

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Councilmembers Barbara Clark, Mary Lou Jenkins, Dick Morgan, Chris Plucker, Allen Pomraning, and Mayor Jerry Cummins.

Absent: Councilmember Jim Barrow.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Tim McCarty, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Finance Manager Jean Teasdale, Human Resource Manager Pam Taylor, Communications Manager Rosa Jimenez, 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

Mayor Cummins presented the certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Associations to Finance Manager Teasdale and commented on the high standards required to attain this award for the 2013 comprehensive annual financial report. City Manager Teasdale recognized her outstanding staff that made receipt of this award possible. This is the 6th award received for the City's comprehensive annual financial report.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on any item not on the agenda.

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5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Application for added privilege for The Wingman Birdz & Brewz, 230 E. Main Street.
- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for South Fork Grill, 1129 S. 2nd Avenue, Suite D.
- C. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for Kontos Cellars, 10 N. 2nd Avenue.
- D. Resolution No. 2014-111 setting January 28, 2015 as the public hearing date for the McDonald Annexation (approximately 17 acres generally located north of Middle Waitsburg Road and east of Lower Waitsburg Road).
- E. Resolution No. 2014-112 authorizing purchase of a software upgrade from Laserfiche United to the Laserfiche Rio document/business management software.

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

Councilmember Morgan moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through E. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Ordinance No. 2014-45 adopting the 2015-2016 biennium budget.

City Manager Shawa reviewed the budget development process and provided a high level overview of the 2015-2016 budget highlights. Council commended staff and the Finance Committee for their leadership.

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

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Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-45. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Mayor Cummins and City Manager Shawa publicly acknowledged the work of the Finance Committee, directors, finance manager, and staff in developing the budget.

- B. Ordinance No. 2014-41 amending Section 2.96.030 of the Municipal Code pertaining to miscellaneous library fees and charges.

City Manager Shawa reported this change will cap the overdue item fee at \$5.00. This proposed action is customer service driven since many of these overdue fees are accrued by families with young children.

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

Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-41. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Council complimented the library director and staff for changes in library operations to meet the needs of the community.

- C. Ordinance No. 2014-42 amending fees and charges related to parks and recreation.

City Manager Shawa provided an overview of the proposed fee changes.

There was discussion on the proposed change in the rental of the Pioneer Park bandstand and park circle from allowing half day rentals to only allowing a full day rental. Staff explained that the rental is actually a reservation for the sole use of the area. The public is still able to use the facilities at no charge anytime it is not reserved.

Mayor Cummins invited public input. 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. 2014-42. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

D. Ordinance No. 2014-43 amending Section 2.76.070 of the Municipal Code pertaining to Mountain View Cemetery fees.

City Manager Shawa reported this ordinance increases fees by three percent, with the exception of the fees for veterans and infants. It also establishes a new fee for the Lamar Niche garden section.

There was brief discussion on:

- There has been no fee increase for veterans or infants for six years.
- The veteran fees apply to graves within the veteran section of the cemetery.
- Infant and children graves are charged according to size of the grave.

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

Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-43. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

E. 2015 utility bill round up project – Pioneer Park wedding fountain improvements.

City Manager Shawa reported the utility bill round up program allows citizens to “round up” the payment on their utility bill for a donation to specific projects. These funds have been dedicated to the Pioneer Park aviary for the last four years. The average annual donations the last four years have been approximately \$10,000 per year. Two projects were identified for these donations: Heritage Park and the Pioneer Park wedding fountain refurbishment. The Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board has recommended the restoration of the Pioneer Park wedding fountain, with a water recirculation design, as the utility bill round up project.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont reported on the history of the fountain and the need for restoration. The crabapple trees around the

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fountain will need to be removed because of the problems they cause. Staff will also pursue local grants beside the round up funds.

