four lanes to three lanes addresses a goal to encourage non-motorized mobility and provides safer alternatives. A compelling argument has been made for this street.

Jean Dolling, 208 Detour Road, Walla Walla, commented it was currently very dangerous to ride a bicycle on Rose Street. The proposed reconfiguration is just the restriping of the street. This will provide a safe left hand turn lane and reduce the "raceway" nature of the street. Ms. Dolling indicated she was in favor of reducing Rose Street to three lanes and the 13th and Rose Street intersection could be used as a bus stop.

There was additional discussion on:

- Use of the multi-purpose path on the north side of Rose Street.
- Existing trees along Rose Street including: trimming to ensure a sight clearance, fungicide, and root trimming. To meet sight distance requirements if Rose Street remains four lanes, 21 of the 50 trees would need to be removed. Under the proposed lane reconfiguration, only 6 trees need to be removed for sight distance requirements.
- Safety improvements by reconfiguring Rose Street to three lanes.
- Whether an acceleration lane is necessary for vehicles turning onto Rose Street from Jade Street.
- Difficulties with pedestrians and bicycles sharing the existing multi-use path on Rose Street.

**Councilmember Clark moved to direct staff to proceed with the reconfiguration of Rose Street from four lanes to three lanes. Councilmember Plucker seconded the**

**motion.**

Individual Councilmembers expressed their opinions on the proposed lane reconfiguration.

**The motion to direct staff to proceed with the reconfiguration of Rose Street from four lanes to three lanes carried with 3 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Cummins and Jenkins.**

D.Approval of minutes of the Work Session held March 11, 2013.

**Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the minutes of the Work Session held March 11, 2013. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Plucker.**

E.Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held March 13, 2013.

**Councilmember Plucker moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 13, 2013. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

## **7.COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Senior Citizen Center waffle dinner held March 19; a meeting held March 21 at the Union Bulletin regarding outreach to Hispanic residents; the open house on the south side annexation held March 26; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held March 27. Councilmember Jenkins also reported she welcomed the visitors from Sasayama, Japan on March 25.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting held March 13; the Benton Franklin Regional Council of Governments meeting held March 15; the Finance Committee meeting held March 18; the Valley Transit Board meeting held March 21; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held March 26; the open house on the south side annexation held March 26; the Walla Walla Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held March 27; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held March 27.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting held March 18; the Public Library Board of Trustees meeting held March 20; the Isaacs Avenue Inert Waste Landfill meeting held March 20; the Valley Transit Board meeting held March 21; the open house on the south side annexation held March 26; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held March 27.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting held March 18; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting held March 20; the Isaacs Avenue Inert Waste Landfill meeting held March 20; the Valley Transit Board meeting held March 21; the groundbreaking of the Technical Skills Center on March 26; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held March 26; the open house on the south side annexation held March 26; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held March 27.

Mayor Barrow reported presenting a certificate of appreciation to the Powerhouse Theater and the cast of Forever Marilyn on March 19; and attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting held March 19; an emergency management training held March 20; an exit conference with representatives of the State Auditors Office held March 20; the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting held March 21; a meeting with Walla Walla community housing groups held March 20; a naturalization ceremony for new U.S. citizens held March 21; the open house on the south side annexation held March 26; a meeting of the youth investment coalition held March 27; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held March 27.

## **8.UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Councilmember Jenkins moved to appoint Janice King to the Public Library Board of Trustees for a term ending December 31, 2017. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Councilmember Cummins requested updates on the aviary fundraising and the safety review of buildings and programs.

City Manager Shawa reported on:

- Full day emergency management exercise for the Mill Creek watershed.
- A report will be provided in May on the Isaacs Avenue inert waste landfill (Burdine property).
- An update will be provided in May on the LT2 water project.

City Attorney Donaldson asked the City Council to reconsider Item P, Ordinance No. 2013-06, to remove references to an interfund loan to clarify the intent is to make an investment from the vehicle replacement fund in warrants or other instruments issued by the Transportation Benefit District.

**Councilmember Cummins moved to reconsider Ordinance No. 2013-06. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-06 authorizing investment of inactive and excess funds from the vehicle replacement fund in warrants or other instruments issued by the Walla Walla Transportation Benefit District upon certain terms regarding interest rate, and a repayment schedule. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

## **9.ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.**