

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
October 11, 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, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Technology Services Director Chris Owen, Library Director Erin Wells, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Sergeant Brian Smith, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Review and discuss fleet vehicle/equipment leasing and rental options.

Staff outlined the proposed alternative acquisition methods for seven new police vehicles and a landfill compactor and the usage of these vehicles. There was extensive discussion on the lease proposals, costs, budgeting flexibility, and use of the vehicles. Council asked the Finance Director to prepare an analysis of the financial impacts between the proposed lease and outright purchase.

There was additional discussion on the rental with purchase option of a compact aerial boom for tree maintenance.

- B. Continued discussion on strategic plan update.

Staff outlined the importance and benefits of strategic planning in working towards the City's vision and mission. The leadership team has taken the priority areas identified by Council at their September 20 Work Session. The four areas identified are: Livability, Economic Health, Safe

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Community, and High Performing City. Council concurred these high-level areas capture the Council priorities previously identified.

- C. Review the purchase of a police crisis negotiation team throw phone from 836 Technologies for \$25,599 using money from the State legislature for unfunded mandates.

Staff reported this purchase had been budgeted and approved by Council in 2020 but was then put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic uncertainty. The old throw phone is inoperable and with the passage of recent legislation, police are required to use de-escalation tactics. Funding has been provided by the State legislature to cover a portion of these new mandates. The use and operation of this device is to allow communication with the negotiators and command center, along with maintaining a complete record of the incident.

There was discussion on the use of the equipment, expected life span of the equipment, support of police department accreditation, funding for body cameras, and if there will be any cost-sharing with Walla Walla County and College Place.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.