

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2013

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, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.

Absent: Councilmember 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, Police Chief Scott Bieber, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Engineer Monte Puymon, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also Present: Tom Glover, Joint Community Development Agency Director and Jon Maland, Principal Planner.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

There were no presentations or proclamations.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Don Ashley distributed copies of a graph from the Walla Walla County Health Department of survey results regarding the striping configuration of Rose Street. Fifty-two percent of the respondents indicated they were in favor of a three-lane road with bicycle lanes configuration. There were comments by Council.

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5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmembers asked that Items C and D be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

City Clerk Hill introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A through J with the exception of Items C and D, as follows:

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Providence St. Mary Regional Cancer Center at Walla Walla Community College on September 21, 2013.
- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Walla Walla Catholic Schools at DeSales High School, 919 E. Sumach Street on October 4 through October 5, 2013.
- E. Resolution No. 2013-99 authorizing execution of a utility easement in favor of the U.S. Department of Energy-Bonneville Power Administration and taking other action in connection therewith. (Landfill/spray farm property)
- F. Resolution No. 2013-100 authorizing execution of a utility easement in favor of Columbia Rural Electric Association and taking other action in connection therewith. (Veterans Memorial Golf Course)
- G. Resolution No. 2013-101 authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to enter into a modification of an intergovernmental collection agreement with the United State of America Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, related to conserving and protecting the Walla Walla water supply. (Watershed protection)
- H. Resolution No. 2013-102 authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with USKH, to execute amendments, modifications, and change orders thereto, and taking such further action needed therewith. (Design and construction of improvements to the Pioneer Park aviary.)
- I. Resolution No. 2013-103 authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Anderson-Perry & Associates, Inc., to execute amendments, modifications, and change orders thereto, and taking such further action needed therewith. (Alder Street traffic signals)

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- J. Resolution No. 2013-104 authorizing the City Manager to execute change orders for the Orchard Street sidewalk improvement project and taking such further action needed therewith.

Council clarified that the easement being granted in Item F will run along the side of the golf course; and that approval of the contract with USKH for the aviary does not require the City to proceed with a construction contract or that the aviary project will proceed further.

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 J with the exception of Items C and D. Councilmember Cavazos seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2013-97 authorizing the City Manager to sell or otherwise dispose of certain surplus property.

There was discussion on whether the 1981 Seagraves fire pumper truck should be declared surplus since this vehicle is less expensive to operate and could serve as backup on medical calls rather than the new ladder truck. Staff indicated there are first line pumper trucks at both stations. This vehicle is over thirty-two years old. The National Fire Protection Association standards recommend removal from service at twenty-five years. Council asked staff to review the potential use of this pumper truck and obtain statistics on use of fire equipment by other cities.

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

Councilmember Cummins moved to amend Resolution No. 2013-97 by removing vehicle number 12450 from the list of surplus vehicles. Councilmember Cavazos seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-97 as amended. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Council asked that staff also address the use of the ladder truck on medical calls.

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- D. Resolution No. 2013-98 authorizing the City Manager to apply for a community development block grant, authorizing grant acceptance, and taking other action related thereto.

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. 2013-98. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Jenkins.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Ordinance No. 2013-20 amending the 2013-2014 maintenance and operations budget.

Ordinance No. 2013-18 establishing new capital projects and amending the capital improvement project budget.

Ordinance No. 2013-19 authorizing the treasurer of the City to loan and transfer money from the City's equipment replacement fund (518) to its TBD street construction fund (399); and providing for other matters properly relating thereto.

Deputy City Manager McCarty reported these ordinances are all related to projects and activities of the Transportation Benefit District, primarily the increased cost of the Rose Street project. These actions will authorize a \$1,100,000 loan for the Rose Street and Wilbur Street projects. The City will be repaid from the Transportation Benefit District revenue. The City is able to loan these funds at the same rate as the earnings received in the local government investment pool which is very low but will fluctuate.

Mayor Barrow invited public input on Ordinance No. 2013-20. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-20. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Mayor Barrow invited public input on Ordinance No. 2013-18. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

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**Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-18.
Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously
carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Mayor Barrow invited public input on Ordinance No. 2013-19. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this issue.

**Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-19.
Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously
carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Public hearing on a request by the YMCA to vacate a portion of the alley right-of-way located east of Park Street to Grove Street. (Truax Block of the amended plat of Park Addition)

City Manager Shawa outlined the history of this request for alley vacation and requested the City Council provide direction to staff after the public hearing.

Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing open at 7:35 p.m.

