

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Riley Clubb, Myron Huie, Ted Koehler, Steve Moss, Susan Nakonieczny, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: Councilmember Yazmin Bahena.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Deputy Fire Chief John Knowles, Deputy Fire Chief Eric Wood, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Transportation Engineer Monte Puymon, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Scribner announced that Active Agenda Item D, proposed Ordinance No. 2021-21 amending Municipal Code Section 2.33.030 relating to Civil Service Commission membership, was being removed from the agenda and placed on the August 11 agenda for consideration.

No one chose to address the City Council on any item not on the agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution No. 2021-97 authorizing the purchase of residential garbage and green waste containers from Toter Inc. in the amount of \$28,924.94.
- B. Resolution No. 2021-98 authorizing a supplemental agreement with H.W. Lochner for construction engineering, administration, materials testing, and inspection of the Citywide Pedestrian Safety project in an amount not to exceed \$68,751.62.

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- C. Resolution No. 2021-99 authorizing an application and associated agreements for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for \$12,968 for the purchase of replacement police radios.
- D. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held June 9, 2021.
- E. Approval of minutes of the Work Session held June 21, 2021.
- F. Approval of minutes of the special meeting held Jun 21, 2021.

There was brief discussion on Item B.

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

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through F. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2021-100 authorizing an interagency agreement with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to allow the City to respond to wildland fires on DNR protected land and to reimburse the costs for equipment and personnel on those responses; and
- B. Resolution No. 2021-101 authorizing a cooperative fire protection agreement with the United States Forest Service (USFS) for reciprocal fire protection on properties owned by the Forest Service or City.

Staff reviewed the ownership areas for the public lands surrounding the watershed and the benefits and advantages of these proposed agreements to reimburse the City when called to fight wildland fires. There was discussion on fuel reduction efforts including controlled burns, mutual aid agreements, partnerships, and the current fire environment matrix.

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

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Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-100. Councilmember Clubb seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-101. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2021-102 providing for a ballot proposition to be submitted to the qualified electors of the Transportation Benefit District/City on November 2, 2021, to authorize the continuation and extension of an existing sales and use tax imposed within the boundaries of the district upon all taxable retail sales and uses in the amount of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs associated with transportation improvements in the district.

Staff reviewed the leverage of the Transportation Benefit District revenue with grant funding. Because this is sales tax revenue, it is collected from a broader base than just residents. The renewal of this sales tax requires a simple majority vote. There is also a new requirement to appoint a committee of up to three people to write a statement in support and a committee of up to three people to write a statement in opposition for the local voter's pamphlet. Staff has found a volunteer to write a statement in support of the measure but no one to write the statement in opposition. If no one can be identified, then it goes to the County Auditor to attempt to identify someone to write the statement in opposition for the voter's pamphlet.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

RL McFarland, Walla Walla, suggested using transportation benefit district funds to improve roadways in newly annexed areas and expressed concerns with speeding cars through detour areas.

There was discussion on:

- Ensuring accurate and factual information is provided to voters.
- Working with State legislators to remove the sunset clause for renewal of the sales tax increase.
- The leverage of the TBD sales tax revenue for grants and increasing the City's competitiveness in the grant process
- Requirement for committees in support and opposition of measure.

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- Impact if City is unable to identify someone to write a statement in opposition to the measure.
- Removing Section 7 of the proposed resolution and considering appointment of committee members to write statements for the voter pamphlet on July 28.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-102 with the removal of Section 7. Councilmember Huie seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at meetings with members of the Chief's Advisory Committee; the special meeting; the Chief's Advisory Committee town hall; the housing ad hoc committee; the agenda setting meeting; the Finance Committee meeting; the Work Session; and the differential call volume task force meeting.

Councilmember Huie reported attendance at the East Ward neighborhood block party; the Jim Bock radio interview; the Chief's Advisory Committee town hall; the special meeting; the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board executive session; the Work Session; and the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board meeting.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the East Ward neighborhood block party; the special meeting; the Chief's Advisory Committee town hall; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Clubb reported attendance at the special meeting; two meetings of the Common Roots housing trust board; an interview of potential Veterans Golf Course operators; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the East Ward neighborhood block party; the special meeting; the Chief's Advisory Committee town hall; the housing ad hoc committee meeting; the Work Session; and the virtual candidate's forum.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the special meeting; the Chief's Advisory Committee town hall; the Arts Commission meeting; the agenda setting meeting; a meeting regarding golf course operators; the Work Session; a lunch meeting with Councilmember Nakonieczny; and the virtual candidate's forum.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Staff reported on the upcoming outdoor concerts downtown and the next neighborhood block party will be on West Maple Street.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.