

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 24, 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. (Councilmember Huie arrived at 6:33 p.m.)

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Senior Planner Jon Maland, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution No. 2021-18 awarding bid for the annual purchase of hot mix asphalt to Central Manufacturing, Inc. in the amount of \$250,470 for utility patching, pothole filling, and street repairs.
- B. Resolution No. 2021-19 setting April 14, 2021 as the date to consider a ten percent annexation petition for property located at Berney Drive and Pleasant Street.
- C. Resolution No. 2021-20 setting April 14, 2021 as the date to consider a ten percent annexation petition for property located at 312 Artesia Street.
- D. Resolution No. 2021-21 setting April 14, 2021 as the date to consider a ten percent annexation petition for property located at 505 Hatch Street.

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- E. Resolution No. 2021-22 setting April 28, 2021 as the date to consider a ten percent annexation petition for property located on Cottonwood Road and west of Kendall Road.
- F. Approval of minutes of the February 8, 2021 Work Session.
- G. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held February 10, 2021.

There was no public input.

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

Mayor Scribner commented on the legal process for considering land use issues and directed all comments regarding Item E to the Development Services Department.

4. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-23 authorizing the annual emergency medical services levy agreement with Walla Walla County for ambulance services within city limits and outlying areas in Walla Walla County. (Revenue of \$1,715,524 for ambulance services)

Staff reported the emergency medical services levy was reapproved by the voters. Due to this renewal, the full \$.50 per 1,000 assessed value will be levied resulting in additional revenue of \$232,000 for the ambulance fund.

There was no public input.

There was discussion on:

- The reduction in the amount needed to subsidize ambulance operations from the general fund.
- Holding any additional funding in reserves for balancing the ambulance fund.
- Status on discussion of formation of a regional fire authority. Staff outlined the current areas of collaboration between Walla Walla County Fire District #4 and College Place Fire Department.
- Status of filling the Deputy Fire Chief positions.

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**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-23.
Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion
unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Public hearing and adoption of Resolution No. 2021-24 approving the 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) annual action plan.

Staff commented, in Spanish, that an English to Spanish interpreter is available and how to access the presentation in Spanish. The 2021 annual action plan was reviewed.

The public hearing was declared open at 7:13 p.m. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed.

There was discussion on:

- Benefits to the community by being a direct entitlement city.
- How the funding is divided among the different CDBG programs.
- Accessing the data for the homeless point in time count.
- Importance of the home repair program in preserving affordable housing within the community.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-24.
Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion
unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Resolution No. 2021-25 awarding bids for the Penrose & Alvarado Terrace Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Project (IRRP) to POW Contracting in the amount of \$983,102.43.

Staff outlined the project area and improvements.

There were no public comments.

There were comments in support of the IRRP program. Construction for this project is scheduled to start in the Spring continuing through the Fall.

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-25.
Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously
carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

D. Approval of minutes of the special meeting held February 17, 2021.

Councilmember Moss moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting held February 17, 2021. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Huie.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the agenda setting meeting; the special meeting; a meeting of the differential call volume task force; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; and the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Good Roads Committee meeting; the Work Session; and a Committee on Committees meeting.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the special meeting; the Work Session; a childcare protocol committee meeting; and a Committee on Committees meeting.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the special meeting; the Good Roads Committee meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; and a Committee on Committees meeting.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at a Jim Bock radio show; the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting; the special meeting; the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the special meeting; the Transportation Benefit District Board meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; and completed beta testing the Public Disclosure Commission new website.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the agenda setting meeting; the special meeting; and the Work Session.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to appoint Amanda Nelson to the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee for a term expiring June 30,

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2023. Councilmember Bahena seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Staff reported they have been informed by the County Assessor that an error was made, and a one percent property tax levy increase had been assessed rather than being banked as directed by the Council. The Assessor advised that this error could not be corrected for 2021. Staff is proposing to work with the Assessor's office to ensure this type of error is not made again. There was discussion on how this error could have been made, why it cannot be corrected, and communicating the issue to the public.

There were comments on a recent Union Bulletin article regarding the potential of Walla Walla serving as a vaccine tourism location. Staff reported this was an "off the cuff" comment made at a County Commissioners meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.