

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**August 11, 2014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cummins called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Jim Barrow, Barbara Clark, Mary Lou Jenkins, Dick Morgan, Chris Plucker, Allen Pomraning and Mayor Jerry Cummins. (Councilmember Plucker arrived at 5:33 p.m.)

Absent: None

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Finance Manager Jean Teasdale, Engineer Mike Laughery, Sustainability Coordinator Melissa Warner and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

**2. ACTIVE AGENDA**

A. Blue Star Banner Program.

Mayor Cummins introduced Stacey Alexander-Fulgham.

City Manager Shawa reported that Ms. Alexander-Fulgham is requesting City participation through allowing the placement of Blue Star Banners on City and Pacific Power light poles along Myra Road and The Dalles-Military Road. City participation would be through the installation of the brackets and banners.

Ms. Alexander- Fulgham described the Blue Star Banner program. The banners list the active-duty service member's name and branch of service. Before a banner can be purchased for \$350, the service member must provide written consent.

There was discussion on:

- Responsibility for tracking and removing banners when service member is no longer on active duty.
- Use of existing poles on Myra Road to The Dalles-Military Road and promoting the program valley-wide.
- Whether the Blue Star Banner program is a non-profit organization and amount of any administrative overhead charges.

## **WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**AUGUST 11, 2014**

**PAGE 2**

- Whether the program has been approved by Department of Defense due to very stringent security requirements.
- Creating an "Avenue of Heroes" to not only recognize citizens serving in the armed forces but also to recognize local "heroes." This would be an expansion to fill the corridor with banners of recognition.

It was the consensus of a majority of Council to have the security concerns addressed and confirmation of non-profit status of the Blue Star Banner program before moving forward with the proposal.

### **B. Energy Management Plan Discussion.**

Clayton Hudiburg and John Butenhoff explained the energy management plan implemented by the Walla Walla School District. This program focuses on monitoring meters, identifying refunds and rebates, and changing behaviors. The school district model measures cost avoidance rather than cost savings.

There was discussion on the School District's energy management program, how data is measured and reported, types of behaviors that can be changed, and whether this is an operational issue or policy decision.

It was the consensus of Council to have staff review and determine whether to issue a request for proposals for a firm to evaluate methods (not equipment) for reducing energy consumption.

### **C. Review of Capital Expenditure Plan.**

City Manager Shawa reported this plan has been refined and staff is seeking Council input on the proposed projects and priorities in the plan by September 5, 2014.

Public Works Director Bealey, Parks & Recreation Director Dumont, and Engineer Laughery reviewed the format and described the projects contained in the plan. There were questions and discussion on some of the projects and funding contained in the Capital Expenditure Plan.

Councilmember Plucker arrived at 5:33 p.m.

### **D. Budget Development Update.**

**WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 11, 2014**  
**PAGE 3**

Finance Manager Teasdale reviewed the proposed 2015-2016 budget development process. The landfill and sanitation rate setting will be rescheduled to the November 5 City Council meeting.

Council suggested changing "final budget" to "City Manager's budget" and focusing the content of the October 13 Work Session to those budgetary issues that are new or different.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Barrow indicated he would be absent from the August 13 City Council meeting.

Councilmember Pomraning reported that he does not have any concerns with Walla Walla County taking over the administrative duties of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO technical advisory committee performs the major funding decisions for streets and roads and so it is very important for staff to be engaged with this advisory committee.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.