

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
May 24, 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, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Senior Planner Jon Maland, Fleet Services Manager Matt Edwards, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Affordable Housing Tool Kit Options.

Staff reviewed the actions the City has taken to increase affordable housing and additional actions the City Council may want to consider implementing.

After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to consider establishment of an ad hoc housing committee consisting of Councilmembers Riley Clubb, Ted Koehler, and Steve Moss under new business on May 26, 2021.

B. Review of a suggested amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan submitted by the Community Council affordable housing implementation task force local policies and regulations subcommittee under the docketing provisions of RCW 36.07A.470.

Staff reviewed the docketing process for Comprehensive Plan text amendments. This proposed amendment is related to preserving manufactured/mobile home parks. There were comments by Gustavo Reyna regarding protecting the existing stock of affordable housing through a comprehensive plan text amendment.

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There was discussion by Council, staff, and members of the Community Council affordable housing task force regarding protections for residents of mobile home parks.

C. Council Compensation.

Mayor Pro Tem Moss outlined reasons why the compensation paid to Councilmembers should be increased.

Staff reviewed:

- The two options to raise Council compensation – direct vote of the Council or through a salary commission.
- Methods for creation of a salary commission.
- Council compensation has not been increased since 2007.
- A comparison of compensation among other cities in Washington State.

Council provided their individual opinions on the issue of Council compensation. It was the consensus of a majority of Council to place the issue on a future City Council agenda for discussion and possible action.

- D. Lease of a field marking robot from Turf Tank, not to exceed an annual lease cost of \$12,524, totaling \$66,974 over the duration of the six-year lease program for the parks maintenance division.

Staff described the current method and time necessary to mark the fields for the various sports. Marking the fields requires the hiring of part-time staff. The proposed lease of this robot would eliminate the need to hire this part-time staff. This savings will be used to fund the lease. This is on the Council's May 26 agenda for approval.

Councilmember Huie left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

There was discussion on the proposed lease, maintenance, and partnering with other entities that need fields marked.

E. Mask update.

Staff reported that in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control guidance, vaccinated employees and members of the public will not have to wear masks in City facilities except for facilities that have children under twelve, such as the library.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.