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

Councilmember Plucker moved to approve the designation of the 2015 utility round up funds towards the restoration of the Pioneer Park wedding fountain. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- F. Ordinance No. 2014-44 adopting interim amendments to Titles 2, 3, 8, 19, 20, and 21 of the Municipal Code and repealing Chapter 18.04 of the Municipal Code. (Re-establishing the City's Development Services Department)

City Attorney Donaldson reported the City changed its code when the Joint Community Development Agency was established. This ordinance is necessary to change back to the City's Development Services Department. The City's new Development Services Director has recommended some additional minor cleanup work on the Code. The amendments can only be done on an interim basis to allow permanent amendments to go through the regular development review process. Holding a public hearing extends the length of time for the establishment of permanent regulations.

Mayor Cummins declared the public hearing open at 7:55 p.m. There being no comments from the audience, Mayor Cummins declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-44. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- G. Resolution No. 2014-109 adopting the 2015 State legislative priorities.

City Manager Shawa reported the City's legislative priorities are set annually to ensure the City's official position on issues is known; and reviewed the 2015 proposed priorities for State legislative advocacy.

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Mayor Cummins invited public input both for and against the proposed 2015 State legislative priorities.

Lucy Henderson, 336 S. Palouse Street #5, Walla Walla, asked for clarification on the legislative priority pertaining to the sharing of marijuana tax revenues.

There were no additional comments from the audience.

Staff reported that cities and counties do not receive any portion of the excise taxes on the sale of marijuana. Cities and counties will receive their normal portion of sales taxes. Legislation to share the excise tax revenues is being pursued for those localities that implemented Initiative 502. The City would only be advocating for State legislative changes and is not considering any local legislation.

Councilmember Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-109. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

H. Resolution No. 2014-110 adopting 2015 Federal legislative priorities.

City Manager Shawa reviewed the proposed 2015 Federal legislative priorities. There were comments by Council on the need for community leaders to keep Walla Walla great and move projects forward.

Mayor Cummins invited public input both for and against the proposed 2015 Federal legislative priorities. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council.

Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-110. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

I. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held November 5, 2014.

Councilmember Clark moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 5, 2014. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Jenkins.

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J. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held November 17, 2014.

Councilmember Plucker moved to approve the minutes of the Work Session held November 17, 2014. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Morgan.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the employee recognition lunch held November 20; the Tourism Walla Walla Board meeting held November 20; the Valley Transit Board meeting held November 20; the Rebuild Memorial Pool citizens group meeting held November 30; the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held December 3; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Work Session held November 17; the Senior Citizen Board meeting held November 20; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held November 20; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the employee recognition lunch held November 20; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held November 25; the Sustainability Committee meeting held December 2; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

Councilmember Pomraning reported attendance at the employee recognition lunch held November 20; the Metropolitan Planning Organization transition subcommittee meeting held November 21; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held November 25; the Planning Commission meeting held December 1; the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held December 3; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

Mayor Cummins reported attendance at the employee recognition luncheon held November 20; the Valley Transit Board meeting held

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November 20; the Housing Authority Board meeting held November 24; and the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting held December 3.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Jenkins moved to reappoint Amy Molitor to the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee for a term expiring June 30, 2017 with a finding that there were no other qualified applicants. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion.

Council commented on the positive and collaborative contributions made by Ms. Molitor on this committee.

The motion to reappoint Amy Molitor to the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee for a term expiring June 30, 2017 with a finding that there were no other qualified applicants unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

There was discussion on the establishment of a coalition to educate the community on responsible marijuana use and to discourage use of marijuana by youth. Council suggested staff contact the Walla Walla County Health Department and bring back a brief report to the City Council. There were comments on the need for resources to address education and prevention.

Staff commented that no report had been received from the Friends of the Pioneer Park Aviary on their pledge collection efforts.

Council expressed their appreciation to the Police Department for their leadership and show of restraint in handling a citizen with a gun. Council also commended the Union Bulletin for their reporting on this incident.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Cummins announced the City Council would be recessing to Executive Session to discuss the strategy or position to be taken by the City Council in the course of collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings and to review proposals made in negotiations pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b), and to discuss litigation and potential litigation, in which the City is a party or is likely to become a party, with legal counsel representing the City pursuant to RCW

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42.30.110(1)(i). The Executive Session will last no more than two hours and no further business will come before the City Council in open session. The meeting was recessed at 8:31 p.m.

Councilmember Jenkins left the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Morgan moved to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.