

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
September 25, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Absent: Councilmember Tom Scribner.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Public Works Operations Manager Mori Struve, Street Supervisor George Bell, Stormwater Coordinator Brad Daly, Engineer Monte Puymon, Engineer Mike Laughery, Engineer Jay Peninger, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Transportation System Plan updates.

Scott Mansur, DKS Associates, reviewed:

- Planning process for the transportation element as part of the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Public involvement and review.
- Highlights from the last meeting and public open house scheduled for September 26.
- Origins of draft projects and list of projects.
- Next steps in the transportation system plan review and approval.

There was discussion on:

- Transportation planning for streets and roadways outside of the City limits.
- Incorporation of the Mill Creek project in the plan list.
- Shoreline access and management plans.
- Traffic flow and circulation from southern portion of the City, including traffic signalization.

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B. Funding options for reconstruction of Highland Road.

City Manager Shawa reported Highland Road is the number one street complaint of citizens.

City Engineer Chavre reviewed:

- The structural and financial challenges for rebuilding Highland Road.
- History of the Highland Road funding discussion.
- Options for project scope and costs.
- Funding and local improvement district formation options.
- Staff recommendations and next steps.

There was discussion on:

- Likelihood of neighborhood participation with or without a financial contribution by the City.
- Methods of forming local improvement districts (LID) and process for a City-initiated LID.
- Scope of roadway options and whether the City would be waiving any standards by only doing roadway surface.
- Importance of sidewalks for pedestrians and neighborhoods.
- Number of properties and homeowner associations along Highland Road.
- Impact on street projects if the City contributes funds towards an LID.
- The City needs an adopted policy on when or if the City financially participates in an LID before neighborhoods are approached.

It was the consensus of a majority of Council to have staff develop a policy on City participation in providing funds for local improvement districts.

The meeting recessed for a break at 5:07 p.m. and reconvened at 5:11 p.m.

C. Review of proposed revisions to Municipal Code relating to stormwater management.

Public Works Director Bealey acknowledged the efforts of his team and reported on:

- Mission, purpose and history of stormwater management.
- Need for proposed code changes.

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- Improving fairness and equity of stormwater fees.
- Basis of recommendations.
- Key policy issues and next steps.

There was discussion on:

- Code amendments should lead to greater transparency for property owners in situations where homeowner associations are responsible for stormwater basins.
- Amendments to planting strip requirements do not include changes to tree requirements.
- The City's stormwater planning is for a twenty-five year storm which is a higher requirement than planning for a ten year storm, and whether the City should be planning at an even higher storm level.
- Requirements for keeping stormwater out of streams and pollution control.
- Encouraging infill development by ensuring development fees are kept reasonable.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.