

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2015

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, Parks and Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Police Captain Terry Heisey, Operations Manager Mori Struve, Solid Waste Manager Damon Taam, Engineer Mike Laughery, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Walt Ponti, 1044 Bonnie Brae, Walla Walla, expressed concerns with the upcoming Gentlemen of the Road stopover tour. Mayor Cummins suggested Mr. Ponti hold his comments until this item is discussed on the agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Junior Club of Walla Walla's event on April 18 at Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Hall, 2098 E. Alder Street.
- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New Application for Tero Estates, 6 W. Rose Street, Suite 103.

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- C. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Walla Walla Community College Foundation at the College Board Room, 500 Tausick Way, on April 24.
- D. Accept resignation of Brennan Grass from the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board.
- E. Resolution No. 2015-23: Awards the bid for hot mix asphalt to Humbert Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of \$205,821.
- F. Resolution No. 2015-24: Authorizes the purchase of one cab and chassis truck, to include remount of previously refurbished animal transport body from Legacy Ford of Pasco, for \$30,609, for the police department. (State bid – no local vendors able to supply vehicle.)
- G. Resolution No. 2015-25: Authorizes the purchase of one cab and chassis truck at a cost of \$32,599.38 from Columbia Ford of Longview, WA; and the associated contract with Titan Truck of Spokane to refurbish and remount the existing service body and lift crane for \$16,727, for a total equipment cost of \$49,362 (Signal maintenance truck for Street division – State contract – no local vendors).
- H. Resolution No. 2015-26: Awards bid to Columbia Pumping & Construction, Inc. for the airport main sewer lining project in the amount of \$236,331.25; and authorizes the City Manager to execute a reimbursement agreement with the Port of Walla Walla for their share of the project. (\$176,464.26-City; \$54,866.99-Port)
- I. Resolution 2015-27: Authorizing the purchase of crack sealant from Special Asphalt Products in the amount of \$34,465.19 (State contract).
- J. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held February 25, 2015.

Council asked why the City's share of the cost was higher than the Port of Walla Walla's cost on Consent Agenda item H. City Manager Shawa explained that the number was calculated proportional to footage cost for the sewer improvements.

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

Councilmember Plucker moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through J. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2015-28: Awards the bid for the Frankland Street IRRP project to Accelerated Construction & Excavating of Plummer, Idaho for \$996,635.44.

City Manager Shawa reviewed the area of this IRRP project. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$1,260,000. There were five bids submitted and staff recommends approval.

Council expressed a concern with the discrepancy in amounts bid by the contractors. Staff reported that the City is required to award the bid to the lowest responsive bidder.

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

Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-28. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Resolution No. 2015-29: Approves the purchase of one cab and chassis truck at a cost of \$109,240 from Freedom Truck Center of Spokane and one new Model BC-10 asphalt patch body at a cost of \$160,199 from PB Corporation of Fresno, CA. for a total equipment cost of \$269,439 (Street Division replacement asphalt patch truck).

City Manager Shawa introduced Operations Manager Struve and reported this is a twenty-nine year old piece of equipment slated for replacement.

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Operations Manager Struve reviewed the purchase of the truck and the new, refocused mission of the Streets Division. This truck, he explained, will serve a dual function and is equipped with everything necessary for street patching eliminating the need for separate trips for materials.

There was discussion on:

- The need for this truck, and how it makes engineering and mathematical sense in a changing paradigm.
- The difference between crack sealing and patching.
- The benefits of the new direction in street repairs.
- Patching work on Isaacs and dual use of equipment.
- Lineal and lane miles of streets within the City.

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

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Resolution 2015-29.
Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

C. Bicycle and Pedestrian Emphasis Patrol.

City Manager Shawa introduced Police Capitan Heisey. City Manager Shawa explained this is a known issue and it's important to be proactive and raise public awareness.

Capitan Heisey gave an overview of the traffic safety related emphasis patrols. Bicycle and pedestrian safety emphasis patrols will run from April 1 to May 15. He reviewed the program goals and objectives, with an emphasis on education, to make everyone safer on our roadways.

Council asked for a report showing the results (data) for these emphasis patrols.

There was discussion on:

- Appreciation of the kinder/gentler approach for traffic education.
- Everyone has a duty to ensure safer roadways and the responsibility does not fall to any single group of users.
- How to help all users understand how to share roadways.
- This is a community that cares for its travelers and appreciates the police department taking the initiative.

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Mayor Cummins invited public input.

R.L. McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, expressed his appreciation for no single form of transportation being singled out by the Police Department.

