

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**May 8, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Fulton Community Room, 54 E. Rees Avenue, Walla Walla.

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

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Development Services Director Elizabeth Chamberlain, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Senior Planner Jon Maland, Utilities Engineer Frank Nicholson, 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**

- A. Mayor Clark read and presented a proclamation declaring the week of May 19 through May 25 as "National Public Works Week" to Public Works Director Bealey. Director Bealey commented on the importance of the services provided by public works personnel throughout the world.
- B. Mayor Clark announced that May 2019 has been proclaimed as "Older American Month."

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Craig Volwiler, 3276 Plaza Way, representing the Walla Walla Alliance for the Homeless, thanked the City and showed a brief video on the relocation of the homeless sleep center.

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Sharon Shiller, 1414 Topaz, Walla Walla, commented on the spraying of weeds along Rose Street and asked for consideration of some other form of eradication other than toxic chemicals.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A. Resolution No. 2019-57 authorizing a professional services contract with JUB Engineers for the 2020 wastewater treatment plant UV disinfection replacement project in an amount not to exceed \$398,900.
- B. Ordinance No. 2019-10 changing the date for the second regular Council meeting in June from June 26 to Monday, June 24, due to the potential lack of a quorum.
- C. Resolution No. 2019-58 approving the contract with Fluid Applied Roofing in the amount of \$81,121.25 for replacement of the roof on the pro shop at the Veterans Memorial Golf Course.
- D. Resolution No. 2019-59 authorizing an agreement with the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation for operation of the Farmers Market in the City Hall parking lot.
- E. Acceptance of resignation of Francisco Leos from the Arts Commission.

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 through E. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**6. ACTIVE AGENDA**

- A. Ordinance No. 2019-08 establishing an ambulance utility and setting rates and charges.

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Staff reported this process started over four years ago with the FCS contract for a study of the cost of ambulance services and has been extensively reviewed with Council. It is recommended that Council establish the ambulance utility with a charge of \$3.50 per month per equivalent residential unit.

There were comments on the need for additional revenue to sustain the ambulance service.

Mayor Clark invited public input.

Jordan Michaels spoke in opposition to the formation of an ambulance utility tax by the City Council and asked for the issue to be put before a vote of the people.

Allen Ketelsen commented on the protocols requiring a fire engine to respond on ambulance calls and asked if employers understand the impact of the proposed ambulance utility fee.

Linda Gunshefski felt that the people elected the members of the City Council to make these types of decisions. Emergency medical services are a core responsibility of City government and passage of the ambulance utility is encouraged.

Staff explained the protocols used when dispatching emergency medical calls; the process used for determining the number of employees for businesses; the extensive public notices provided for the consideration of the ambulance utility; and that the City's ambulance service operates county-wide.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-08.  
Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion.**

Council expressed their individual opinions and reasons for supporting or opposing the formation of an ambulance utility. Staff reiterated the financial challenges facing the ambulance fund and need for additional revenue.

**The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-08 failed with 3 yes votes by Councilmembers Bahena, Moss and Mayor Clark and 4 no votes by Councilmembers Clubb, Cummins, Huie and Scribner.**

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- B. Resolution No. 2019-60 authorizing an agreement with ESCI in the amount of \$54,017 to perform a feasibility study for consolidation of Fire/EMS Services between the City of Walla Walla, City of College Place and Walla Walla County Fire District #4.

Staff reported this Resolution will authorize a contract with ESCI for a study of the feasibility of forming a regional fire authority with the City of College Place and Fire District #4. Both College Place and Fire District #4 have confirmed in writing that they will each pay for one-third of the cost of the contract so it will be split equally three ways.

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

**Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2019-60. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Public hearing on a petition by Joe Kumar to vacate the southern 65 feet of Hemlock Street, east of Wellington Street, north of Melrose Avenue, and south of J Street.

Senior Planner Maland outlined the area proposed for vacation and the next steps in the process. Staff recommends approval.

Mayor Clark declared the public hearing open at 8:49 p.m.

Joe Kumar, property owner, spoke in support of the vacation of this unused portion of Hemlock Street. This will allow him to control the property to make guests at his hotel feel safer.

There being no further public testimony, Mayor Clark declared the public hearing closed at 8:51 p.m.

**Councilmember Cummins moved to direct staff to proceed with the street vacation process. Councilmember Scribner seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- D. Ordinance No. 2019-11 amending Municipal Code Chapter 20.130 relating to animal control.

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Staff reported this Ordinance will make the temporary amendments to animal keeping permanent. These permanent amendments restrict the number of fowl allowed to be kept in a residential zone to no more than ten; eliminate the keeping of roosters; and reduce the setback for animal shelters. This is the final procedural step in the process for amendments to the zoning code.

Council reported the Blue Mountain Humane Society had no input on this item.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-11. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

E. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held April 22, 2019.

**Councilmember Scribner moved to approve the minutes of the Work Session held April 22, 2019. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Bahena.**

F. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held April 24, 2019.

**Councilmember Cummins moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 24, 2019. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Moss.**

G. Approval of the April 30, 2019 accounts payable register covering check numbers 202143 through 202218, 202226 through 202539, 990929, 990930, and 9416 through 9464 totaling \$4,398,884.81.

**Councilmember Cummins moved to approve payment of the April 30, 2019 accounts payable register covering check numbers 202143 through 202218, 202226 through 202539, 990929, 990930, and 9416 through 9464 totaling \$4,398,884.81 with the exception of the checks to Jerry Cummins, Alliance for the Homeless, and Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

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**Councilmember Scribner moved to approve payment of the checks to Jerry Cummins, Alliance for the Homeless, and Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 3 abstentions by Councilmembers Bahena, Cummins, and Mayor Clark.**

**7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Work Session held April 22; the Council Retreat held April 27; the Arbor Day celebration held April 27; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held May 2; and the Work Session held May 6.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Council Retreat held April 27; and the Work Session held May 6.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Council Retreat held April 27; the Work Session held May 6; and the ad hoc Anderson-Perry Scholarship Committee meeting held May 7.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the School District's equal access committee meeting held April 25; the Washington State Human Rights Commission meeting held April 25; an interview on KUJ radio held April 26; the Council Retreat held April 27; the Arbor Day celebration held April 27; the Gold Star Family Memorial ribbon-cutting held April 31; and the Work Session held May 6.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Council Retreat held April 27; the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting held May 1; the Work Session held May 6; and the ad hoc Anderson-Perry Scholarship Committee meeting held May 7.

Councilmember Scribner reported attendance at the Council Retreat held April 27; the Arbor Day celebration held April 27; the agenda preparation meeting held April 29; a meeting with Public Works Director Bealey held May 3; the Work Session held May 6; the ad hoc Anderson-Perry Scholarship Committee meeting held May 7, the Water Partnership Board meeting held May 7; and the Public Library Board meeting held May 8.

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Mayor Clark reported attendance at the Council Retreat held April 27; the Arbor Day celebration held April 27; the agenda preparation meeting held April 29; the Mullan Road conference held May 3 through May 5; and the Work Session held May 6.

**8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Councilmember Clubb moved to award Lauren Ruthven the Anderson-Perry scholarship. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Council reminded the community that the filing period for City Council begins May 13 through May 17. There are four open positions: one for the East Ward, one for the West Ward, and two at-large.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Clark announced the City 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 two hours and no further business will come before the City Council in open session.

The meeting was recessed at 9:06 p.m.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.**