

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Deputy Fire Chief Brad Morris, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Communications Manager Brenden Koch, Transportation Engineer Monte Puymon, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Clark presented certificates of appreciation to the Union Bulletin, Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, and Communications Manager Brenden Koch for their work in organizing and promoting the highly successful #OpenOnIsaacs Road Show. The event, full of family fun, reminded residents that businesses are still open during the Isaacs Avenue construction project.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Schiller, Walla Walla, spoke in opposition to the "no panhandling" signs and felt that the signs were a policy issue that should be voted on by the City Council after citizen comment.

John Keithley, Walla Walla, asked the City Council to adopt an ordinance to allow all-terrain vehicles to be ridden on City streets.

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RL McFarland, Walla Walla, commented on the shift in consumer spending from grocery stores to restaurants and bars; and suggested the City gather data on the number of second homes being purchased compared to primary homes.

John Christy, Walla Walla, reported on the damage squirrels do to trees and suggested a squirrel abatement program by injecting female squirrels with birth control.

Dorothy Knudson, Walla Walla, commented on people buying second homes in the area as a potential cause to a housing shortage.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution No. 2019-100 authorizing the purchase of a lightly-used chlorine gas scrubber from the City of Anacortes for \$43,560.
- B. Resolution No. 2019-101 awarding the bid for the 2019 alley sewer replacement project from Tukannon Street to Palouse Street to Sharpe & Preszler Construction in the amount of \$142,977.86.
- C. Resolution No. 2019-102 approving a five-year lease plan for Panasonic tables and associated hardware for frontline ambulances and fire reporting for \$73,127.34 over five years through DATEC.
- D. Resolution No. 2019-99 awarding the bid for a restroom building at Vista Terrace Park to CXT Incorporated for a project total of \$55,887.70.
- E. Resolution No. 2019-103 authorizing a contract with David Evans and Associates for the design of the 3rd Avenue/Rose Street bridge for \$586,998.

Item E was removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

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There was discussion on the proposed purchase of the chlorine gas scrubber from the City of Anacortes; why it was being offered at a substantial savings compared to the cost of a new piece of equipment; and the purpose of the scrubber.

Mayor Clark invited public input

Dorothy Knudson, Walla Walla, asked if leasing the tablets is a better deal than a straight purchase. Staff reported that the ambulance fund does not have enough revenue to purchase the tablets. Refurbished tablets were purchased but they did not hold up under the use.

John Keithley, Walla Walla, suggested forgoing the purchase of the gas scrubber and using the money for the tablets.

Julian Saturno, Walla Walla, asked what the manufacturer's warranty was on the chlorine gas scrubber.

Staff reported on the purpose of the scrubber; the inability of the City to use water funds to purchase equipment for other departments; and the original warranty on the scrubber is unknown.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through D. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- E. Resolution No. 2019-103 authorizing a contract with David Evans and Associates for the design of the 3rd Avenue/Rose Street bridge for \$586,998.

Staff reviewed the complexities of this multi-million-dollar project involving both federal and private properties and the scope of the proposed contract. The bridge was originally constructed in 1911 and is structurally deficient. Staff has negotiated the scope and fee of a not to exceed amount of \$586,998. Alternate layouts will be reviewed to potentially reduce the footprint of the bridge and right-of-way acquisition costs. Total project cost is estimated at \$4.7 million and this consultant contract represents sixteen percent of the project cost, well within the amount estimated by the State.

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There was discussion on:

- It is intended that construction management for the project will be performed in-house by staff, dependent on workload.
- This firm and subcontractors have not been used by staff but references for them are good.
- Expected lifespan for a reconstructed bridge is approximately seventy-five years.
- The contract amount is based on a time and materials basis. Change orders over the amount authorized in the resolution would have to come back before Council for consideration.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has made clear there will be no financial participation by them.

Mayor Clark invited public input.

