

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 28, 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, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Staff introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A through H, as follows:

- A. Accept resignation of Paul Wemhoener from the Infrastructure Improvement Advisory Committee (IRRP) and the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee due to relocation.
- B. Resolution No. 2020-99 adopting the Americans with Disabilities Act Self-Assessment and Transition Plan.
- C. Resolution No. 2020-104 authorizing the acceptance of a \$13,000 Blue Mountain Community Foundation grant for library services to students.
- D. Resolution No. 2020-105 authorizing a contract with Precision Concrete Cutting for the 2020 sidewalk grinding project to reduce tripping hazards in the amount of \$42,004.58.

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- E. Resolution No. 2020-106 authorizing a contract with Nelson Construction for Veteran headstone restoration at Mountain View Cemetery in the amount of \$49,005 funded by a grant from the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation.
- F. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held October 12, 2020.
- G. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held October 14, 2020.
- H. Approval of special Work Session minutes of October 19, 2020.

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

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

4. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Public hearing on 2021-2022 biennium revenue budget.

Staff reviewed the draft revenue projections for the 2021-2022 biennium budget.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open.

R.L. McFarland, by email correspondence, asked if the City of Walla Walla receives a higher proportion of state sales taxes than communities on the west side of the state. City Manager Shawa indicated this was true for fuel taxes but did not know if it applied to general sales taxes.

Dr. Rachel Elfenbein asked for proactive leadership in considering the budget to expand social services, affordable housing, and rental assistance for residents deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

There was discussion on:

- Impact of utility reserve funds on bond issuance. The impact depends on what type of bonds are being issued.

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- What being a “full-service city” means in comparison to cities that either contract out or do not directly provide services such as law enforcement, utilities, landfill, library, etc.
- The total City revenue identified is for the two-year biennium period.
- Utility revenues go to the utility funds which then pay the City for administrative services such as legal, finance, human resources, and general administration.
- Utility rates and fees.

No action was taken by Council.

- B. Ordinance 2020-37 setting the 2021 recycling commodities surcharge at \$1.34 per month (a reduction of \$.78 per month).

Staff reported that the global impact of the recycling commodities market has somewhat stabilized and the surcharge is recommended to be reduced.

There was no public input on this item.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-37. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2020-107 authorizing a contract with Insituform Technologies, LLC, for the 2020 sewer cure in place pipe (CIPP) project in the amount of \$1,131,473.18.

Staff reported that sewer backups are a significant source of claims against the City. This contract will help repair 50 different sewer lines in the City at a cost of approximately \$78 per lineal foot using CIPP technology versus \$362 per lineal foot to dig up the lines and reconstruct.

There was no public input on this item.

The use of this CIPP technology will likely extend the life of existing sewer lines by fifty years and does not put the City at any higher risk.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-107. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- D. Resolution No. 2020-108 authorizing a professional services contract with FCS Group to prepare the 2022-2027 financial plans for the water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities in the amount of \$312,518.

Staff outlined the need and scope of this contract, the number of professionals and labor hours involved in the process, and outcomes including six policy papers for City Council consideration.

There was no public input on this item.

Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-108. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Approval of the September 30, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 11100 through 11363; 11365 through 11466; 11474 through 11566; 54 through 64; and 66 totaling \$5,423,315.69.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the September 30, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 11100 through 11363; 11365 through 11466; 11474 through 11566; 54 through 64; and 66 totaling \$5,423,315.69 with the exception of the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Koehler.

5. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at Finance Committee meetings; the Work Sessions; the Valley Transit Board meeting; a meeting of the differential call response subcommittee; the agenda setting meeting; the ad hoc Recycling Task Force meeting; and a discussion on affordable housing.

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Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Jim Bock radio show; the Work Sessions; the Fort Walla Walla Board meeting; and a Legislative Committee meeting.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Work Sessions; the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting; the Civil Service Commission meeting; the Historic Preservation Commission meeting; and the Legislative Committee meeting.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the Work Sessions; the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting; and the Good Roads Committee meeting.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting; the Finance Committee meetings; a meeting to score the small business grant applications; the Work Sessions; the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting; an Affordable Housing online conference; a Blue Mountain Action Council anti-racism meeting; a meeting of the Community Council land trust task force; and the Legislative Committee meeting.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the Sustainability Committee meeting; the Health Center Board meeting; the ad hoc Recycling Task Force meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Sessions; the Emergency Management Board meeting; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting; a meeting regarding affordable housing; and the Helpline Board meeting.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the Finance Committee meetings; the Work Sessions; and the agenda setting meetings.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion on:

- The status of the small business grant awards. The list will be available and published the end of the week.
- Uptick in COVID-19 cases and actions by the City include a move back to virtual staff and committee meetings and requiring City employees to wear masks properly.
- Live citizen comments will be allowed during the virtual City Council meetings starting November 4.

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- The November 2 Work Session has been cancelled.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.