

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Special Work Session Minutes
May 21, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

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

Absent: Councilmembers Yazmin Bahena and Myron Huie.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present: Steve DiJulio, Attorney with Foster Garvey.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Presentation by Attorney Steve DiJulio on the roles and responsibilities of Civil Service Commissions.

Mr. DiJulio reviewed, and there was discussion on:

- The history of formation of the civil service system.
- Washington State cities are mandated to have a civil service system for police and fire to provide for a merit-based process for hiring.
- Roles and responsibilities of the Civil Service Commission versus the collective bargaining agreement and labor relations.
- Case law.
- Civil Service exams.
- Hearings before the Civil Service Commission.

There are areas governing the Civil Service Commission that the City Council can modify through ordinance if the city can defend the modified standards. These modifications may include number of commissioners, length of terms for commissioners, policies such as not disqualifying candidates for past use of marijuana, rule of three or more for certifying eligibility list, and preference points for dual languages for entry-level candidates.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.