

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2021

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, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, Senior Planner Jon Maland, WESCOM Manager Steve Ruley, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Scribner announced Item F is being removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

- A. Resolution No. 2021-01 authorizing a mutual aid and assistance agreement through the Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (ORWARN).
- B. Resolution No. 2021-02 approving a service contract with David Mumm for communication print services from January through December 2021 for a not to exceed amount of \$31,502.40.
- C. Resolution No. 2021-03 authorizing a contract with Atlas for geotechnical investigation on the University-Pearson-Madison IRRP, the Balm-Juniper-Woodlawn IRRP, the Cookerly Drive IRRP, and the 2022 sewer main replacement project in the amount of \$51,691.52.

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- D. Resolution No. 2021-04 authorizing a contract with Anderson Perry & Associates for design survey on the Cookerly Drive IRRP project and the 2022 sewer main replacement project in the total amount of \$58,900.
- E. Resolution No. 2021-05 authorizing a contract with PBS Engineering & Environmental for design survey services on the Balm-Juniper-Woodlawn IRRP and University-Pearson-Madison IRRP projects in the amount of \$77,140.
- G. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held December 14, 2020.
- H. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held December 16, 2020.

There was no public input.

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

4. ACTIVE AGENDA

- F. Resolution No. 2021-06 authorizing the purchase of two refuse collection trucks from Dobbs Peterbilt and Solid Waste Systems at a total cost not to exceed \$635,000.

Staff provided an overview of the replacement process and funding for the hundreds of vehicles and equipment owned by the City. There was discussion on:

- How replacements are evaluated.
- How assets are disposed.
- Using replaced vehicles as backup vehicles.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-06. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- A. Resolution No. 2021-07 determining that the City will accept and geographically modify the proposed annexation for property west of Cottonwood Road and south of Ransom Road.

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Staff reviewed the annexation process and proposed boundaries for this ten percent annexation petition. Staff recommends modifying and accepting the annexation petition.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Email in objection to the annexation petition were received from:

- Katrina Roberts.
- Charles Potts.
- Jeremy Beam.
- Dale and LaDessa Smelcer.

R.L. McFarland, Walla Walla, asked Council to consider the zoned development capacity as part of their review of annexation petitions.

Katrina Roberts, Walla Walla, asked the City Council to take into consideration the email submitted regarding this petition.

There was discussion on the annexation process, future opportunities for public input, notice to adjacent property owners, and annexations do not include future development plans for the property.

Kip Kelly, petitioner, commented that any future development will follow the City's critical areas ordinance.

Katrina Roberts expressed concerns with development along Yellowhawk creek and allowable density.

R.L McFarland asked if the City has enough vacant property within the existing City limits for residential development. Capacity needs to be balanced to prevent sprawl.

Council suggested a presentation on the annexation process at a future Work Session.

Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-07.
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion.

Council commented that this action only begins the annexation process and does not take into consideration any future development or density.

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Clarification was provided that Councilmembers should not abstain from voting unless there is a financial conflict of interest. Councilmember Huie commented that his brother lives in the area, but he has not spoken to him about this proposed annexation.

The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Resolution No. 2021-08 determining the City will accept and geographically modify the proposed annexation generally south of Reser Road and east of Fern Avenue.

Staff reviewed the annexation process and proposed boundaries for this ten percent annexation petition. Staff recommends modifying and accepting the annexation petition.

There was discussion on the boundary modification, access to the property, and existing utilities. The property owner to the south does not object to the inclusion of his property in the annexation.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Angie Dalglish, petitioner, described the access to the property.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-08.
Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Resolution No. 2021-09 determining the City will accept and geographically modify the proposed annexation of property on Williams Road, south of Prospect Avenue.

Staff reviewed the annexation process and proposed boundaries for this ten percent annexation petition. Staff recommends modifying and accepting the annexation petition.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

One email had been received from Karen Hedine in opposition to inclusion of her property in the annexation.

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Maury Fortney, 2800 Williams Road, spoke in opposition to the annexation as he is concerned with future development and change of the neighborhood.

Debra Grant Fortney spoke in opposition to the annexation and had concerns with loss of green areas.

Riley McLaughlin expressed concerns with additional traffic resulting from development of the property.

There were comments on proposed property development not being considered during the annexation process from annexations. In evaluating proposed development plans, consideration can be given to existing neighborhood characteristics.

**Councilmember Clubb moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-09.
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion.**

Mayor Scribner explained he would be voting no due to the potential for future development on the property.

The motion carried with 4 yes vote and 3 no votes by Councilmembers Huie, Nakonieczny, and Mayor Scribner.

