

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Moss called the special meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Present: Councilmembers Yazmin Bahena, Riley Clubb, Myron Huie, Ted Koehler, Susan Nakonieczny, Steve Moss, and Mayor Tom Scribner (Mayor Scribner attending via Zoom).

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fire Chief Bob Yancy, Deputy Fire Chief John Knowles, Fire Captain Eric Wood, Communications Manager Brenden Koch, and Deputy City Clerk Jodi Stephens.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

Extreme fire risk special meeting:

- 1) Discussion on current local fire risk conditions.
- 2) Discussion on the status of public firework displays in the Walla Walla area for July 4th, 2021.
- 3) Ordinance 2021-20 allowing the city to prohibit discharge of fireworks when there are extreme fire risk conditions.

Staff outlined the high temperatures and the extreme fire danger conditions in the Walla Walla Valley.

There was discussion on:

- Emergency personnel and safety.
- Fire risk levels.
- If approved, the emergency ordinance will not go into effect for 366 days per State law.

Mayor Pro Tem Moss invited public input.

Kent (no last name), 330 Locust, spoke in support of banning fireworks.

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Chris Price asked if the City had reached out to firework vendors and suggested that any ban needs to be planned further in advance.

Kevin Reniche spoke in support of the ban and asked the Police Department to enforce current regulations.

Brian Dohe spoke in support of a fireworks ban.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-20. Mayor Scribner seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote by Councilmember Nakonieczny.

Council concurred with the staff recommendation to cancel the City's public fireworks display on July 4th, 2021.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.