

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Absent: Councilmember Jerry Cummins.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Capital Projects Engineer Mike Laughery, Fire Captain John Knowles, WESCOM Manager Steve Ruley, Stormwater Coordinator Brad Daly, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sybil Cochrane, 105 N. Spokane Street #103, Walla Walla, commented on the lack of affordable housing and its societal impacts.

R.L. McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, had comments on development occurring at the Blue Mountain Subdivision on Middle Waitsburg Road and an email sent to the City's Building Inspector.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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- A. Resolution No. 2017-111 declares items surplus and authorizes the City Manager to dispose of them.
- B. Resolution No. 2017-112 authorizing the purchase of a hybrid sports utility vehicle for the water treatment division and a one-ton cab-chassis with flatbed and sprayer for the stormwater division.
- C. Resolution No. 2017-113 approving the purchase of a fire engine/apparatus from Hughes Fire Equipment.
- D. Resolution No. 2017-114 authorizing the purchase of six police patrol all-wheel drive utility vehicles and two police K-9 all-wheel drive utility vehicles from Columbia Ford.
- E. Resolution No. 2017-115 authorizes acceptance of a \$50,000 stormwater capacity grant from the Department of Ecology.
- F. Resolution No. 2017-116 authorizing the purchase of a mobile office to house the Sudbury Landfill compost operations staff.
- G. Resolution No. 2017-117 authorizing the purchase of E-9-1-1 equipment for a WESCOM simulcast tower.
- H. Ordinance No. 2017-43 fixing compensation ranges for non-represented City employees and authorizing the City Manager to determine salaries.
- I. Ordinance No. 2017-44 amending Sections 3.79.020 and 3.79.050 of the Municipal Code regarding administration and use of tourism promotion area charges.
- J. Ordinance No. 2017-45 amending the Municipal Code to address stormwater management, processing of land use applications and plats, and other matters related thereto.
- K. Acceptance of resignation of Linda Eki from the Infrastructure Improvement Committee.
- L. Acceptance of resignation of Skyler Rude from the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board.

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- M. Approval of minutes of the special Work Session held November 6, 2017.
- N. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held November 13, 2017.
- O. Approval of minutes of the special meeting held November 20, 2017.

City Manager Shawa requested that Item F, Resolution No. 2017-116, be removed from the agenda as staff is pursuing a no-cost alternative.

Council requested items B, C, D and J be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

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, E, G, H, I, and K through O. Councilmember seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- AA. Ordinance No. 2017-45 amending the Municipal Code to address stormwater management, processing of land use applications and plats, and other matters related thereto.

There was discussion on minor amendments to clarify the meaning and intent of the stormwater code changes.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input.

R.L. McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, commented on the discharge of stormwater at the new Blue Mountain subdivision.

Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-45. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- BB. Resolution No. 2017-112 authorizing the purchase of a hybrid sports utility vehicle for the water treatment division and a one-ton cab-

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chassis with flatbed and sprayer for the stormwater division.

- CC. Resolution No. 2017-113 approving the purchase of a fire engine/apparatus from Hughes Fire Equipment.
- DD. Resolution No. 2017-114 authorizing the purchase of six police patrol all-wheel drive utility vehicles and two police K-9 all-wheel drive utility vehicles from Columbia Ford.

City Manager Shawa reported all the vehicles, except for the fire engine, are planned vehicle replacements through the vehicle replacement fund. All purchases comply with State bidding requirements by piggybacking on public bids. This saves the City significant staff time and money.

There was discussion on:

- The funding and planned replacement of vehicles.
- Joint use of vehicles between departments.
- Fire engine is beyond the recommended life span and has been out of service recurrently resulting in use of the ladder truck more frequently.
- Staff has deferred the replacement of vehicles when feasible.
- For emergency services, when replacement vehicles are purchased, they become the frontline vehicles. The existing vehicles then become the backup vehicles.
- Existing police vehicles are over four years old and have an average of 128,000 miles on them. These vehicles are running twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and reliability is extremely important.
- Except for the fire engine, all these vehicles have been pre-funded in the vehicle replacement fund and are included in the adopted budget.
- The new fire engine will still exceed the weight limits of several bridges in the City, but firefighters are trained to take alternate routes.
- Reviewing replacement vehicles with hybrid or electric models.
- Operation of fire vehicles on narrower roadways to decrease impermeable roadway surfaces and increase buildable land for housing.

Mayor Pomranning invited public input.

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Sybil Cochrane, 105 N. Spokane Street #103, Walla Walla, asked for data on the main type of increases in crime and impact of homelessness on increases in crime.

Riley Clubb, 700 Liberty Place, Walla Walla, inquired about efforts to transition to electric vehicles and the percentage of fleet vehicles being replaced.

Councilmember Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-112. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Scribner moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-113. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-114 with an amendment to reduce the number of replacement police patrol vehicles from six to three. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-114. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion.

There were comments on the timing and replacement of police vehicles.

The motion carried with 5 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Barrow.

- A. Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2017-46 adopting an amended capital facilities plan.

City Manager Shawa reported this is the annual update of the capital facilities plan.

Capital Projects Engineer Laughery reviewed:

- Regulatory requirements for a capital facilities plan.
- 2017 completed projects.
- 2018 proposed construction projects.
- Planning and design for 2019 projects.

Mayor Pomraning declared the public hearing open at 8:20 p.m.

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R.L. McFarland, 3731 Middle Waitsburg Road, Walla Walla, had questions on the location of the Boulders stormwater pond project.

Riley Clubb, 700 Liberty Place, Walla Walla, asked if the City's current commitment to greenhouse gas reductions is a part of the plan, such as energy saving retrofits.

