

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Yazmin Bahena, Ted Koehler, Steve Moss, Susan Nakonieczny, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: Councilmembers Riley Clubb and Myron Huie.

City staff in attendance: Deputy City Manager Byron Olson, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Technology Services Director Chris Owen, Capital Projects Engineer Mike Laughery, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Police Captain Chris Buttice, Code Enforcement Officer/Parking Enforcement Officer Amy Harris, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Two girls from Girl Scout Troop 5383 led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Scribner read a statement regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Schiller, Walla Walla, expressed concerns with cigarette butts littering sidewalks around City parks and posing as a fire hazard; and requested large tubular ashcans be placed around the perimeter of the parks.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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- A. Accept resignation of Bart Preecs from the Sustainability Committee.
- B. Accept resignation of Brian Hunt from the Arts Commission.
- C. Resolution No. 2020-30 authorizing renewal of an Enterprise License Agreement with ESRI for geographic information systems (GIS) software and development.
- D. Resolution No. 2020-31 declaring property at 72 Par Drive surplus and authorizing its disposal.
- E. Resolution No. 2020-32 awarding the bid to HD Fowler for the purchase of various brass water fittings and parts.
- F. Resolution No. 2020-33 approving the purchase of an automated license plate recognition system for the police parking enforcement vehicle through Vigilant Solutions.
- G. Resolution No. 2020-34 awarding the bid for the purchase of hot mix asphalt for City projects to Central Manufacturing, Inc.

Mayor Scribner announced Item F would be moved to the Active Agenda for separate consideration.

Brief reports were provided on Items C, D, and G.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through E, and G. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- F. Resolution No. 2020-33 approving the purchase of an automated license plate recognition system for the police parking enforcement vehicle through Vigilant Solutions.

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Staff reported this equipment and software is necessary for parking enforcement due to a recent Appeals Court decision that makes it illegal to chalk tires. The parking enforcement officer has been using a City-issued cell phone to take pictures of license plates in order to issue citations for vehicles parked over two hours in the downtown area. This is a time-consuming and less efficient process and is not feasible due to the number of tickets handled through District Court. There was discussion on the use of automated license plate recognition software by other municipalities; and its use can be legally upheld.

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

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-33. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Ordinance No. 2020-07 approving a line of credit of up to \$2,000,000 at zero percent interest with Baker Boyer Bank until September 30, 2020.

Staff reported the severe flood destroyed a portion of the City's water transmission line. Baker Boyer Bank has offered a \$2 million line of credit for six months at zero percent interest to assist the City in reconstructing this water line. The City's bond counsel, Roy Koegen with Kutak Rock, also provide his services pro bono.

Mr. Koegen explained the provisions of the ordinance. The City has been a client since 1978. Council thanked Mr. Koegen for his services.

Mark Kajita, President of Baker Boyer Bank, reported that the health of the Walla Walla community is of paramount importance to the bank. The bank is willing to assist if the liquidity offered through the line of credit is needed for more than six months. Council and staff thanked Mr. Kajita and Baker Boyer Bank for their generous assistance.

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

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Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-07. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Ordinance No. 2020-08 authorizing the placement of surveillance cameras in Walla Walla parks.

Staff reviewed the numerous instances of vandalism that have been occurring in City parks; cities using cameras for surveillance as a deterrent; and proposed location of the camera in Washington Park.

There was discussion on:

- Selection of Washington Park for installation of a camera.
- Using the video footage for law enforcement or criminal prosecution.
- Other benefits of surveillance cameras.
- Camera will be unmonitored unless an incident occurs. Very few City staff will have access.
- Ordinance provides that no other cameras will be installed in City parks unless approved by the City Council.
- City Attorney's legal analysis.
- Installation of the camera was thoroughly discussed by the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board and supported.
- Public disclosure requirements in the ordinance.
- Escalation of vandalism and capturing data on use of surveillance video for law enforcement.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Sharon Schiller, Walla Walla, spoke in opposition to the placement of surveillance cameras in City parks.

R.L. McFarland, Walla Walla, had comments on graffiti and suggested using a proactive approach to raise community awareness.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-08. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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Council clarified that this action is for the installation of one camera in Washington Park with any additional cameras having to come before City Council for approval.

- C. Resolution No. 2020-35 awarding the bid for the 3rd and Maple Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Project (IRRP) to Total Site Services, LLC.

