

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 25, 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, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Public Library Director Beth Hudson, Deputy Fire Chief Brad Morris, Finance Manager Jean Teasdale, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Engineer Frank Nicholson, Sustainability Coordinator Melissa Warner, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation of outstanding wastewater treatment plant award.

Eleanor Key, Permit Manager for Department of Ecology, reviewed the hard work, effort, and importance of water quality. The City's wastewater treatment plant, operated by CH2M Hill, has achieved perfect compliance with their discharge permit. Less than twenty-five percent of wastewater treatment plants statewide will achieve this award.

Willy Breshears, CH2M Hill wastewater treatment plant operator, introduced staff in attendance and reported the treatment plant was also the recipient of the Chamber of Commerce Smart Business Partner Award.

Ms. Key read and presented the outstanding wastewater treatment plant award to the City and staff from the wastewater treatment plant.

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There were comments by Council on these awards and the partnership with CH2M Hill for operation of the wastewater treatment plant.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Christy, Walla Walla, commented that he spent a month in Poland and showed a picture of a road sign warning motorists of rough and rutted roads. Mr. Christy extended his appreciation to the Mayor and City Council for the road work occurring in Walla Walla and the efforts to communicate with signage and a dedicated website.

Fredric Liebrand, 1776 Stateline Road, Walla Walla, reported on recent State legislation creating the Clean Energy and Energy Freedom program. This is a low interest revolving loan fund for clean energy projects. Mr. Liebrand distributed copies of a summary of this legislation and offered his assistance.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Barrow announced that Item C would be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

City Clerk Hill introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A, B, and D through F, as follows:

- A. Resolution No. 2013-111 authorizing the purchase of defibrillators, declaring nine existing defibrillators surplus, authorizing disposition of surplus defibrillators, and taking such further action needed therewith. (Zoll Medical Corporation)
- B. Resolution No. 2013-112 authorizing change orders to the contract with Harry Johnson Plumbing and Excavating for the intake dam dredging project, and taking such further action needed therewith.
- D. Ordinance No. 2013-24 repealing Section 12.16.050 of the Municipal Code (sidewalk condition liability).
- E. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held September 9, 2013.

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- F. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held September 11, 2013

There was brief discussion on the costs for purchase of the defibrillators and ongoing maintenance and operations cost for this equipment.

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

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A, B, and D through F. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Ordinance No. 2013-23 establishing various solid waste collection and disposal rates, charges, and penalties for the City.

City Manager Shawa reported that Basin Disposal has requested the addition of a rate for an optional second recycling container and carry-out service for recycling containers so citizens can request this optional service. These changes do not impact the current basic service.

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

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-23. Councilmember Laib seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Ordinance No. 2013-25 amending Ordinance No. 2013-03; and providing for other matters properly relating thereto.

City Manager Shawa reported that Ordinance No. 2013-03 provided for the refunding of the original fire station bonds. This initial ordinance had thresholds that had to be met before the bonds could be refinanced. Since that time, the bond market has been very volatile. The City's financial advisor, with the concurrence of staff, solicited bids from financial institutions. The best proposal received was from SunTrust Bank at a true interest cost of 2.72 percent. This will result in a net present value savings of \$140,000 over the remaining ten year lifespan of the bonds

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(\$14,000 per year). Staff and the City's financial advisor recommend approval.

Council asked if the savings take into account any refinancing transaction fees. City Manager Shawa reported that the \$140,000 is the net savings to the City.

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. 2013-25. Councilmember Cavazos seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Public hearing and Resolution No. 2013-113 approving amendments to the City's water system plan and taking other necessary action with respect thereto.

City Manager Shawa reported the Department of Health had reviewed the City's water system plan and has recommended amendments to allow the City to work on establishing intertie agreements for emergency backup to neighboring water districts. It is important to adopt amendments to the plan to allow the City to seek funding sources for the LT2 improvements to the water treatment plant.

Council asked if the City's water rights allow for the provision of water to other jurisdictions. City Attorney Donaldson responded the water right doesn't restrict the City from providing water to other districts within the City's water service area.

Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing open at 7:40 p.m. There being no comments from the audience, Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-113. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Public hearing regarding the notice given to the owner of 333 S. 3rd Avenue of a structurally defective drainage pipe, and the City's intention to perform the necessary corrective work; and

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Resolution No. 2013-114 giving notice and ordering removal of a drainage hindrance or obstruction and such other action necessary to clear drainage of the City in the vicinity of 333 South Third Avenue.

City Manager Shawa reported staff had found another pipe failure as part of the Second Avenue/Lincoln Creek project. This failure is located on property owned by Randy and Diana Pierce, 333 South Third Avenue. The property owners are aware of this issue and are asking the City to have the repairs made and bill them. The costs of the repairs are estimated at \$4,000 to \$6,000. Staff recommends approval.

Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing open at 7:44 p.m. There being no comments from the audience, Mayor Barrow declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-114.
Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion.

Council asked if a lien would be placed against the property to ensure collection. Staff responded a special assessment, which constitutes a lien, would be levied against the property.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2013-114 unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

D. Ordinance No. 2013-26 amending the 2013-2014 maintenance and operations budget.

Ordinance No. 2013-27 establishing new capital projects and amending the capital improvement project budget.

City Manager Shawa reported this is the fifth budget adjustment for 2013 and reviewed the amendments.

Council asked if there was any chance for recovering the bad debt from the lease of the golf course to We-Man Vets Golf. City Manager Shawa responded it was highly unlikely the City could make any further recovery.

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

Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-26. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-27. Councilmember Laib seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Approval of the claims register dated August 31, 2013 covering check numbers 177163 through 177513, 990571 through 990575, and 8046 through 8076 totaling \$6,066,953.92.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve payment of the claims register dated August 31, 2013 covering check numbers 177163 through 177513, 990571 through 990575, and 8046 through 8076 totaling \$6,066,953.92 with the exception of the checks to Jerry Cummins, Blue Mountain Action Council, and the Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Clark 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, Blue Mountain Action Council, and Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 3 abstentions by Councilmembers Cummins, Jenkins and Plucker.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Laib reported attendance at the Borleske Stadium Association board meeting held September 16; the Friends of Pioneer Park Aviary meeting held September 16; the Tourism Walla Walla board meeting held September 19; the Pioneer Park Aviary ad-hoc design committee meeting held September 25; and the Boards & Committees meeting held September 25.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Senior Citizens waffle dinner held September 17; and the Boards & Committees meeting held September 25.

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Councilmember Cummins had no meetings to report.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held September 19; and provided an overview of the activities of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Big Ideas Talk at the public library held September 12; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting held September 18; the Valley Transit Board meeting held September 19; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held September 24.

Councilmember Cavazos reported attendance at the Housing Authority Board meeting held September 23.

Mayor Barrow reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council board meeting held September 19; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held September 24; and the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting held September 24.

Council complimented the public works staff for their responsiveness to citizen complaints and concerns.

Council reported on the 30th anniversary of the Aviary held September 21.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Laib moved to appoint police officer Mark Hisey to the Blue Mountain Action Council Board. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Laib moved to appoint Jeanne McMenemy and Tristan Sewell to the Sustainability Committee for terms expiring June 30, 2016. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Laib confirmed the next Work Session was scheduled for October 14, Columbus Day. Staff confirmed this is the scheduled date for the October Work Session.

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Councilmember Laib asked for an update on the status of all City construction projects; and requested enforcement activities for illegal banners and removal of outdoor seating remaining after closure of the business.

Councilmember Cummins reported there will be a Senate Transportation Committee hearing at the Columbia Basin College on September 26.

A. Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve.

Mayor Barrow reported he had received a request for a support statement from the City for the guard and reserves. This Statement of Support is an assurance by the employer that they fully recognize, honor, and enforce the law and they recognize and support their employees who serve as members of the Guard and Reserve.

Councilmember Cummins moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Statement of Support. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion.

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.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.