

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Absent: Councilmembers Jim Barrow and Dick Morgan.

City staff in attendance: Deputy City Manager Tim McCarty, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Dumont, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Public Works Manager Mori Struve, Police Captain Chris Buttice, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Assistant City Attorney Preston Frederickson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Boy Scout Magnus Frederickson led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Midsummer Musical Retreat Society at Whitman College on August 4 through August 7.
- B. Washington State Liquor Control Board: New application for Fox In A Box Wines, 6 E. Rose Street.
- C. Washington State Liquor Control Board: Special occasion license for Providence St. Mary Foundation at Walla Walla Country Club on July 24, 2015.

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- D. Resolution No. 2015-71 authorizing the City Manager to sell or otherwise dispose of certain surplus property. (1981 Seagraves pumper truck)
- E. Resolution No. 2015-72 authorizing the City Manager to sell or otherwise dispose of certain surplus property. (Miscellaneous tools and equipment)

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 E. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2015-73 authorizing the purchase of vehicles and equipment.

Deputy City Manager McCarty reported staff has gone through an extensive review and revision of equipment needs. The majority of these proposed vehicle purchases are for the streets division. Funds have been set aside and included in the budget for these purchases.

There was brief discussion on equipping the trucks for use throughout the year.

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

Councilmember Pomraning moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-73. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Downtown Alder Street parking revision.

Public Works Director Bealey reported this item is being revisited from the June 8 Work Session regarding the layout of Alder Street on either side of Second Avenue. Council had asked staff to seek additional citizen input through its "Online City Hall" public forum. 196 people participated in the

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forum with 130 in favor of the inclusion of a dedicated left turn lane and 66 in favor of eliminating the left turn lane for additional diagonal parking.

There was discussion on:

- Existing traffic volume is higher on Poplar Street than Alder Street.
- Projections from traffic engineers show that traffic will be backed up past 1st Avenue on Alder Street in twenty years without the left turn lane.
- The change involves paint and the street can always be repainted at relatively low cost.
- It is not feasible to install only one left turn lane between First and Second Avenues due to problems with sight distance and aligning the travel lanes.
- A final decision needs to be made so the contractor can place the traffic signal heads.

Mayor Cummins invited public input.

The following spoke in favor of eliminating the left turn lanes at Alder and Second Avenue to allow for additional diagonal parking:

- Elio Agostini, Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Executive Director, 127 Beam Court, Walla Walla.
- Doug Ralph, Windermere property manager on behalf of the Drumheller building owner.
- Mike Corliss, downtown property owner, 511 N. Second Avenue, Walla Walla.
- Bruce Hallowell, owner/manager of Quiznos, 255 W. Sumach, Walla Walla.
- Jean Dolling, 208 Detour Road, Walla Walla.
- Tom Scribner, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, 1712 Durum Drive, Walla Walla.
- Charles Potts, downtown property owner, 350 S. Palouse, Walla Walla.
- Jeremy Gradwohl, 417 Ankeny, Walla Walla.
- Katie Daniels, 2448 Provenance, Walla Walla.

Council expressed their opinions on whether to eliminate the designated left turn lane on Alder Street at Second Avenue.

Councilmember Plucker moved to change the downtown Alder Street plan to Option 2, the elimination of the dedicated left turn lane on Alder

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Street at Second Avenue to allow for additional diagonal parking spaces. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

C. Resolution No. 2015-74 authorizing execution of an agreement with Madison House Presents for the Gentlemen of the Road tour.

Deputy City Manager McCarty reported this contract reflects what was verbally agreed to with Madison House Presents and reimburses the City nearly one hundred percent of its costs for the music festival.

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

Council noted that other cities hosting Gentlemen of the Road stopovers had formalized agreements only days prior to the event.

Councilmember Pomraning moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-74. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2015-18 adopting interim amendments to the Walla Walla Municipal Code.

