

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 17, 2014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Human Resource Director Pam Taylor, Solid Waste Manager Damon Taam, Sustainability Coordinator Melissa Warner, Engineer Monte Puymon, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Don Ashley, 1128 SW Bade, College Place, reported on a lecture he attended regarding drug use in teens; the legalization of marijuana and social justice; drop in IQ among young adults due to marijuana use; and the needs of the marijuana industry for addicts.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for Grandma's Kitchen/La Cocina De La Abueda, 36 E. Colville Street.

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- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Walla Walla Community Hospice event at the Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, 6 W. Rose Street on February 7, 2015.
- C. Accepting the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee's recommendation for allocating 2015 lodging tax funds.
- D. Ordinance No. 2014-46 establishing the 2015 salary schedule for non-represented employees.
- E. Resolution No. 2014-113 awarding contract to Environmental Information Logistics, LLC, for preparation of a landfill master plan for \$80,000.
- F. Resolution No. 2014-115 setting February 11, 2015 as the public hearing date to consider the approval of the Campbell annexation (approximately 5.1 acres generally located south of Taumarson Way and west of Plaza Way).
- G. Resolution No. 2014-116 authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation for 2015 for tourism promotion services in the amount of \$36,000.
- H. Resolution No. 2014-117 authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Fort Walla Walla Museum for tourism promotion services in the amount of \$20,000.
- I. Resolution No. 2014-118 authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Borleske Stadium Association in the amount of \$75,000.
- J. Resolution No. 2014-122 approving Veterans Memorial Golf Course fees and charges.
- K. Ordinance No. 2014-48 amending Section 2.94.030 of the Municipal Code pertaining to geographic information system (GIS) product fees.
- L. 2014 routine year-end budget adjustment ordinances:  
Ordinance No. 2014-49 amending the 2013-2014 maintenance and operations budget.

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Ordinance No. 2014-50 establishing new capital projects and amending the capital improvement project budget.

M. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held November 19, 2014.

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

**Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through M. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**5. ACTIVE AGENDA**

A. Ordinance No. 2014-47 describing certain capital improvements to be made to the City's Veteran's Memorial Swimming Pool and related facilities thereto; declaring the estimated cost of such improvements; providing for the issuance of \$5,830,000 principal amount of general obligation bonds payable from ad valorem taxes levied against all the taxable property within the City; providing for the submission of the proposition of incurring such indebtedness to the qualified electors within the City at a special election to be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015; providing for the notice of such election; and providing for other matters property relating thereto.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont reviewed:

- This is the 4<sup>th</sup> ballot measure submitted to the voters since 2004.
- Public participation and surveys used to determine the likely type of facility supported by the citizens.
- Formation of the Rebuild Memorial Pool committee and staff participation.
- Staff and the committee recommend going forward with a two-pool option. This option includes reuse of the existing building to house the pool's mechanical equipment; expanding and reusing the existing tank; and construction of a zero-depth pool suitable for younger children and families.

There was discussion on:

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- The Cobalt Community Research study used the list of voters casting ballots in the last six elections for the selection of survey participants.
- Sixty percent voter approval is required to pass the bond.
- Efforts of the Rebuild Memorial Pool committee for promotion of the measure.
- Timeframe for construction if measure is approved.
- There are very few grants available to augment construction funds. Staff will be working with local foundations for donations.
- Zero-depth pool design.
- Use of public funds to construct a fifty-meter pool for competitive swimming.
- Any subsidy for operation of the pool will come from either imposition of the banked property tax levy or the City's general fund.
- The City Council can determine the disposition of any excess bond proceeds.
- The estimated cost for a \$200,000 home is \$25 per year in additional property taxes. Staff anticipates charging a higher non-resident use fee.
- The proposed bond does not include any money for operations and maintenance.

Mayor Cummins invited public input.

Becky Kennedy, 609 University Street, Walla Walla, Secretary of the Rebuild Memorial Pool committee, provided an overview of the committee's efforts to educate the public and promote the bond. The committee could not support a facility that would not meet the needs of the entire community.

Brad Daly, 601 Village Way, Walla Walla, Vice Chair of the Rebuild Memorial Pool committee, reported the core of the proposal is to use the existing tank at the Memorial Pool site. The standard length for a competitive pool is fifty meters. The two pool proposal meets the greatest needs of the community.

Anne North-Jones, 1420 Avalon, Walla Walla, Chair of the Rebuild Memorial Pool committee, reported they will be hitting the streets on January 3 to promote the bond. The committee will also seek corporate sponsors in an effort to make it a sustainable program. The committee

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would also like to play an advisory role for programming of the facility after construction.

Dick Moeller, 2077 School Avenue, Walla Walla, asked what the life span of the facility is estimated to be and how it will be maintained to ensure it remains available to the community.

Dave Hampson, 626 Whitman Street, Walla Walla, commented on the importance of having basic facilities for the community, including a safe place for youth to learn to swim and exercise.

Richard McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, felt this was important for families but suggested a glossary of terms to clear up misconceptions and facilitate a better understanding among citizens.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont explained the mechanical components will last at least fifty years but there will be ongoing maintenance and replacement needs. There was discussion on funding for maintenance and ensuring ongoing viability of the facility.

**Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-47.  
Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion.**

There was additional discussion on:

- The proposed design and not having a self-supporting facility.
- The facility will serve the needs of the community and enhance the park system.
- Whether the ordinance can be modified to require the return of any excess bond proceeds to the voters. City Attorney Donaldson advised against any amendments to the ordinance. The ordinance, as written, allows the City Council to refund any excess bond proceeds. The City Council can go on record as stating it is their intent to return any excess bond funds to the property owners as a property tax holiday.

