

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**November 13, 2017**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tem Barrow called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Jim Barrow, Barbara Clark, Jerry Cummins, Dick Morgan, Steve Moss, Tom Scribner, and Mayor Allen Pomraning. (Councilmember Scribner arrived at 4:04 p.m. and Mayor Pomraning arrived at 4:30 p.m.)

Absent: None

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

**2. ACTIVE AGENDA**

A. Update on homeless sleeping center.

Deputy City Manager Olson provided an update on the operation of the homeless sleeping center. Estimated costs for 2017 are approximately \$150,000 from the City's general fund.

There was discussion on:

- The City's application for funding from the County. Word was received that the sleeping site does not meet the County's definition of an emergency shelter. The City does not receive any funding from the County for the sleeping site.
  - Reserving use of the Conestoga huts. The Alliance for the Homeless uses their good judgement and experience.
  - Warming sites or shelters for winter months.
  - Emergency shelters.
  - Requiring dogs at the sleeping site to be licensed.
  - Number of unauthorized camping citations.
- B. 2018-2023 financial planning for the landfill and sanitation enterprise funds.

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Public Works Director Bealey recognized and introduced the team members for their efforts on the report.

Angie Sanchez, FCS Group, provided an in-depth review of the financial planning and cost of service analysis for the landfill and sanitation funds.

There was discussion on:

- The plan is to review the cost of services every five years.
- Smoothing out rate increases for minimal impact on residential customers. Current City utility rates are a higher percentage of income than what is recommended by the Department of Commerce. Rather than just raising rates, staff should also be looking at reducing expenses.
- Potential impact of a landfill bioreactor on reducing ongoing landfill costs.
- Financial study on utility rates to determine impacts of a low-income discount for all qualified residents, not just seniors and disabled ratepayers.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

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