

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**October 13, 2014**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cummins called the meeting to order at 4:00 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, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Deputy City Manager Tim McCarty, Finance Manager Jean Teasdale, Public Works Manager Mori Struve, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Streets Supervisor George Bell, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

**2. ACTIVE AGENDA**

A. Overview of the proposed 2015-2016 budget for public works.

City Manager Shawa and Public Works Director Bealey provided an overview of the 2015-2016 proposed public works budgets including:

- Budget Development Schedule.
- The City's vision of "Best of the Best in the Northwest" has been defined by staff as having the highest citizen satisfaction rating.
- Additional funding is necessary for street improvements. Potential funding options include:
  - Reallocation of rate increases from wastewater to water fund. This will increase water rates but decrease wastewater rates. The overall impact on the average residential ratepayer is a minimal reduction.
  - Imposition of an additional two percent utility tax (currently the payment in lieu of taxes) - \$600,000.
  - Real estate excise tax - \$200,000.
- This proposed revenue is an additional \$800,000 in street funding.
- Street fund challenges.
- Options if no new revenue is secured.
- Americans with Disabilities (ADA) rules.
- Street projects using the proposed additional two percent utility tax. These projects are in addition to the Transportation Benefit District (TBD) and Infrastructure Repair and Replacement (IRRP) projects.

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- Stormwater fund.
- Wastewater fund.
- Water fund.
- Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Project fund.
- Transportation Benefit District fund.
- Landfill fund.
- Sanitation fund.
- Recycling fund.

There was discussion on:

- The incremental increase of 2 percent in the utility tax (currently payment in lieu of tax) would go for streets. 10.75 percent would still go to the general fund to pay for other services.
- Implementation of LED street lights to save money in the street fund.
- Repair of streets in cemetery will not be funded from the street fund. This project is proposed to be funded by the Lamar bequest.
- Chip seal, choke and fog program.
- Stream management on private properties.
- The number of years the stormwater master plan has been under development and the cost of this master plan.
- Investment in solar panels for electricity generation at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Encouraging conservation of natural gas, electricity, and water.
- Proposed reduction in wastewater rates and increase in water rates for IRRP funding will rebalance the infrastructure program costs.
- Summary of rates for an average residential household.

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

### **3. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.