Sharon Ponti, 1044 Bonnie Brae, Walla Walla, commented that responsibility needs to occur for all modes of transportation.

Kurt Friederich, 1526 Ruth Street, Walla Walla, discussed the volume of usage on Isaacs Avenue at peak times and felt that everybody needs to be responsible, especially vehicle operators.

No action was taken by the City Council.

D. Gentlemen of the Road Tour Stopover – Update

City Manager Shawa reported that regular updates on this significant event coming to Walla Walla in mid-August will occur at each Council meeting.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont showed a video preview of the “Gentlemen of the Road” tour and reviewed the due diligence performed by staff and Council prior to the announcement of this event by Madison House Presents, the promoter for Mumford & Sons and the Foo Fighters. Regular meetings are held with the promoters, City, Whitman College, DeSales High School, and Downtown Walla Walla Foundation. Parks & Recreation Director Dumont showed an overview of the locations for camping, parking, main stage, and triage areas

Councilmember Plucker reviewed his time spent in Troy, Ohio gathering facts and information about their experience hosting a Gentlemen of the Road stopover. This event is an opportunity to showcase and celebrate all Walla Walla has to offer. The representatives of Troy, Ohio were able to allay concerns and also offered many helpful suggestions, such as working with cell phone carriers to ensure adequate capacity.

Mayor Cummins invited public input.

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Walt Ponti, 1044 Bonnie Brae, Walla Walla, commented that he ran the music program at the Penitentiary. Mr. Ponti expressed concerns with the venue being a liability; the noise; proximity to the airport; inadequate electricity to the site; and inability of City residents to go downtown without paying during the event. Mr. Ponti suggested the airport or the fairgrounds as alternative venues.

Patricia Wilson, 115 S. Blue Street, Walla Walla, asked about the closures in the downtown area; whether camping was going to be allowed in City parks; and availability of downtown parking, especially for downtown churchgoers on Sunday.

Kurt Friederich, 1526 Ruth Street, Walla Walla, expressed excitement for the event.

Sharon Ponti, 1044 Bonnie Brae, Walla Walla, felt people in the neighborhood were not consulted and their concerns are not being considered by the City.

Joshua Hemming, 36 Tremont, College Place, indicated his appreciation for the direct approach taken by the City; is excited for the concert; and sees the value and opportunity to create a legacy in Walla Walla.

Parks & Recreation Director Dumont responded to the questions raised by the public:

- The Downtown area will be closed Thursday to Saturday. Tickets will be available for purchase to view the concerts occurring in the downtown area when there are no concerts on the main stage. Main concert ticket holders will also have access to the downtown as part of their pass.
- Camping will be limited to the golf course and no camping will be allowed in the parks.
- The promoter (Madison House Presents) will be paying all costs for the event and are committed to buying local.
- The downtown area will be open on Sunday and churchgoers will not be restricted from parking in their designated lots.

There was additional discussion on:

- The City of Walla Walla will be named as an additional insured on the promoter's \$26,000,000 policy.

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- The Municipal Code provides the authority to limit public access to special events within the City.
- Over 12,000 tickets have been sold as of March 6.
- Provision of services is being considered and monitored carefully.
- People interested in being a vendor or volunteering can contact the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the Gentlemen of the Road press conference held March 2; and the Work Session held March 9.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Work Session held March 9.

Councilmember Barrow reported attendance at the Watershed Partnership Board meeting held March 3; the United Way Board meeting held March 4; and the Blue Mountain Humane Society Board meeting held March 10.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board meeting held March 2; the agenda preparation meeting held March 4; the Work Session held March 9; and the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board meeting held March 10.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Gentlemen of the Road press conference held March 2; the Sustainability Committee meeting held March 3; the Work Session held March 9; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting held March 10; and participated on the sustainability panel for a leadership class at Walla Walla Community College on March 11.

Councilmember Pomraning reported attendance at a summer festival planning meeting held February 26; the announcement of the Gentlemen of the Road stopover tour to City employees held March 2; the Gentlemen of the Road stopover press conference held March 2; the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held March 4; the gala auction for Engineers without Borders held March 7; the Work Session held March 9; and the Public Library Board meeting held March 11.

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Mayor Cummins reported attendance at the announcement of the Gentlemen of the Road stopover tour to City employees held March 2; the Gentlemen of the Road stopover press conference held March 2; a meeting with Commissioner Perry Dozier held March 4; a meeting with business owners regarding the proposed fire inspection fees held March 4; the Public Works Board meeting held March 6; the Work Session held March 9; and the Town Hall meeting with Cathy McMorris Rodgers, 5th legislative district representative, held March 11.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

There was no new or unfinished business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.