

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pomraning 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 Pomraning.

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Engineer Adam Klein, Crime Prevention Coordinator Vicki Ruley, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Pomraning read and presented a proclamation declaring August 1, 2017 as "National Night Out in Walla Walla" to Crime Prevention Coordinator Ruley.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

R.L McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, asked that Middle Waitsburg Road be re-opened during the day for the remainder of wheat harvest.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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- A. Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board: Special occasion liquor license for YWCA of Walla Walla on September 14, 2017.
- B. Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board: Liquor license for added privilege for Doubleback, 229 E. Main Street.
- C. Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board: Application in lieu of current privilege for Soi 71; A Thai Noodle House, 119 W. Alder Street.
- D. Resolution No. 2017-67 approving an agreement with GN Northern Inc. for material testing services for the Mill Creek Water Treatment Plant Improvements project.
- E. Resolution No. 2017-68 authorizing execution of a grant from the Department of Justice for purchase of ballistic vests for police officers.
- F. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held July 10, 2017.
- G. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 12, 2017.

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

There was clarification on Item C, the added privilege for the liquor license application.

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

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2017-69 approving a contract with Precision Concrete Cutting in the amount of \$45,000 for the 2017 sidewalk grinding project.

Engineer Klein reviewed and there was discussion on:

- Sidewalk trip and fall claims and variety of methods to fix sidewalk defects.

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- Mandatory requirements from the Washington Cities Insurance Authority.
- Examples of trip and fall hazards and how these projects are prioritized.
- Precision concrete grinding method and benefits of this approach.
- Sidewalk hazards are a health and safety issue which is why the City is taking measures to repair them rather than requiring abutting property owners to handle the repairs.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input.

R.L. McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, asked why the Blue Mountain Subdivision on Middle Waitsburg Road is not required to install sidewalks and felt that developers should be held responsible for sidewalks.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-69. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Resolution No. 2017-70 authorizing an amendment to the contract with BLRB Architects for the Service Center remodel project.

City Manager Shawa reported the conceptual plan for remodeling the Service Center was reviewed by the Council in March. Staff concluded a review of the GSA benchmarks for office space with the conceptual plan. The anticipated construction cost is \$1.3 million and this contract with the architect is in the typical range of costs. A more open floor plan is anticipated to cost more than the initial concept. The architect will also look at using the archive facility for additional office space.

There was discussion on:

- The architect will provide contrasting floor plans with associated costs.
- Having staff redesign the space including the relocation of archives.
- The selection of BLRB Architects was through the request for proposals process.

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- The purpose of the contract is to have construction-ready plans for a redesign of the service center space for both a traditional office space plan and a more open space plan.

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

Councilmember Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-70.
Councilmember Clark seconded the motion.

There was additional discussion on the feasibility of the City purchasing the General Hospital building and using it to house all City offices. Staff explained the difficulty and expense of the purchase and operation of such a large space and believes it will likely be used as a hospital in the future. Council also stressed the importance of ensuring the building serves the future needs of the City.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2017-70 carried with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Barrow.

B. Council Chamber security and technology upgrade.

Deputy City Manager Olson reported there are two components to the planned upgrades to the Council Chambers: security and technology. Staff will work to retain the historical character of the room along with coordinating the work with installation of the fire sprinklers. There were comments on the proposed work, schedule, and capacity to televise meetings.

C. Ordinance No. 2017-20 designating the City Manager and Deputy City Manager as the City's officials for commenting and/or objecting to applications for liquor licenses on behalf of the City.

City Attorney Donaldson reported this ordinance expands the authority of the City Manager to process liquor license applications in addition to marijuana licenses. It allows the City Manager to place liquor licenses applications on the City Council agenda for any that may hold special interest. There was discussion on the issuance of special occasion applications and the intent to allow routine applications to be processed in a timelier manner.

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

**Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-20.
Councilmember Scribner seconded the motion.**

Councilmember Cummins moved to amend the Ordinance to exclude special occasion liquor license applications. The motion to amend failed for lack of a second.

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-20 carried with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Cummins.

D. Ordinance No. 2017-18 amending the 2017-2018 operations and maintenance budget; and

Ordinance No. 2017-19 establishing new projects and amending the capital improvement project budget.

Finance Director Teasdale reported this is one of the standard budget amendments and reviewed the highlights. There was discussion on the impact of the State legislators failing to pass a capital budget.

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

**Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-18.
Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-19.
Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss had no meetings to report.

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held July 20; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development

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Committee meeting held July 25; and the promotional and swearing in ceremony for police officers held July 25.

Councilmember Barrow reported attendance at the agenda preparation meeting held July 19; the Valley Transit Board meeting held July 20; the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting held July 21; a meeting with Deputy City Manager Olson regarding the Hotel-Motel Commission on July 22; the STAR Executive Board meetings held July 24 and July 25; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held July 25.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Good Roads Committee meeting held July 13; the Valley Transit Board meeting held July 20; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held July 25.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the Vista Terrace block party held July 13; the City Council candidates' forum held July 27; the Sustainability Committee meeting held July 18; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held July 25.

Councilmember Scribner reported attendance at a meeting with Parks & Recreation Director Coleman; and a meeting with staff regarding the issue of election of Council by wards or districts.

Mayor Pomraning reported meeting with Council candidates on July 12; the Washington State Parks Commission meeting held July 13; the Good Roads Committee meeting held July 13; a radio interview held July 14; a meeting regarding the closure of General Hospital held July 14; the Emergency Management Executive Committee meeting held July 18; the agenda preparation meeting held July 19; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Committee meeting held July 25; a meeting with taxi company operators held July 21; and the promotional and swearing in ceremony for police officers held July 25.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

The following subjects were discussed:

- Neighborhood block parties south of Alder Street.
- Scheduling a legislative committee meeting.

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- Street trees have been planted along Rose Street adjacent to the Red Lion Inn.
- Sleeping center site now contains several "Conestoga" type tents.
- Sharing the impact of a lack of State capital budget with the Governor and Legislators.
- Report on Memorial Swimming Pool as soon as it is closed for the season, along with a report on the plans for the Jefferson Pool.

Councilmember Clark moved to ask the Mayor to sign a letter on behalf of the City Council to the State on the impact of the lack of a capital budget on local projects. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.