Jordan Michaels, Walla Walla, asked if the scope of the project includes repair or removal of the concrete cap over the channel in the parking lot near this bridge. Staff responded the scope of work is only the bridge and does not include the concrete cap.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Resolution No. 2019-103. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Resolution No. 2019-98 authorizing continuation of an Interlocal agreement between the City and Walla Walla County for coordination of solid waste prevention programs.

Staff reported that counties are normally responsible for operation of landfills. This continuation of the contract allows the City to implement solid waste management programs and apply for and use grants.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2019-98. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- B. Ordinance No. 2019-17 regarding disposition of surplus and forfeited firearms.

Staff reported that the City Council had directed staff to prepare action to codify the administrative policy of destroying seized and forfeited firearms. It would allow the City Manager to declare surplus any non-automatic firearms purchased by the City. Automatic firearms would have to come before Council to be declared surplus.

Mayor Clark distributed copies of an amended ordinance for consideration that would require all automatic or semi-automatic firearms to come before Council before being declared surplus. The ordinance included in the packet will be known as Ordinance 2019-17A and the amended ordinance will be known as Ordinance 2019-17B for discussion purposes.

There was discussion on:

- What constitutes an assault type weapon.
- Clarification on the provisions and differences between the two ordinances.
- Belief that all firearms declared surplus should be destroyed.
- Antique or historical firearms are precluded from disposal by the City according to State law.
- Current policy and sale/presentation of service firearms.
- The City Council can determine, at their discretion, any City property to be declared surplus.

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. 2019-17, version B. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Cummins moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-17, version A. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion.

Councilmember Scribner and Mayor Clark outlined the reasons they will be voting no on the ordinance.

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-17, version A, carried with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmember Scribner and Mayor Clark.

C. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held August 14, 2019.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 14, 2019. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Bahena.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting held August 19; a National League of Cities early learning meeting held August 20; the Association of Washington Cities municipal budgeting and finance training held August 22 and August 23; the Community Council land trust subcommittee meeting held August 26; a meeting with constituents regarding fireworks; and the Work Session held August 26.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Association of Washington Cities municipal budgeting and finance training held August 22 and August 23; and the Work Session held August 26.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting held August 20; a National League of Cities early learning meeting held August 20; the Work Session held August 26; a Whitman College student orientation held August 26; the Association of Washington Cities municipal budgeting and finance training held August 22 and August 23; and represented the City at College Place High School on August 28.

Councilmember Cummins reported attendance at the Good Roads Committee meeting held August 21; the Housing Authority Board meeting held August 26; the Work Session held August 26; the Valley Transit audit meeting held August 27; and the dedication of the Tidewater barge on the Columbia River held August 27.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting held August 21; the Work Session held August 26; and the Community Council land trust subcommittee meeting held August 27.

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Councilmember Scribner reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting held August 15; the Finance Committee meeting held August 19; the Blue Mountain Humane Society Board meeting held August 20; the agenda preparation meeting held August 20; the Association of Washington Cities municipal budgeting and finance training held August 22 and August 23; and the Work Session held August 26.

Mayor Clark reported attendance at the Vista Terrace block party held August 15; a Main Street walk and talk with businesses held August 16; a National League of Cities early learning meeting held August 20; the agenda preparation meeting held August 20; and the Work Session held August 26.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Council commended the Parks & Recreation Department staff for helping change out the sod at Borleske Stadium.

There were comments on the difference in cost between the sleep center recently constructed in Portland versus the one in Walla Walla.

Council asked if there are any weight restrictions over the Mill Creek bridge on Second Avenue. Staff indicated they will report back.

It was the consensus of a majority of Council to have staff report back on the issue of allowing all terrain vehicles on City streets.

A majority of Council indicated the issue raised about a squirrel abatement program through birth control injections should be referred to the Parks & Recreation Department and the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board.

There were comments on whether there is a use for data regarding primary and secondary home ownership since no action could be taken by the City.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Clark announced the City Council would be recessing to Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel 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

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Executive Session will last no more than two hours and no further business will come before the City Council in open session.

The meeting recessed at 9:22 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.