

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
December 13, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Councilmembers Yazmin Bahena, Riley Clubb, Ted Koehler, Steve Moss, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: Councilmembers Myron Huie and Susan Nakonieczny.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Parks & Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Transportation Engineer Monte Puymon, Police Captain Chris Buttice, Detective Chris Ruchert, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

Also in attendance: Brian Burns, Director of the Tri-State Steelheaders.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Support of Tri-State Steelheaders' grant application for the removal of the 5th Avenue bridge and replacement with a bicycle/pedestrian bridge.

Staff and Mr. Burns reviewed the history and need to replace or remove the bridges on 4th, 5th, and 6th Avenues, and the estimated costs. A grant funding opportunity has been identified by the Tri-State Steelheaders to remove the bridge at 5th Avenue to improve the Mill Creek channel for fish passage. An item is on the December 15, 2021, Council agenda to support this grant application.

There was brief discussion on the action proposed for consideration by the City Council; the grant funding; and ensuring the replacement bridge will support both bikes and pedestrians.

- B. Proposed landfill rate modifications for 2022-2023.

Staff reviewed the proposed changes to the landfill rates for bulk tires, weighing vehicles, and unscreened compost. There was brief discussion on the changes to weighing vehicles.

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- C. Review proposed amendments to the Walla Walla Municipal Code Titles 19 (Subdivision) and 20 (Zoning).

Staff reviewed some clarifying language added to the new Chapter 20.34 governing development agreements.

There was extensive discussion on development agreements being voluntary versus making them mandatory. Concerns were expressed with property being annexed without knowing what is going to be built. Council concurred with the language allowing Council to determine who will hold the public hearing on development agreements rather than the Development Services Director.

- D. American Rescue Plan Act potential projects.

Staff reviewed the following projects proposed for funding through the American Rescue Plan Act money:

- \$250,000 for Eastgate Lions Park Playground, including a surface area to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards.
- \$253,000 for Police equipment including: a new radio system to replace one that doesn't transmit in certain areas; a 3-D laser scanner to document crime scenes; forty Glocks with red dots to replace existing service weapons; and a tactical drone to aid in de-escalating situations.
- \$150,000 in grants to non-profit organizations. These grants will be administered by the Blue Mountain Community Foundation.

There is currently no funding proposed for police body cameras. This will be an area to be discussed as part of the 2023-2024 biennium budget.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.