Staff reviewed the various areas of the project that all include failing water, sewer, and roadway. The project will start April 20 and continue through the end of September.

Council asked staff to work closely with Valley Transit and the School District; and commented on the design of the project using in-house staff since this is the eleventh year of the IRRP program.

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

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-35. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- D. Resolution No. 2020-36 accepting the donation of an Adam West statue and authorizes installation in Menlo Park.

Staff reported this proposal has been reviewed by both the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board and the Arts Commission. No City funds will be used, it will be funded through private donations.

Jonathan Grant and Adam Lore presented background information on Adam West and the proposed placement of a statue in Menlo Park. The residents around the park were contacted and none had any opposition. Council approval is being sought so fundraising can begin for the project.

There was discussion on:

- Design of Adam West as a businessman rather than his better-known role as Batman. This is at the request of the family.
- Enough funds are anticipated to be raised for ongoing maintenance.

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- Walla Walla Foundry has committed to performing maintenance on all the City's public art collection.
- Cost is estimated between \$225,000 and \$250,000. Fundraising will begin after the City Council approves.
- The sculpting design and process.

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

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-36. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Resolution No. 2020-37 authorizing the purchase of a police crisis negotiation team throw phone from 836 Technologies.

Staff reported there are less-expensive models but this sole source offers proprietary software that completely documents critical incidents. This will be necessary to accurately show all de-escalation tactics used in crisis situations if lethal force is used.

There was extensive discussion on this proposed purchase and whether it is a necessary expenditure.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-37. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion. The motion carried with 3 yes votes by Councilmembers Bahena, Koehler and Moss and 2 no votes by Councilmember Nakonieczny and Mayor Scribner.

- F. Approval of the February 29, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 206279 through 206668; 990984 through 990986, 990988, and 9635 through 9655 totaling \$2,516,280.48.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the February 29, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 206279 through 206668; 990984 through 990986, 990988, and 9635 through 9655 totaling \$2,516,280.48 except for the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council and the Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Koehler

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seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes and 0 no votes. (Councilmember Bahena was absent for the vote)

Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the checks to Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Koehler.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the check to Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion.

City Attorney Donaldson reported that a majority of the whole Council is necessary to approve payments.

Councilmember Moss moved to table the motion to approve payment of the check to Walla Walla School District. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion to table unanimously carried with 3 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions by Councilmembers Bahena and Nakonieczny.

G. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held February 24, 2020.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the minutes of the Work Session held February 24, 2020. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

H. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held February 26, 2020.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 26, 2020. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Bahena.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board; the agenda setting meeting; a meeting with the Chief of Medical Staff at St. Mary's Medical Center; and a tour of the Christian Aid Center.

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Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting held February 18; the Civil Service Commission meeting held February 19; and the Work Session held February 24.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at a meeting with Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman held February 27; a meeting with Technology Services Director Chris Owen held March 2; and a meeting with Police Chief Bieber held March 11.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at an affordable housing webinar held February 27; a tour of City parks facilities held February 27; a meeting with Technology Services Director Chris Owen held March 2; a potluck in a neighborhood in the East Ward held March 5; the Transportation Benefit District Advisory Committee held March 10; and a community neighborhood meeting held March 11.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the City leadership team meeting held March 3 regarding the Corona virus pandemic; the water partnership management board meeting held March 3; the agenda setting meeting held March 4; a tour of the Christian Aid Center held March 5; a meeting with representatives of the Powerhouse Theatre held March 9; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting held March 10; and the Mill Creek Coalition meeting held March 11.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Nakonieczny, after watching a recent news report on the sleep center, expressed concerns with the safety of citizens and impact on law enforcement regarding the alcohol and drug use occurring outside the facility. Councilmember Nakonieczny asked for a Work Session item to review sleep center operations and discuss its impact on the community and law enforcement.

Mayor Scribner moved to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Clubb and Huie due to their travel to Washington D.C. on City business. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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Staff reported on:

- Frequent conversations are being held with the County Department of Community Health regarding the Corona Virus and its impact on people housed in shelters.
- Analysis of the impact of the pandemic on City revenues.
- The 2020 Census will kick off on March 12.

Council asked if the point in time homeless count was available. Staff indicated they would follow up with the County.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.