- D. Public hearing to consider the right-of-way vacation of the southwesterly two feet of Tukannon Street, between East Main Street and East Rose Street.

Staff described this action to fix an existing conflict between the developed site improvements and public right-of-way at The Finch Hotel. The Planning Commission recommends approval. The existing development conflict occurred when the property was first developed, prior to the redevelopment of The Finch Hotel.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to direct staff to proceed with the vacation process. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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- E. Resolution No. 2021-10 authorizing the purchase and installation of an upgraded public safety radio communications system with an additional remote radio site in northern Walla Walla County at a total project cost of \$1,045,587.68.

Staff reviewed how WESCOM is organized and funded through 911 taxes and user fees. There is a need for an additional radio site in the northern part of the County. The current radio system is no longer supported and needs to be replaced. Funds for this project have been set aside and includes a grant from the U.S Department of Agriculture.

One email was received from Greg Hof regarding the funding for the project. Chief Bieber has already responded to this email.

There was discussion on the project, need for expansion, funding, and planned system redundancies.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-10. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- F. Ordinance No. 2021-01 amending Chapter 2.42 (Arts Collection Management) of the Municipal Code related to deaccessioning public art.

Staff reported the Arts Commission has met over several months to look at the overall process for deaccessioning public art to ensure a proper process is in place; and reviewed the proposed changes.

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

There was discussion on:

- The Arts Commission thoroughly reviewed the deaccessioning process and unanimously recommended approval.
- The mission of the Arts Commission and public review.
- The Arts Commission will make recommendations, but final action will be by the City Council which will allow additional opportunities for public participation.

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Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-01. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

G. Approval of the December 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 12538 through 12698, 12700, 12701, 12703 through 12906, and 98 through 121 in the amount of \$7,791,761.06.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the December 2020 accounts payable register containing check numbers 12538 through 12698, 12700, 12701, 12703 through 12906, and 98 through 121 in the amount of \$7,791,761.06 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 Bahena 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 differential call volume task force meeting; the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting; the agenda setting meeting; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting; the Work Session; and the Common Roots Housing town hall.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Jim Bock radio show; the Good Roads Committee meeting; two Fort Walla Walla Board meetings; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Work Session.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; and the Common Roots Housing town hall.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting; the Work Session; and the Common Roots Housing town hall.

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Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the Park Street project open house; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Blue Zone stakeholder meeting; a meeting with Hayden First Story regarding building an affordable home; the Work Session; and the Common Roots Housing town hall.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the Watershed Management Partnership meeting; the agenda setting meeting; a meeting regarding expansion of the emergency pandemic sick leave program; the oath of office for newly elected Judge Johnson; the Work Session; and the Public Library Board meeting.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Moss introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-11 condemning the violent occupation of the United States Capitol Building on January 6, 2021. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion.

There was discussion on why similar resolutions had not been considered during the violent protests in 2020 resulting in the destruction of public and private property.

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to amend Resolution No. 2021-11 to change the title to "A resolution condemning the violent occupation of the United State Capital Building on January 6, 2021 and numerous violent acts during political unrest across America throughout the summer of 2020." Add a fifth paragraph to read "Whereas, citizens watched in horror, as a police precinct was destroyed and taken over, businesses were destroyed and looted, police cruisers were set afire, a federal courthouse and grounds destroyed and set afire, and numerous injuries and deaths of Americans and law enforcement officers occurred in numerous cities across America." Amend the final line to "The City of Walla Walla condemns the violent occupation of the United States Capitol building on January 6, 2021 and the loss of life it caused, as well as the numerous violent acts during political unrest across America throughout the summer of 2020 and the loss of life it caused. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion to amend.

There was discussion on the main motion and the amendment.

The amendment failed to pass with 2 yes votes by Councilmembers Huie and Nakonieczny and 5 no votes by Councilmembers Bahena, Clubb, Koehler, Moss and Mayor Scribner.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-11 passed with 4 yes votes by Councilmembers Bahena, Koehler, Moss and Mayor Scribner and 3 no votes by Councilmembers Clubb, Huie, and Nakonieczny.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported she voted no because the resolution did not condemn the other acts of violence that happened in 2020.

Council commended the police for their difficult responses over the weekend and the need for all to help during difficult times.

Deputy City Manager Chamberlain reviewed the new "Healthy Washington" guidelines and status of COVID-19 vaccines. There was brief discussion on potential for Walla Walla County to be assigned to a separate region from the State's designated south-central region. This action can only be done at the State level.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.