

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Engineer Neal Chavre, Engineer Doug Eaton, Senior Planner Jon Maland, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present: Scott Mansur, DKS Engineering, and Adam Schmidtgall, Anderson Perry & Associates.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments submitted for items not on the agenda.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Accept resignation of Kenneth Bowen from the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board.
- B. Accept resignation of Stacy Buchanan from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
- C. Resolution No. 2020-82 adopting the 2020 water system plan update.
- D. Approval of minutes of the Town Hall Part 1 meeting held July 9, 2020.

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- E. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held July 20, 2020.
- F. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 22, 2020.
- G. Approval of minutes of the Town Hall Part 2 meeting held July 23, 2020.

There was no public input on any item on the Consent Agenda.

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

4. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2020-83 amending the previously adopted Poplar Corridor Study.

Staff and Mr. Mansur reviewed the proposed changes to the Poplar Corridor Study to include a roundabout at the intersection of Poplar and Palouse Street, and to remove the existing traffic signals on Poplar Street at the intersections of 1st, 3rd, and 4th Avenues.

Council and staff discussed project components, the concerns of the South Palouse Street neighborhood, and pedestrian safety. Rapid flashing beacons are recommended for installation for pedestrian safety. The main goal of the project is to create a balanced multi-modal transit corridor with a heavy emphasis on safety.

City Clerk Hill reported on the written communications submitted to Council.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-83. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

There was additional discussion on how to address the South Palouse Street neighborhood concerns with existing traffic.

Councilmember Moss moved to direct staff to bring back the Palouse Street traffic issue to the City Council in October with a recommendation.

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

- B. Public hearing and adoption of Ordinance No. 2020-27 approving the Carmella annexation of approximately 16.4 acres.

Staff reviewed the process steps in the annexation, boundary of proposed annexation, two letters received in opposition from two property owners with Outside Utility Agreements on file, and analysis of city versus county costs. Staff recommends approval.

There was discussion on removing the parcel belonging to Jon Butenhoff since the adjacent parcel owned by him will stay within the County.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open.

Andre Selfa, Carmella Street, commented in support of the proposed annexation.

Jon Butenhoff, 956 Abbott Road, asked that his parcel be removed from the annexation area along with the parcel owned by Willis Logan. Mr. Butenhoff also asked why a parcel along Reser Road was not included in the annexation boundary.

There being no additional testimony, Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing closed.

**Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-27.
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion.**

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to amend the Ordinance to exclude the parcel owned by Jon Butenhoff. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion.

There was discussion on the exclusion of this parcel creating an island and whether this will result in the difficulty of delivering services.

The motion to amend the Ordinance to exclude the parcel owned by Jon Butenhoff carried with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Clubb and Moss.

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The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-27 as amended unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

C. Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2020-28 approving the Airport Way annexation of approximately 38 acres.

Staff reviewed the process steps in the annexation, boundary of proposed annexation, and analysis of city versus county costs. Staff recommends approval.

There was discussion on why one parcel owned by Nelson Irrigation has been excluded at the request of the business. This exclusion is due to the utility business and occupation taxes on electricity, gas and telephone that would apply if the parcel is annexed. The County does not have these taxes on utilities so there is not a financial benefit for the company for this parcel to be included.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open. There being no public testimony the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-28. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

D. Public hearing and Resolution No. 2020-84 authorizing an amendment to the development agreement for site development of 704,708 and 720 West Poplar Street.

Staff reviewed the request to extend this development agreement for one additional year due to the current economic hardships with the COVID-19 pandemic. There was discussion on why the improvements had not been made in the agreed upon time and lack of inventory on the property.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open.

R.L. McFarland, Walla Walla, asked whether it was the property owner or the business owner that would profit from the one-year extension of the development agreement.

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There was discussion regarding the improvements made to the car dealership on Isaacs and that there is no benefit to the City if the development agreement is not extended.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-84 for a one-year only extension. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2020-29 extending interim zoning ordinance (Ordinance No. 2018-28) designating camping areas in the heavy industrial zone.

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to table consideration until a fuller discussion can be had at a future Work Session. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion.

There was discussion on this extension being necessary for staff to complete the comprehensive plan amendment and zoning amendment which is scheduled for Council consideration on August 26. These actions will have no impact on the current sleep center because it is a vested use.

The motion to table failed with 1 yes vote by Councilmember Nakonieczny and 6 no votes by Councilmembers Bahena, Clubb, Huie, Koehler, Moss and Mayor Scribner.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open. There being no public testimony, the hearing was closed.

Due to technical difficulties, Councilmembers Bahena, Huie, and Moss were disconnected from the meeting at approximately 9:17 p.m.

Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-29. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion carried with 3 yes votes by Councilmembers Clubb, Koehler, and Mayor Scribner and 1 no vote by Councilmember Nakonieczny.

Councilmembers Bahena, Huie, and Moss rejoined the meeting.

- F. Census 2020 ending field data collection by September 30, 2020.

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Councilmember Moss described the importance of having an accurate count of residents and financial impacts to City if residents are undercounted. The Federal government is recommending that the field data collection end September 30, 2020. It is recommended that the Mayor send a letter to its congressional delegation asking that an extension on the collection of field data be granted.

Councilmember Moss moved to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the congressional delegation supporting the extension of field data collection for the 2020 census. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

G. Approval of minutes of the special meeting held July 27, 2020.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting held July 27, 2020. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 3 abstentions by Councilmembers Huie, Nakonieczny, and Mayor Scribner.

H. Approval of minutes of the special meeting held August 3, 2020.

Councilmember Clubb moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting held August 3, 2020. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Bahena.

5. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the July 27 special meeting; a meeting of the Chief's Advisory Committee; the Poplar/Palouse community outreach meeting; a meeting with a music promoter; a meeting with the Mayor and Police Chief; the August 3 special meeting; the agenda setting meeting; the ad hoc recycling task force meeting; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the August 3 special meeting; two meetings regarding the police department; the Work Session; and the Fort Walla Walla Board meeting.

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Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the July 27 special meeting; the Historic Preservation Commission meeting; a meeting with the Police Chief; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the August 3 special meeting; the Planning Commission meeting; a meeting with the Police Chief; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the July 27 special meeting; a meeting with a music promoter; the August 3 special meeting; a meeting of the Community Council's Innovative Eco Systems; a meeting of the Community Council's Land Trust task force; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; the July 27 special meeting; the Chamber of Commerce/Downtown meeting; the ad hoc recycling task force meeting; the August 3 special meeting; a census update; a meeting with the Police Chief; a meeting of the Community Council's Land Trust task force; and the Work Session.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the second Town Hall meeting; a meeting with a music promoter; two meetings of the Watershed Management Partnership; the August 3 special meeting; the Arts Commission meeting; the agenda setting meeting; a meeting with the Police Chief; the Work Session; the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting; the Mill Creek Coalition meeting; and the Public Library Board meeting.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

It being past 9:30 p.m., Councilmember Moss moved to extend the time for the Council meeting. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

Council asked about the status of the purchase of the hostage throw phone for the police department. City Manager Shawa reported this item will not be purchased. If requested by the City Council, the purchase will be put in the next biennium budget.

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Council reminded listeners that the third Town Hall meeting will be held August 13 at 6:30 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.