Staff explained that the capital facilities plan is composed of larger projects, including sidewalks; and provided a description of the Boulders stormwater pond project.

Mayor Pomraning declared the public hearing closed at 8:26 p.m.

**Councilmember Clark moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-46.
Councilmember Scribner seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Ordinance No. 2017-47 approving modifications to the 2017-2018 biennium budget.

Staff reported the budget modifications were previously reviewed with the Finance Committee and City Council and briefly outlined the budget modifications.

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

Council commented that the City had a clean audit for 2016.

**Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-47.
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Ordinance No. 2017-48 establishing a salary commission to set City Council compensation.

City Manager Shawa reported that currently the City Council establishes their own salary. This ordinance would vest that responsibility with an independent salary commission with review on a set schedule to be determined by Council as part of the ordinance.

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There was discussion on:

- A salary commission will provide objective input on a reasonable salary amount.
- Council receiving enough compensation to cover expenses for their public service.
- Referendum process and filing period.
- One benefit may be expanding the pool of people that may be considering running for office.
- Reasonable time period for review of salaries.
- Whether the compensation level will change the perspective of people running for elected office.
- The number of volunteers in the community serving without compensation.
- Advantages and disadvantages of an independent salary commission.
- The filing fee for running for office is based on Council's annual compensation which may increase the barrier to running for office if salaries are raised.

City Attorney Donaldson clarified that the formation of a salary commission will take the matter of Council compensation out of the purview of the City Council. The salary commission will be subject to the open public meetings act.

Mayor Pomraning invited public input.

Sybil Cochrane, 105 N. Spokane Street #103, Walla Walla, suggested higher compensation may cause a paradigm shift in viewing public service.

Councilmember Barrow moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-48 with a review by the salary commission every two years. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion.

Councilmember Clark moved to amend the motion to require a review by the salary commission every six years. Councilmember Scribner seconded the motion.

There was debate on the amendment to change the review period from two years to six years.

The amendment to require a review by the salary commission every six years failed with 2 yes votes by Councilmembers Clark and Scribner and 4 no votes by Councilmembers Barrow, Morgan, Moss and Mayor Pomraning.

Councilmember Barrow moved to end debate and call for the question. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Clark.

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-48 with a review by the salary commission every two years carried with 5 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Clark.

D. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held November 15, 2017.

Councilmember Scribner moved to approve the minutes of November 15, 2017. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Mayor Pomraning.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Work Session held November 13; the special meeting held November 20; the Community Investor meeting held November 29; the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board meeting held December 4; and the Planning Commission meeting held December 4.

Councilmember Morgan reported attendance at the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting held November 16; the Valley Transit Board meeting held November 16; the special meeting held November 20; and the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held November 28.

Councilmember Barrow reported attendance at the Work Session held November 13; the Valley Transit Board meeting held November 16; a radio interview held November 16; the special meeting held November 20; the exit conference with representatives of the State Auditor's office held November 27; a meeting with the County Commissioners held November

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29; agenda setting meetings held November 21 and November 29; and the Water Partnership Board meeting held December 5.

Councilmember Clark reported attendance at the employee recognition luncheon held November 16; the special meeting held November 20; the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held November 28; the Sustainability Committee meeting held November 28; the Aging & Long-Term Care meeting held November 30; and the Senior Center Board meeting held November 30.

Councilmember Scribner reported attendance the Public Library Board meeting held November 8; the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board meeting held November 14; and the special meeting held November 20.

Mayor Pomraning reported attendance at the Work Session held November 13; a meeting with County Commissioners held November 21; participated in the making of the "Iced Pipes Baby" video on November 21; the special meeting held November 20; the agenda setting meeting held November 21; the exit conference with representatives from the State Auditor's office held November 27; a meeting with the Port of Walla Walla Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held November 28; a meeting with representatives of St. Mary's Medical Center who are seeking a letter of endorsement from the Mayor for their purchase of the General Hospital facility; Wildwood Park playground ribbon cutting held November 30; the Innovations and Transportation conference held December 4 through December 6; and the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held December 6.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Scribner moved to have a nine-member ward boundary committee composed of Councilmembers Scribner, Cummins, and Moss with six citizen members to be appointed December 20, 2017.

Councilmember Clark seconded the motion.

Councilmember Barrow moved to amend the motion to have the six citizen members appointed at the January 24, 2018 Council meeting. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion.

There was discussion on the tight time frame for soliciting applications and appointing members by December 20.

The motion to amend to have the six citizen members appointed at the January 24, 2018 Council meeting failed with 3 yes votes by Councilmembers Barrow, Moss and Mayor Pomraning and 3 no votes by Councilmembers Clark, Morgan and Scribner.

The motion to have a nine-member ward boundary committee composed of Councilmembers Scribner, Cummins, and Moss with six citizen members to be appointed December 20, 2017 carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Council raised the following subjects for a later discussion:

- Affordable housing and whether the building codes allow tiny homes or pod apartments.
- Leaf pickup and methods of notifying neighbors so parked cars are moved off the street.

Councilmember Moss moved to authorize the Mayor to send a letter in support of St. Mary's Medical Center purchasing the General Hospital property. Councilmember Scribner seconded the motion.

There was discussion on whether St. Mary's Medical Center is the only bidder on the property and whether the letter must be specific to their purchase or can be generic to support the highest and best use of the property.

It was the consensus of Council to defer this issue to the next City Council meeting so a representative of St. Mary's Medical Center can be present to answer questions.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pomraning announced the Council would be recessing to Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel, litigation or potential litigation to which the City is a party or is likely to become a party, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The Executive session will last no more than one hour and no further business will come before Council in open session.

The meeting was recessed at 9:50 p.m.

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9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.