

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 9, 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, Shane Laib, Chris Plucker and Mayor Jim Barrow.
(Councilmember Plucker arrived at 7:25 p.m.)

Absent: Councilmember Conrado Cavazos, Jr.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Parks Maintenance Supervisor Joan Schille, Engineer Monte Puymon and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present: Walla Walla Joint Community Development Senior Planner Lauren Prentice.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

William Bialozor, Walla Walla, commented on the Rose Street configuration and striping. Professional engineers have recommended three traffic lanes for safety reasons. Mr. Bialozor reviewed the statistics of petition signers in favor of four lanes versus those wanting three lanes. Council was asked to reconsider their decision before Rose Street is restriped.

Debbie Toews, 7 East Tietan Street, Walla Walla, commented she is a local attorney and felt the City was opening itself to liability because the reports show that a three-lane configuration on Rose Street are safer and will contribute to traffic calming. The four-lane configuration is not the best engineering practice for safety.

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Gary Rittenbach, Walla Walla University, representing students, the bicycle club, and the running club, expressed concerns there was no safe corridor for cyclists to move between College Place and Walla Walla. Mr. Rittenbach also commented on the inaccessibility of many areas for runners and asked the Council to consider cycling an integral part of the community.

Lucia Mumm, 1207 University Street, Walla Walla, reported she had two daughters that are seeking their independence and would like to be able to ride bicycles throughout the community but need safe routes.

Candace Rose, 805 N. Maine Street, Walla Walla, asked how the lane striping issue will be addressed since the new roadway is ready to be striped. Mayor Barrow responded that striping is just paint and Council may choose to address the issue under new and unfinished business or at a later date.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for the Walla Walla Symphony at the Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, 6 W. Rose Street, on October 26, 2013.
- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board special occasion license for Walla Walla Choral Society event at Jacobi's Restaurant, 416 N. 2nd Avenue, on November 2, 2013.
- C. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Denial of new application for Tricycle Cellars, 1259 Dakota Street. Location on application is within a residential zone and applicant has indicated they will be co-producing at an existing winery outside of the City limits.
- D. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for Gino Cuneo Cellars, 2 E. Rose Street, subject to registration with the Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency.
- E. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for The Bunnell Family Cellar, 2 E. Rose Street, subject to registration with the

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- Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency.
- F. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for Henry Earl Estates, Shaw Estates, 25 E. Main Street, subject to registration with the Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency.
 - G. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Change of corporate officers/stockholders for Middleton Family Wines, 1102 Dell Avenue #B, subject to registration with the Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency.
 - H. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held September 25, 2013.

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. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2013-114A increasing the City Manager's authority to execute change orders to the contract for improvements to the Lincoln Creek Drainage System in the vicinity of 2nd Avenue and taking such further action needed therewith.

City Manager Shawa reported that due to the addition of the two private property owner drainage obstructions added to the project, the change order authority granted him needs to be increased to a total of \$30,000.

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. 2013-114A. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- B. Resolution No. 2013-115 awarding the contract for site design and installation of cremation niches at Mountain View Cemetery to Wilbert Precast, and taking such further action needed therewith.

City Manager Shawa reported this contract will authorize the construction of new niches at the Mountain View Cemetery. This project will be completely paid out of the bequest left to the cemetery by the estate of Julia Lamar. There will be no impact to the general fund.

Councilmember Plucker arrived at 7:25 p.m.

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

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-115.
Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2013-116 approving a shoreline management substantial development permit request (P13-0043) by Hays Electric for construction of a combination warehouse and office building and other site improvements in the vicinity of 620 N. 13th Avenue.
(Closed record quasi-judicial hearing)

City Manager Shawa reported this is an application for a shoreline management substantial development permit. The Planning Commission has conducted a public hearing and recommends approval.

Mayor Barrow polled the Council for any conflicts of interest, appearance of fairness, or ex-parte contacts. No Councilmember reported any conflict of interest, appearance of fairness, or ex-parte contacts.

Council asked if any provisions had been made for a pedestrian walkway along Mill Creek. Senior Planner Prentice explained this parcel does not extend all the way to the channel and there is a twenty-five foot access road between this property and the channel.

