

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 11, 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, Shane Laib, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present: Tom Glover, Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency Executive Director.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Proclamation: Constitution Week September 17 through September 23, 2013.

Mayor Barrow read the proclamation declaring the week of September 17 through September 23, 2013 as "Constitution Week in Walla Walla."

- B. Proclamation: Children's Resilience Month in Walla Walla.

Mayor Barrow read and presented the proclamation declaring the month of October 2013 as "Children's Resilience Month" in Walla Walla to Teri Barila. Ms. Barila thanked the City Council for the recognition and acknowledged the work of the initiative's partners.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
PAGE 2

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Lou Yocum, 660 Pleasant Street, reported they had a block party on Pleasant Street between Howard and Division Streets. Many residents are interested in creating neighborhood communities. Ms. Yocum recognized the efforts of Vicki Ruley, Crime Prevention Coordinator, Police Officer Ron Gilbreath, Councilmember Barbara Clark, and Councilmember Mary Lou Jenkins.

Sharon Schiller, 1414 Topaz, Walla Walla, commented she rides her bike along the sidewalk on the east side of Rose Street, along with pedestrians, wheelchairs, and walkers. The handicap access ramps are extremely important. Ms. Schiller asked the City Council to consider changing the Rose Street design back to the proposal for three lanes with bicycle lanes.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Acceptance of resignation of John Christy from the Parks, Recreation and Urban Forestry Advisory Board.
- B. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held August 28, 2013.
- C. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Historic Architecture Development, doing business as Kirkman House Museum, 214 N. Colville Street on September 27, 2013.
- D. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Walla Walla Symphony at Cordiner Hall, 46 S. Park Street on October 8, 2013; December 10, 2013; February 11, 2014; April 14, 2014; and May 20, 2014.
- E. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 323 Catherine Street on October 13, 2013.
- F. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Whitman College at Reid Center on September 28, 2013.

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
PAGE 3**

G. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Whitman College at the Fouts Center on September 28, 2013.

H. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Whitman College at the Fouts Center on September 27, 2013.

Council commended the service of John Christy on the Parks, Recreation and Urban Forestry Advisory Board.

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 H, with acceptance of the resignation of John Christy with regret. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Resolution No. 2013-110 declaring the acquisition of real property located at 712 Whitman Street in the City of Walla Walla necessary to eliminate neighborhood blight and taking other action connected therewith.

City Manager Shawa reported the City has taken numerous enforcement actions against the property located at 712 Whitman Street. This property has a very negative impact on the surrounding property owners. The cost to acquire the property is estimated at between \$75,000 and \$100,000 with another \$50,000 to abate the nuisance. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

City Attorney Donaldson reported the owner of this property is Terry Knapp. The City and the Joint Community Development Agency staff have tried every enforcement effort to bring this property into compliance with City codes. There have been numerous civil and criminal violations by the property owner. Adoption of this resolution is the first step in the condemnation process. Staff recognizes this is a drastic step but feels it is necessary.

Mayor Barrow invited public input.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
PAGE 4

Terry Knapp, 712 Whitman Street, Walla Walla, asked for a continuance of this item. The notice was received six days ago and did not allow time to meet with his attorney. Mayor Barrow denied the request for continuance. Mr. Knapp disputed the City's allegations that the house has numerous code violations and that it doesn't meet health and safety codes. The house just needs to have the water restored to be in full compliance but since the home is vacant, this is unnecessary. Attempts have been made to contact a City employee regarding reconnection of water service without success.

Council asked when the property was vacated. Mr. Knapp responded the house has been unoccupied since June 5, 2013, although he is still working in the back yard to continue to clean up the property. Council commented that this property has been a nuisance to the neighborhood for far too long.

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-110. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Laib reported attendance at the Tourism Walla Walla Board meeting held August 15; a meeting with staff regarding Heritage Park; the Work Session held September 9; and several meetings with the Friends of Pioneer Park Aviary. Councilmember Laib extended an invitation to attend the 30th Anniversary celebration of the aviary on September 21.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Sustainability Committee meeting held August 20; the Senior Citizens Board meeting held August 22; the Senior Center Salmon Feed held August 24; the Sustainability Committee meeting held September 3; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held September 5; the Pleasant Street block watch party held September 7; and the Work Session held September 9.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held August 15; the Good Roads Committee meeting held August 21; the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held August 24; a meeting with staff from Senator Murray's office regarding the VA Task Force initiatives held September 5; the Work Session

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
PAGE 5

held September 9; and the Finance Committee meeting held September 10. A transportation forum will be held in Yakima on September 24.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held August 15; a radio interview on KUJ held August 16; the Public Library Board meeting held August 21; the Historic Preservation Commission meeting held August 26; the Water Partnership Board meeting held September 3; the Work Session held September 9; and an interview with Charter Northwest News held September 10.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held August 15; the Sustainability Committee meeting held August 20; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting held August 21; a meeting with new Whitman College students and the City's sustainability coordinator held August 24; the Sustainability Committee meeting held September 3; a meeting with staff from Senator Murray's office regarding the VA Task Force initiatives held September 5; the Grandma's Kitchen grand opening held September 5; the Pleasant Street block party held September 7; the Work Session held September 9; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting held September 10; the LEOFF 1 Disability Board meeting held September 10; an interview with Charter Northwest News held September 10; and the General Hospital ribbon-cutting ceremony held September 11.

Councilmember Cavazos reported attendance at the Housing Authority Board meeting held August 26; the Work Session held September 9; and the Planning Commission meeting held September 9.

Mayor Barrow reported attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting held August 20; a meeting with representatives of Pacific Power held September 3; the Joint Community Development Agency Board meeting held September 3; the Work Session held September 9; an interview with Charter Northwest News held September 10; a meeting with the Washington Association of Broadbanders held September 10; the United Way Annual Banquet held September 10; the Fort Walla Walla Historical Society Board meeting held September 10; the General Hospital ribbon-cutting ceremony held September 11; and a religious celebration in commemoration of the anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Laib moved to reappoint Amy Molitor to the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee for a term expiring June 30, 2014 based on her experience and expertise. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Laib extended his thanks to City staff, Joint Community Development Agency staff, and past and present Code Enforcement officers for their work on the property located at 712 Whitman Street.

There was brief discussion on the status of the applications for the two openings on the Sustainability Committee and concerns raised regarding the performance of the Sustainability Committee. The Council Boards & Commissions committee members indicated their agreement to delay consideration of appointment of new members to the Sustainability Committee to a future meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Laib moved to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.