

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: Acting City Manager/Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Transportation Engineer Monte Puymon, and Deputy City Clerk Jodi Stephens.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Pomranning read and presented the proclamation declaring the week of February 19 through February 25, 2017 as "Engineers Week" to Public Works Director Bealey and Transportation Engineer Puymon.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pomranning introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A through E, as follows:

- A. Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board: Special occasion liquor license for The Johnson Family Foundation at the GESA Powerhouse Theater on March 11, 2017.

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- B. Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board: Special occasion liquor license for Providence St. Mary Foundation at Cordiner Hall on March 11, 2017.
- C. Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board: Change of liquor license location for Sullivan Vitamins & Irish Shop.
- D. Resolution No. 2017-05 authorizing Banner Bank as a financial depository for ambulance billing.
- E. Resolution No. 2017-06 ratifying the declaration of an emergency purchase and approving the contract with Total Comfort Solutions to replace a heating and cooling unit at the Wallula remote radio site.

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

Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through E. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2017-07 awarding a contract to Premier Excavation for the Isaacs Ave Phase I Reconstruction in the amount of \$4,146,773.05.

Transportation Engineer Puymon provided a presentation on the Isaacs Avenue Reconstruction Project. Two grants were obtained for this project. The City will be working with the School District for a bus turnout area at Green Park Elementary School and they will be reimbursing the City directly for those costs. The bid came in less than the engineer's estimate so the City will maximize use of the grant funds. Construction start date is anticipated for end of February or beginning of March with a projected end date in October 2017.

There was discussion on:

- Main detour routes and parking limitations.
- Comparable projects completed by Premier Excavation.
- Landscaping will be performed by a subcontractor.

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- Reimbursement for the bus turnout will be handled through a separate reimbursement agreement with the School District.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-25. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Draft Ordinance No. 2017-04 on camping and storage of private property on public property.

Acting City Manager Chamberlain reported this item is scheduled for discussion on how to address the issue of sleeping and camping in areas other than a designated homeless camp area. Staff is seeking policy direction from the Council.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input.

Dan Clark, 717 N. Main, Walla Walla, expressed concerns with the provisions related to camping in vehicles and the need for them to have a safe place to park. Mr. Clark suggested this issue be referred to a proposed homeless advisory committee prior to Council action.

Craig Volwiler, 3276 Plaza Way, Walla Walla, expressed concerns with the provisions concerning camping in vehicles.

Sierra Knudson, Walla Walla County, 314 W. Main, Walla Walla, asked if the impact and costs of jailing offenders had been looked at and also the impact on homeless people that are unable to follow rules and live with other people.

Beth Call, 102 Otis, Walla Walla, asked if the ordinance allows homeless people to leave their belongings at the homeless camp.

Noah Leavitt, 625 Whitman, Walla Walla, commented on litigation in municipalities regulating the actions of homeless people and the challenges that these homeless people face. Mr. Leavitt asked if the draft ordinance will comply with state and federal laws.

City Attorney Tim Donaldson addressed questions posed by citizens as follows:

- The proposed ordinance gives the City Manager the ability to designate other camping areas.

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- City Manager Shawa and the proposed homeless advisory committee will address the hours and regulations of the homeless camp.
- The City has considered costs for litigation and enforcement of the ordinance. Homeless people will have an area to go; and these regulations will help provide protection to the community.

There was discussion on why there is a need to address the issues of camping on public property, recreational vehicles, and storage of property with Councilmembers expressing their opinions.

Councilmember Barrow moved to direct staff to have Ordinance No. 2017-04 brought back before Council for action at a future meeting. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion. The motion carried with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Morgan and Scribner.

C. Draft Ordinance No. 2017-05 prohibiting sitting or lying on public sidewalks in the downtown area during designated times.

Staff reported this ordinance is specific to the downtown area only and would not apply city wide. The ordinance has been drafted to address requests by downtown business owners to apply to the public benches downtown. It is modeled after a Seattle ordinance that was found to be legal and enforceable through the courts. There was discussion on the provisions in the ordinance.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input.

Sierra Knudson, Walla Walla County, 314 W. Main, Walla Walla, had comments regarding intoxicated individuals sitting in the downtown area and ensuring the law is applied fairly.

There was a discussion on why a no sit/no lie ordinance may be considered necessary.

Councilmember Barrow moved to direct staff to have Ordinance No. 2017-05 brought back before Council for action at a future meeting. Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion.

Councilmembers expressed their opinions on the proposed ordinance.

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The motion to direct staff to have Ordinance No. 2017-05 brought back before Council for future action passed with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Morgan and Scribner.

- D. Approval of the Accounts Payable register containing check numbers 191686 through 192060, 990787 through 990796, and 8800 through 8804 totaling \$5,740,909.38.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the Accounts Payable register containing check numbers 191686 through 192060, 990787 through 990796, and 8800 through 8804 totaling \$5,740,909.38. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Approval of minutes of the retreat held January 14, 2017.

Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the minutes of the retreat held January 14, 2017. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Morgan.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held January 24; the Washington State Housing Finance Commission meeting held January 26; and a meeting held February 6 regarding Veterans Memorial Swimming Pool.

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held February 1; and a meeting regarding short term rentals held February 2.

Councilmember Barrow reported attendance at the Infrastructure Improvement Advisory Committee meeting held January 12; the Council retreat held January 14; the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting held January 19; the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting held January 19; the Valley Transit Board meeting held January 19; the STAR Board meeting held January 24; the legislative meetings in Olympia on January 30 through February 1; the agenda preparation meeting held February 1; and the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting held February 6.

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Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the School Board meeting held January 24; and the legislative meetings in Olympia held January 30 through February 1.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Council retreat held January 14; a meeting of the Boards & Commissions Committee held January 17; the Sustainability Committee meeting held January 17; the Visit Walla Walla meeting held January 19; the Borleske Stadium Board meeting held January 23; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held January 24; the Senior Center Board meeting held January 26; and the meeting regarding regional trails held January 31.

Councilmember Scribner reported attendance at the Council retreat held January 14; a meeting of the Hotel & Motel Commission held January 16; a meeting of the Boards & Commissions Committee held January 17; the Visit Walla Walla meeting held January 19; the Public Library Board meeting held February 8; and the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting held January 24.

Mayor Pomraning reported attendance at the emergency shelter committee meeting held January 12; the Council retreat held January 14; the Valley Transit Board meeting held January 19; the agenda preparation meetings; the Windermere Conference held January 24; the legislative meetings in Olympia held January 30 through February 1; and the Planning Commission meeting held February 7.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Staff reported it may be necessary to reschedule the special Work Session on February 9, 2017.

Councilmember Scribner asked staff to report back on two large trees being removed on Palouse Street.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Pomraning adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m.