Councilmember Laib moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-116.
Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- D. Resolution No. 2013-117 approving and authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Bob Murray & Associates and taking such further action needed therewith.

City Manager Shawa reported this resolution would authorize a contract with Bob Murray & Associates to handle the recruitment for a new human resource manager. The City was very satisfied with the performance of Mr. Murray during the police and fire chief recruitment and had solicited a request for proposal from Mr. Murray and one other firm. Due to current workload, it is not practical to have the human resource office handle the recruitment. The savings from the current vacancy in the Human Resource Manager position will more than pay for the cost of the contract. Staff is hoping to have a new human resource manager on board by February 1, 2014.

There was discussion on:

- Existing workloads and whether staff can perform the recruitment instead of hiring a consultant.
- Qualifications of a good human resource manager.
- Whether there may be good local candidates for the position.
- Potential for liability without good human resource management.

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

Council expressed their individual opinions on whether a consultant should be hired or not.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-117. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion failed to carry with 3 yes votes by Councilmembers Clark, Cummins and Mayor Barrow and 3 no votes by Councilmembers Jenkins, Laib, and Plucker.

- E. Approval of accounts payable register dated September 30, 2013 covering check numbers 177514 through 177818, 990576 through 990579, and 8077 through 8099 totaling \$2,803,427.08.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve payment of the accounts payable register dated September 30, 2013 covering check numbers 177514 through 177818, 990576 through 990579, and 8077 through 8099

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totaling \$2,803,427.08 with the exception of the checks to Blue Mountain Action Council and Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Laib seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Laib moved to approve payment of the checks to Blue Mountain Action Council and the Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 votes and 2 abstentions by Councilmembers Jenkins and Plucker.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Laib reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Humane Society Board meeting held September 30; the Friends of Pioneer Park Aviary committee meeting held September 30; and the Evening of Foliage & Feathers fundraiser for the aviary held October 5.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Sasayama Sister City Committee meeting held October 7.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the legislative transportation hearing in Pasco held September 26; a meeting with the new developers of the mall property held October 2; and the Metropolitan Planning Organization board meeting held October 2.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Water Partnership Board meeting held October 1.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Sustainability Committee meeting held October 1; the candidate's forum sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce held October 1; a meeting with the new developers of the mall property held October 2; and the entrance conference with representatives of the State Auditor's office held October 2.

Mayor Barrow reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council nominating committee meeting held September 27; the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the WESCOM radio system improvements held October 1; a meeting with the editorial board of the Union Bulletin held October 1; a meeting with the new developers of the mall property held October 2; the

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candidate's forum sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce held October 1; the entrance conference with representatives of the State Auditor's office held October 2; a meeting with James Payne from Fort Walla Walla Museum regarding archaeology held October 2; the Association of Washington Cities regional meeting held October 3; the Joint Community Development Agency board meeting held October 8; and the candidate's forum sponsored by the Firefighters held October 8.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Clark moved to set a special meeting to discuss the lane configuration on Rose Street. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion.

There was discussion on:

- Delay to the project since the street striping is scheduled to begin tomorrow.
- Cost to the City to delay the street striping.
- Previous decisions regarding the lane configuration were done without adequate public notice.
- The City would not assume any additional liability due to the lane configuration.
- The multi-use path was intended to serve both pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Rose Street is primarily a business corridor and the four lane arrangement is their preferred configuration.
- Improvements to Isaacs Avenue may be the opportunity to use a three-lane configuration.
- Importance of completing the Rose Street project before adverse weather conditions arrive.
- Ability of cyclists to use the vehicular travel lanes on Rose Street.

The motion to set a special meeting to discuss the lane configuration on Rose Street failed to pass with 0 yes votes and 6 no votes.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Barrow announced the City Council would be recessing to Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel representing the City matters relating to agency enforcement actions and litigation or potential litigation involving the City pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The Executive

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Session will last no more than one hour and no further business will be conducted in open session. The meeting was recessed at 8:20 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.