

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**February 8, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Scribner called the virtual meeting to order at 4:00 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, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Civil Engineer Johnny LeMaster, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also present: Retired Whitman College Professor Pat Henry and Scott Daggatt, W3 Entertainment.

**2. ACTIVE AGENDA**

- A. Discussion regarding public outreach for the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridges.

Staff reported there were 294 responses from the public outreach effort. These responses were very thoughtful. The City cannot afford to replace all the failing bridges. The bridges at 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues are detrimental to fish passage. Staff is recommending applying for a grant, due by February 19, to replace the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge and removing the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge. The bridge on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be left to further develop pedestrian crossing concepts.

There was discussion on the alternatives, loss of connectivity in the neighborhood, staff's recommendation, and gathering additional input from actual residents in the neighborhood.

There were no objections to staff's recommendation.

- B. 1. Nuclear weapons ban treaty.

Professor Henry summarized the ratification of the United Nations treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons on January 22, 2021. All countries with

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nuclear weapons have ignored this treaty and have not ratified approval. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) has launched a campaign to encourage cities and towns to sign a petition to show their support for the abolishment of nuclear weapons through this treaty. Professor Henry read the specific language the Council is being asked to consider. There was discussion on the request.

- B. 2. Council discussion on national and international policy positions.

Council discussed their individual opinions on whether it is the role of the City Council to address and act on issues that are not directly related to City business.

Mayor Scribner reported he would work with Mayor Pro Tem Moss and City Manager Shawa to develop an action item for a future meeting to address the request from Professor Henry to have the City of Walla Walla show its support for the abolishment of nuclear weapons. The broader policy issue will be discussed at a future Council retreat.

- C. Update on music initiative.

Staff provided an update on the efforts to bring concerts to Walla Walla, establishment of the "range amphitheater," and the three agreements necessary to make this happen. The proposed agreement with W3 Entertainment will include the imposition of a five percent ticket tax with thirty-five percent of the revenue set aside as a rebate, up to \$100,000, for the improvements the proposed amphitheater site requires for concerts.

Mr. Daggatt outlined the current environment in trying to book entertainment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There was discussion on how the \$100,000 rebate was determined. Staff reported this amount is based on cost projections for the site improvements. The rebate will not exceed \$100,000 or actual costs, whichever is greater.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.