

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the virtual meeting to order at 6:31 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, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, City Engineer Neal Chavre, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Scribner read the proclamation declaring April 30, 2021 as "Arbor Day in Walla Walla." Parks & Recreation Director Coleman commented on the importance of trees and invited the community to the unveiling of the bronze tree limb in Pioneer Park on April 30 at 10:00 a.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dorothy Knudson, West ward resident, commented on the benefits of living in the West Ward and expressed concerns with negative comments and portrayals of this ward.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Accepts resignation of Aimee Parmley from the Civil Service Commission effective May 31, 2021.
- B. Resolution No. 2021-64 ratifying the emergency declaration for repair of public safety communications equipment.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2021
PAGE 2

- C. Ordinance No. 2021-06 amending Chapter 8.17 of the Municipal Code regarding alarm systems and repeals fees.
- D. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held April 12, 2021.
- E. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held April 14, 2021.

Staff provided a brief report on Items B and C.

Mayor Scribner invited public input. No one chose to address the City Council on any of these items.

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

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-65 determining the City will conditionally accept the proposed annexation petition for property on Cottonwood Road, west of Kendall Road.

Staff reviewed the boundaries, current zoning, and the process for annexation with a development agreement. Staff recommends conditional approval of the annexation after approval of a development agreement. The development agreement will address the concerns expressed by both neighbors and staff through studies and a traffic impact analysis.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Jim Hayner, representing the developer, commented on the history of development in the area and suggested that many of the problems currently experienced by the Table Rock and Triple Creek developments will not occur since this project will be developed under City standards rather than through the County.

There was discussion on:

- Providing notice to surrounding property owners. Staff reviewed how legal notices are provided and the ability of people to request

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2021

PAGE 3

- special notices. All reports and documents are posted on the City's website for transparency.
- Components of the traffic impact analysis will include both traffic and pedestrian safety.
 - Need to address existing safety concerns around Prospect Point Elementary School and Walla Walla High School.
 - County development process versus City's process and standards and whether this development can mitigate the existing problems within the Table Rock subdivision.
 - Kendall Road is not included in the proposed boundaries because it is not within the Urban Growth Area and the goal is not to create gaps in service. Impacts to the road will be studied and mitigated as appropriate.
 - Development agreements consider the underlying zoning which in the City is four units per acre. Since the property is within the Urban Growth Area it needs City utilities so cannot be developed under County standards and then annexed.
 - Development agreements generally have expiration dates. The project timeline depends on when the application is determined to be complete.
 - Housing inventory is important to address growth and provide options.
 - Section 5 of the proposed resolution specifies that if the provisions of the development agreement are not acceptable, it can be remanded for further work. This issue will not move to the 60 percent annexation petition step until the development agreement is approved.

Mayor Scribner invited additional public input.

Dan Reid, Table Rock Subdivision, believes this development group will do the right thing in developing housing on this property.

R.L. McFarland, Walla Walla, commented that the earlier developments in the area were built decades ago and are not relevant to the current proposal. There are existing concerns with traffic in the area and notices should be sent to all property owners along Cottonwood Road and Howard Street.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2021
PAGE 4

Carla Thorson, Kendall Road, Walla Walla, spoke in opposition to a development due to many legitimate concerns. Any traffic study needs to guarantee safety for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Jack Conley, spoke in opposition to any proposed development due to concerns with too many cars, pedestrians, and too narrow roadways.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-65. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion carried with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes by Councilmembers Huie and Nakonieczny.

B. Resolution No. 2021-66 certifies funding for the Heritage Square rebuild project.

Staff reviewed the process for redesign of Heritage Square. Grants have been applied for and the City has been notified it is a likely recipient of a \$500,000 grant from the Washington State Recreation & Conservation office but must certify funding for the project. Proposed funding sources are:

- \$500,000 Recreation & Conservation Office grant.
- \$200,000 Port of Walla Walla Economic Development grant.
- \$208,000 proceed of sale of property at Par 72.
- \$1,565,000 funding from City.

This is not a legally binding contract but will give the City the opportunity to seek additional funding sources.

There was no public input.

There were comments by Council in support of this project.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-66. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting; the agenda setting meeting; the differential calls task force; the Work Session; the Police Chief's Advisory Committee meeting; and the Executive Session.

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2021
PAGE 5

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the Good Roads Committee meeting; the Work Session; the installation of the bronze tree limb at Pioneer Park; a Committee on Committees meeting; and the Executive Session.

Councilmember Bahena reported attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting; the ad hoc Childcare study group; the Work Session; a Committee on Committees meeting; and the Executive Session.

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

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the Blue Mountain Action Council Board meeting; the Common Roots Housing Trust Board meeting; the Visit Walla Walla Board meeting; meetings with downtown merchants regarding the Tour of Walla Walla event; the Work Session; and the Executive Session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Sherwood Trust equity and diversity training; the Emergency Management Board meeting; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting; the Work Session; a meeting with a representative of the State Auditor's office; a neighborhood engagement meeting; the Executive Session; and the installation of the bronze tree limb at Pioneer Park.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at a Jim Bock radio interview; the Sherwood Trust equity and diversity training; the Mill Creek Coalition meeting; an interview with a reporter; the agenda setting meeting; a lunch with Councilmember Moss; participated in the dress rehearsal for the reopening of the library; and the Executive Session.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to appoint Dan Calzaretta to the vacancy on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee for a term expiring December 31, 2022. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2021
PAGE 6**

Councilmember Koehler, in response to the public comments by Dorothy Knudson, offered that each ward has unique assets, and he has worked within the West ward for many years.

There was discussion on educating the Council on the role and responsibilities of the Civil Service Commission before considering appointment of a member to fill the vacancy. It was the consensus of Council to have staff schedule this issue for a future meeting.

Staff asked for authorization to have the Mayor sign a letter being circulated by the area's Executive Leadership asking the County to review the methodology used for allocation of Urban Growth Area.

Councilmember Clubb moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter, edited by the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem, as necessary. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.