

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
April 11, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Councilmembers Jim Barrow, Barbara Clark, Jerry Cummins, Steve Moss, Tom Scribner, and Mayor Allen Pomraning.

Absent: Councilmember Dick Morgan.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabil Shawa, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Public Works Manager Mori Struve, Water Distribution Supervisor Adrian Sutor, Street Supervisor George Bell, Utilities Engineer Frank Nicholson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present and participating in the discussion: Kirsten Wilson, Energy Systems Engineer with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services; Murray Greenwood, Account Executive with Ameresco; and Mike Gavin, Pacific Power.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Street lighting ownership transfer and LED conversion.

Public Works Director Bealey introduced the project team and reviewed:

- Energy savings performance contracting review.
- Project scope and background.
- Projected expenses and savings.
- Optional add-on.
- Next steps if the City Council wants to further explore this concept.

There was discussion on:

- LED versus induction lighting.
- A street light audit for \$30,000 performed by Pacific Power will be required to establish the purchase price.
- Pacific Power audit will take approximately five months.
- Retrofit of lights to LED fixtures will take six to eight weeks.
- Impact on public safety.
- Assumptions on future savings.

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- B. Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI)/water meter replacement project update.

Public Works Director Bealey provided a project update on the AMI water meter replacement project and the findings of an energy grade audit conducted by Ameresco. The financing for the estimated total project cost of \$5,810,000 was reviewed. The system also has an optional online customer portal allowing users to view their usage; provide email alerts for issues such as leaks; assist with conservation initiatives; and empower customers to better manage and adjust water usage.

There was discussion on:

- Projected impact on residential rates by installing more accurate meters.
- Optional online customer portal and adding it at a later date after determining the need for support staff.
- Protection and security of the technological part of the system.
- Financing will be done through a revenue bond. The 2.75 percent interest rate is an estimate based on the current bond market.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Shawa reported there have been no problems or complaints with the portable restrooms placed downtown and staff plans on continuing to provide this service.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.