**The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-47 unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Barrow moved that the City Council goes on record as intending to return any surplus bond funds from the construction of the**

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**Memorial pool project to property owners. Councilmember Pomraning seconded the motion.**

There was discussion on the intent of the City Council to return any excess bond proceeds to property owners after the project is completed and closed out, similar to the property tax bond holidays after construction of the fire and police stations.

**The motion to go on record as intending to return any surplus bond funds from the construction of the Memorial pool project to property owners unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Resolution No. 2014-121 adopting the Walla Walla County Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan.

City Manager Shawa reviewed the process for approving this revised plan.

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

**Councilmember Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-121. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Report on status of Ordinance No. 2014-12 – Interim Floodplain Regulations,

City Attorney Donaldson reported this interim ordinance was adopted shortly before the City's sole planner retired. Staff will begin work on the permanent amendments now that the City will have planning staff. The interim ordinance establishes the date for enactment of permanent regulations.

- D. Resolution No. 2014-120 authorizing the execution of a professional services contract with DKS Associates for the Isaacs Avenue corridor study in the amount of \$84,120.

City Manager Shawa reported that Isaacs Avenue is one of the busiest roadways within the City and is in great need of infrastructure improvements. Staff hopes to start the project in 2017. The estimated cost

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is \$14 million for the section of Isaacs Avenue beginning at Rose Street to Wilbur. This contract will refine the project scope to make it more competitive for grants. The cost of this contract is approximately six-tenths of one percent of the project cost.

Richard McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, spoke in support of this contract and project.

**Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-120.  
Councilmember Clark seconded the motion.**

Council thanked the Public Works Department for putting together a project inclusive of citizen feedback and asked that the public meetings be placed on the Council calendar.

**The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2014-120 unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- E. Resolution No. 2014-114 approving a remedial action grant agreement with the Department of Ecology for the Sudbury Road landfill in the amount of \$1,015,000.

City Manager Shawa reported this grant is from the Department of Ecology Model Toxics Control Act account and requires a twenty-five percent local match. This grant provides funds for the continuing remediation work at the Sudbury Road landfill and staff recommends approval.

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

**Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-114.  
Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- F. Resolution No. 2014-119 authorizing a ten-year subscription agreement with New World Systems for computer-aided dispatch, records management, and other public safety software components (Annual software maintenance for New World Systems).

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Police Chief Bieber reported discussions have been ongoing to upgrade the computer-aided dispatch and records management software for over three years. This current software system has been in use since 1996. The City is one of roughly ten users nationwide continuing to use a DOS-based program. Other vendor options for replacing this outdated software were reviewed but the cost to change vendors was very prohibitive. This proposed agreement essentially extends the existing software maintenance agreement for a ten-year period to cover the expense of upgrading to a Windows platform. The upgrade will provide numerous efficiencies and will be implemented over a twelve to fourteen month period. Costs are shared among the users of the system.

There was discussion on:

- Total cost for the necessary hardware, software and training.
- Updated software will enable staff to work more efficiently and will automate many functions.
- Costs amortized among all participating agencies and potential impact if Walla Walla County withdraws from WESCOM.
- Compatibility of the new software with other systems. All of the software is proprietary and third-party products are necessary for interfacing with other systems.

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

**Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-119. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Barrow.**

G. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held December 3, 2014.

**Councilmember Plucker moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 3, 2014. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Barrow.**

H. Approval of the November 30, 2014 accounts payable register containing check numbers 182067 through 182352; 990649 through 990652; and 8355 through 8366 totaling \$2,146,359.39.

**Councilmember Plucker moved to approve payment of the November 30, 2014 accounts payable register containing check numbers 182067 through 182352; 990649 through 990652; and 8355 through 8366 totaling \$2,146,359.39 with the exception of the checks for the Blue Mountain Action Council and Jerry Cummins. Councilmember Barrow seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Plucker moved to approve payment of the checks to Blue Mountain Action Council and Jerry Cummins. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions by Councilmember Jenkins and Mayor Cummins.**

#### **6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the Work Session held December 8.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Senior Center luncheon held December 10.

Councilmember Barrow reported attendance at the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development committee meeting held November 20; the Blue Mountain Humane Society Board meeting held November 24; the Work Session held December 8; and the Infrastructure Improvement Committee meeting held December 9.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Fort Walla Walla Board meeting held December 9.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Work Session held December 8; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting held December 9; and the Borleske Stadium Association Board meeting held December 14.

Councilmember Pomraning reported attendance at the Work Session held December 8; the Conservation Board meeting held December 8; the Public Library Board meeting held December 10; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting held December 17; and the Port of Walla

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Walla reception held December 17. Councilmember Pomraning asked staff to provide a short brief on the aquifer storage recovery permit.

Mayor Cummins reported attendance at the Public Works Board meeting held December 5; the Work Session held December 8; and the Borleske Stadium Association Board meeting held December 14.

**7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

Council asked for a presentation at a future Work Session on County Health Department efforts to educate youth on controlled substances.

Council asked if a report had been submitted by the Friends of the Pioneer Park Aviary on their capital fundraising efforts. Staff commented there was nothing new to report and indicated the Council's action would be reviewed to determine if a report was due.

City Manager Shawa reported the Council retreat is scheduled for January 10, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

City Manager Shawa suggested a letter be sent to Governor Inslee to support the continuation of the Public Works Board, with copies to area legislators. There were no objections to sending a letter supporting the work of the Public Works Board.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Cummins announced the City Council would be recessing to Executive Session to evaluate the performance of public employees pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g); and to discuss with legal counsel representing the City, litigation or potential litigation involving the City pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

The Executive Session will last no longer than two hours and no further business will come before Council in open session. The meeting was recessed at 9:18 p.m.

Councilmember Jenkins was excused from the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Pomraning moved to adjourn at 11:18 p.m. Councilmember Plucker seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 p.m.