

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Councilmembers Riley Clubb, Jerry Cummins, Myron Huie, Steve Moss, Tom Scribner, and Mayor Barbara Clark.

Absent: Councilmember Yazmin Bahena.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Assistant City Attorney Preston Frederickson, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Human Resource Director Pam Taylor, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Accountant Liz Moeller, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bruce Johnson, 825 NW Evans, Walla Walla, asked to be a part of the next budget process and felt that the City should not be considering a "growth budget" with a recession likely to be happening soon.

Sharon Schiller, 1414 Topaz, Walla Walla, had comments on proposed zoning changes to increase residential density and felt that these increasing densities will have a negative impact on middle class "transients."

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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- A. Accept resignation of Jessica Portas from the Sustainability Committee.
- B. Resolution No. 2018-126 authorizing contracts for indigent public defense services and conflict indigent public defense services.
- C. Resolution No. 2018-127 authorizing the acceptance of additional grant funding for the Isaacs Avenue project.
- D. Ordinance No. 2018-47 establishing a three percent compensation adjustment on the 2019 compensation schedule for non-represented employees.

Council asked that Item B, Resolution No. 2018-126, be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

Staff provided a brief overview of the compensation adjustment for non-represented employees.

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

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A, C and D. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- B. Resolution No. 2018-126 authorizing contracts for indigent public defense services and conflict indigent public defense services.

City Manager Shawa reported four law firms had responded with proposals for indigent defense services. In response to a court ruling, the City implemented rigorous standards for indigent defense services. This resolution would authorize contracts with three primary law firms with a fourth one to provide services in case there is a conflict with the other three firms.

Councilmember Scribner reported a letter had been received from Mr. Rosenberg, one of the defense attorneys, on two issues of concern. The first is that if the case load is over eight hundred cases, that Rosenberg

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and Llewelyn each get an additional twenty-five cases instead of these cases going to the conflict defense attorney. The other issue is the requirement for having \$1,000,000 auto liability insurance. Staff asked Council to continue this item for two weeks to investigate the issues raised by Mr. Rosenberg.

Councilmember Scribner moved to table consideration of Resolution No. 2018-126 to the December 19 City Council meeting. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Resolution No. 2018-128 authorizing an intergovernmental agreement with Walla Walla County for sleep center funding.

City Manager Shawa reported that the City has been working with the County for several months regarding the emergency sleep center. The County has asked that the funding be broken into two components: \$50,000 for relocation expenses; and \$100,000 for ongoing operational expenses. Staff will bring back a separate item for the \$50,000 in relocation funding.

There was discussion on conditions in the agreement requiring sleep center clients to participate in programs to help them exit homelessness. This is an area that is already being addressed with the current site. The new site will have better facilities to provide needed services. Since these services are already being performed, staff does not have any concern with meeting a January 1, 2019 deadline in the scope of services.

Mayor Clark invited public input.

Craig Volwiler, Alliance for the Homeless, spoke in support of approving the contract with the County.

**Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Resolution No. 2018-128.
Councilmember Cummins seconded the motion.**

Council expressed their appreciation to staff in pursuing funds from the County. These funds are collected from document recording fees and their use for the sleep center meets the intent and purpose of the State law.

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The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-128 unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2018-48 adopting the 2019-2024 capital facilities plan.

Development Services Director Chamberlain reported that the six-year capital facilities plan is required by the Comprehensive Plan. This plan is financially constrained and may allow for amendments to the Comprehensive Plan as part of the budget. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on November 19 and recommends approval.

There was discussion on the funding and construction of bridges contained in the Transportation component of the Capital Facilities Plan and reconciling the dollar amount with the amount in the 2019-2020 budget.

Mayor Clark declared the public hearing open at 7:51 p.m. There being no public testimony, Mayor Clark closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-48. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Ordinance No. 2018-49 adopting the 2019-2020 biennium budget.

City Manager Shawa reported that the Human Resources administrative assistant and Deputy Fire Chief have been eliminated from the budget. The Water Treatment Plant Operator position has been deferred from 2019 to 2020. These changes will increase the ending fund balance. The property tax banked levy amount will be set aside for a sinking capital building maintenance fund. These are compromise measures to gain Council approval while still maintaining support for existing programs and services.

Finance Director Teasdale reviewed:

- The development of the budget is a public process. The City is required to have a balanced budget by December 31. The proposed 2019-2020 biennium budget provides for \$223,259,620 in expenses and \$214,741,220 in revenues.
- General fund unrestricted balances.

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- Proposed ambulance utility.
- Enterprise funds: sanitation, water, stormwater, wastewater, and landfill.

There was discussion on the revenues and expenditures within the proposed budget.

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

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-49.
Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion.**

Councilmembers expressed their individual opinions on the proposed budget and whether to support it with the compromises that have been made.

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-49 carried with 4 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Cummins and Huie.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Work Session held December 3; and a Finance Committee meeting held December 5.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Special Work Session held November 30; the Work Session held December 3; and a meeting with City Manager Shawa held December 5.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Special Work Session held November 30; the Work Session held December 3; and a Finance Committee meeting held December 5.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting held December 5.

Councilmember Scribner reported attendance at the Special Work Session held November 30; the Work Session held December 3; the Water Partnership Board meeting held December 4; and the Finance Committee meeting held December 5.

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Mayor Clark reported attendance at a radio interview on KUJ held November 30; the special Work Session held November 30; and the Work Session held December 3.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

The following issues were raised:

- Starting the public budget process earlier in the year to allow for additional public participation.
- The Council on Homelessness has been changed to the Council on Housing and is seeking a representative from the City since there are currently no government representatives. It was the consensus of a majority of Council that Deputy City Manager Olson be selected as the City of Walla Walla representative. There will be opportunities for participation by other City staff and Council.

Mayor Clark announced she has selected Councilmember Bahena, Councilmember Scribner, and herself to work with the Sherwood Trust to develop educational material for the public and future City Council candidates.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.