

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 2, 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, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Fire Captain John Knowles, Senior Planner Jon Maland, Utilities Engineer Frank Nicholson, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution No. 2020-125 setting a public hearing date for January 13, 2021 to consider the vacation of the southwesterly two feet of right-of-way of Tukannon Street between East Main Street and East Rose Street.
- B. Resolution No. 2020-126 authorizing an amendment with Northwest Groundwater Services, LLC for assistance with the sanitary control area at well #5 and disinfection of well #6 in an amount not to exceed \$45,950.
- C. Resolution No. 2020-127 authorizing an agreement with PBS Engineering for the fire training tower project in an amount not to exceed \$78,833.

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- D. Resolution No. 2020-128 authorizing a contract with Western State Caterpillar for rebuild of landfill dozer at a cost not to exceed \$79,000.
- E. Ordinance No. 2020-45 adopting the six-year capital facilities plan.
- F. Ordinance No. 2020-46 adopting the 2021 salary schedule with a two percent adjustment for non-represented employees (except the City Manager and City Attorney positions).
- G. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held November 16, 2020.
- H. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held November 18, 2020.

Council asked that Items D and F be moved to the Active Agenda for separate consideration.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, E, G and H. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

4. ACTIVE AGENDA

- D. Resolution No. 2020-128 authorizing a contract with Western State Caterpillar for rebuild of landfill dozer at a cost not to exceed \$79,000.

Staff reported that periodic rebuilds are required on the dozer to extend the useful life of the machine rather than purchasing a new one. This rebuild is anticipated to extend the life of the dozer by ten years. It is currently twenty years old. There was discussion on preventive maintenance; warranties; potential conflict with having employees of Caterpillar perform the inspections; annual use of the dozer; and cost-savings available by authorizing the rebuild now rather than waiting until next year.

There was no public input.

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Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-128. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- F. Ordinance No. 2020-46 adopting the 2021 salary schedule with a two percent adjustment for non-represented employees (except the City Manager and City Attorney).

Staff reported this action maintains internal equity with positions within bargaining units and helps retain and recruit employees. This was also recommended by the consultant that provided the classification and compensation study.

There was discussion on:

- This is an annual update to maintain equity with the City's unions and comparable cities.
- The average increase among other cities across the state is between zero and three percent.
- The non-represented employee positions covered by the salary schedule.
- These salary adjustments are typically done at the same time as the bargaining union adjustments.

There was no public input.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-46. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Public hearing and Ordinance No. 2020-47 adopting the 2021-2022 biennium budget.

Staff reviewed the proposed biennium budget for 2021-2022. It has been a challenging year, but the general fund balance is projected to remain strong.

Mayor Scribner declared the public hearing open.

Emily Tillotson, County resident, expressed her appreciation for all the work happening in the City.

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

There was discussion on the new positions included in the budget, the time spent by the Council Finance Committee and staff going over the budget, lack of public comments may reflect a high level of trust from residents, and need to independently review each budgeted vehicle purchase.

Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-47. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Resolution No. 2020-129 authorizing a lease agreement with the Washington Water Trust for 5.5 cubic feet per second of Mill Creek surface water during August and September 2021.

Staff reviewed this pilot lease agreement to leave water in the Mill Creek channel during the low surface water months. This agreement is anticipated to be cost neutral for the City's ratepayers.

There was no public input.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-129. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2020-130 authorizing the City to become a part of the Washington Intrastate water/wastewater agency response network.

Staff described how this will allow the City to participate in reciprocal services when dealing with emergency situations involving water and wastewater.

There was no public input.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-130. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- D. Resolution No. 2020-131 awarding the bid for the wastewater treatment plant ultra-violet disinfection replacement project to TML Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,932,648.30.

Staff described the project and the favorable bids received. The work will start on December 15 utilizing a dozen employees and will be completed in the Spring.

There was no public input.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-131. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- E. Approval of the October 31, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 1, 67, 69, 71 - 85, 11567 - 11710, 11712 - 11847, and 11849 - 11984 totaling \$5,071,170.97.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the October 31, 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 1, 67, 69, 71 - 85, 11567 - 11710, 11712 - 11847, and 11849 - 11984 totaling \$5,071,170.97 except for the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Koehler 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 Clubb 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 the Finance Committee meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; two Work Sessions; and the agenda setting meeting.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at a Jim Bock radio interview; and two Work Sessions.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at two Work Sessions.

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Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting and two Work Sessions.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting; two Work Sessions; the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting; and a meeting with Representative Skyler Rude.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the Sustainability Committee meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; a beta test of the Public Disclosure Commission website; and two Work Sessions.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the Finance Committee meeting; two Work Sessions; the agenda setting meeting; the signing of bond documents; the Watershed Management Partnership meeting; and the Arts Commission meeting.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Staff provided an update on the issue of the Marcus Whitman statue. The Arts Commission is currently working on proposed Code amendments to deaccession public art. These amendments will come before the City Council for consideration.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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