Randy Grant, Executive Director of the Walla Walla YMCA, commented this property is intended for benefit of the entire community and asked the City Council to consider waiving the appraisal and fee for one-half of the appraised value. The YMCA has hired an architect and is actively working on developing this property.

Dan Workman, 310 Grove Street, Walla Walla, spoke in favor of the vacation of this portion of the alley. This alley runs behind their condo and there have been issues with vandalism and unauthorized use of garbage cans.

Dan Reid, 14 Edwards, Walla Walla, YMCA Chair of Facilities Committee, reported that one benefit to the vacation of this alley right-of-way is there will be one contiguous lot for improvement for community use. The apartments and condos will still be served by the remaining alleyway.

There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing closed at 7:41 p.m.

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There was discussion on:

- Direction is necessary on whether to waive one-half of the appraised value of the property so the applicant is not required to obtain an unnecessary appraisal.
- The City has waived this fee in the past for non-profit organizations but there is no written policy.
- The YMCA is open to all youth that desire access. Mr. Grant described the activities they provide to the community.

Councilmember Cummins moved to direct staff to proceed with the alley right-of-way vacation and to waive fees for the vacation.

Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Ordinance No. 2013-21 relating to cable franchises; authorizing and ratifying an extension of the Charter cable franchise granted pursuant to City Ordinance No. 2003-4; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

City Manager Shawa reported this ordinance will extend the existing franchise for an additional year while negotiations are ongoing.

There was discussion on:

- Negotiating the future franchise and including video equipment in the negotiations.
- Staff will be meeting with Jeremy Gradwohl from Lincoln High School to gather additional information on a proposal to video City Council meetings.
- Staff hasn't been given any clear guidance from the City Council on whether the Council is interested in having video of the meetings.

Mayor Barrow ruled that discussion on video recording of City Council meetings is not germane to this ordinance.

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

It was clarified that this ordinance only ratifies and authorizes the extension of the current franchise agreement with Charter through December 31, 2013.

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Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-21. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

D. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 24, 2013.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 24, 2013. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Plucker.

E. Approval of the July 31, 2013 accounts payable register containing check numbers 176827 through 177142 and 990567 through 990570 totaling \$2,410,877.02.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the July 31, 2013 accounts payable register containing check numbers 176827 through 177142 and 990567 through 990570 totaling \$2,410,877.02 with the exception of the checks for Conrado Cavazos, Jerry Cummins, Walla Walla Public Schools, and Jim Barrow. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve payment of the checks for Conrado Cavazos and Jim Barrow. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions by Councilmember Cavazos and Mayor Barrow.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve payment of the checks for Jerry Cummins and Walla Walla Public Schools. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions by Councilmembers Cummins and Plucker.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Senior Citizen Center board meeting held July 25; the National Night Out celebration held August 6; and the special Transportation Benefit District board meeting held August 14.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting held August 5; the recognition ceremony held at Borleske Stadium on August 6; the last Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting held August 8; and the Work Session held August 12.

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Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting held August 5; the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board meeting held August 5; and commented on the ability of Council to have a Facebook link from the City's new website.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Salvation Army's community center groundbreaking held July 25; the Finance Committee meeting held August 5; the National Night Out celebration held August 6; the Work Session held August 12; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting held August 13; the special Transportation Benefit District board meeting held August 14; and the City soccer camp taught by the Whitman College women's soccer team members on August 14.

Councilmember Cavazos reported attendance at the Planning Commission meeting held August 5; and the special Transportation Benefit District board meeting held August 14. There was brief discussion on a shoreline management permit request by Columbia Rural Electric Association to bring power lines into the City center that will come before the City Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Barrow reported welcoming visitors from Hong Kong at the Walla Walla Community College on August 6; and hosting the Hong Kong delegation on August 7. Mayor Barrow reported attendance at the Work Session held August 12; and the special Transportation Benefit District board meeting held August 14.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Susan Musselman, Financial Advisor, provided an update on the potential refinancing of the 2004 Fire Station bonds. Interest rates have been very volatile and gone up rapidly. The 2004 bonds have eleven years remaining and are considered to be short-term bonds. The City is being advised to proceed with getting proposals from banks to determine if they meet the five percent net value savings threshold. There were comments on the current bonds and the significant costs to water rate payers for the upcoming LT2 water treatment project.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to make the following appointments:

- Cam Allen and John Knapp to the Historic Preservation Commission for terms expiring June 30, 2016;
- Susan Fleming to the Parks, Recreation and Urban Forestry Advisory Board for a term expiring December 31, 2015; and
- Darrell Eidson and Alexa Morlang to the Water and Wastewater Advisory Committee for terms expiring June 30, 2016.

Councilmember Cavazos seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.