City Attorney Donaldson reported the current Code is not established for hosting a large event such as the Gentlemen of the Road stopover. These amendments provide public notice for the closure of streets, temporary cell phone towers, and noise. This ordinance is a balance between the needs of residents and concert goers. Staff recommends approval.

There were comments on:

- Notice was not able to be provided to residents in the area of the street closures until Council has approved the proposed ordinance.
- Value of the fact-finding trips to Troy, Ohio and Waverly, Iowa to observe the interaction of the promoter with the needs of the community.
- The community has learned to navigate street closures with the number of street projects currently under construction.

Mayor Cummins declared the public hearing open at 8:03 p.m. There being no public testimony, the public hearing was closed.

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Councilmember Pomraning moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-18. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

D. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held June 10, 2015.

Councilmember Clark moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held June 10, 2015. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Plucker.

E. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held June 22, 2015.

Councilmember Pomraning moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held June 22, 2015. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

F. Approval of the June 30, 2015 Accounts Payable register containing check numbers 184289 through 184729, 990685 through 990694, and 8504 through 8524 totaling \$11,740,446.00.

Councilmember Plucker moved to approve the June 30, 2015 Accounts Payable register containing check numbers 184289 through 184729, 990685 through 990694, and 8504 through 8524 totaling \$11,740,446.00 with the exception of the checks to Blue Mountain Action Council and Chris Plucker. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Plucker moved to approve payment of the check to Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Jenkins.

Councilmember Pomraning moved to approve payment of the check to Chris Plucker. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention by Councilmember Plucker.

G. Gentlemen of the Road tour stopover.

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Parks and Recreation Director Dumont provided an update on the planning for the Gentlemen of the Road stopover tour.

There was discussion on:

- A meeting held with downtown merchants.
- Operation of Valley Transit in the downtown area.
- Recycling services for the event.

Mayor Cummins invited public input.

Jeremy Gradwohl, 417 Ankeny, Walla Walla, commented on the fees charged by Madison House Presents which will exclude most mobile food vendors. There was discussion on the regulation of vendors on public property and the contract provisions with Madison House Presents.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Pomranning reported attendance at the Association of Washington Cities Conference held June 23 through June 26; the Work Session held June 29; the VA Nursing Home groundbreaking held July 1; the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting held July 1; the Independence Day celebration held July 4; the meetings to introduce fiber optic service to Walla Walla held July 7; and the Public Library Board meeting held July 8. Councilmember Pomranning also reported Mayor Cummins was honored as a legislative leader by the Association of Washington Cities.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the 40th Anniversary celebration for Anderson-Perry & Associates held June 24; meetings to review the Walla Walla County plan to end homelessness held June 24 and June 25; the Work Session held June 29; the grand opening celebration of the Lariat Gardens held June 30; the VA Nursing Home groundbreaking held July 1; and the Sustainability Committee meeting held July 7.

Councilmember Plucker reported attendance at the Work Session held June 29; and the 4th of July celebration at Pioneer Park. Councilmember Plucker recognized the Parks department employees for their work.

Councilmember Jenkins reported attendance at the Work Session held June 29; and the VA Nursing Home groundbreaking held July 1.

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Mayor Cummins reported attendance at the Association of Washington Cities annual conference held June 23 through June 26; the Work Session held June 29; the swearing-in ceremony for a new police officer held June 29; the grand opening celebration of the Lariat Gardens held June 30; the Brookdale ribbon-cutting ceremony held June 30; the Walla Walla Sweets game for the opening pitch held June 30; the VA Nursing Home groundbreaking held July 1; and the 4th of July celebration at Pioneer Park.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Cummins presented Magnus Frederickson with a City pin.

Mayor Cummins distributed gifts to Council and staff members from the Association of Washington Cities annual conference.

Councilmember Clark asked for a functioning drinking fountain in the park.

Deputy City Manager McCarty reported there were 377 calls for service between July 3 and July 5. There were five fires reported, four were firework related.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.