

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
November 15, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

City staff in attendance: Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Deputy Fire Chief Eric Wood, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Paramedic Cody Maine, Capital Projects Engineer Mike Laughery, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

In attendance virtually: Chris Gonzales and John Ghilarducci, consultants with the FCS Group.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Community Paramedic Program.

Staff reviewed the mission and goals of the Community Paramedic Program and outlined the positive impacts of the program on residents where ambulance and emergency room services are not meeting their needs. There was discussion on the program and continuing to meet the needs of the community.

B. 6-Year Capital Facilities Plan.

Staff reviewed projects in the plan that have been completed over the last eleven years and the capital facilities projects scheduled in 2022 and 2023. There was discussion on whether the City can anticipate funding from the Federal infrastructure bill just signed by the President and communicating the upcoming projects to City residents.

C. Recommendations for the 2022-2027 Water and Wastewater Financial Plans.

WORK SESSION MINUTES

NOVEMBER 15, 2021

PAGE 2

Staff and Mr. Gonzales reviewed the final recommendations for the water and wastewater rates for 2022-2027, the proposed capital facility charges, and the impact of these rates on a typical residential customer. There was discussion on:

- Water base rate and consumption.
- Negative impact of increases on low-income residents versus ensuring adequate maintenance of the system.
- Capital facility charges and detriment to affordable housing.
- Moderating and balancing increases while maintaining critical infrastructure.
- Reconsideration of the need and implementation of the ambulance utility fee.

Staff reported the proposed water and wastewater rates will be on the Council's December 1, 2021, agenda for consideration.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.