

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Brian Casey, Rick Eskil, Ted Koehler, Steve Moss, Susan Nakonieczny, Gustavo Reyna, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Fire Chief Bob Yancey, Police Chief Scott Bieber, Deputy Fire Chief Eric Wood, Deputy Fire Chief John Knowles, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Library Director Erin Wells, Senior Planner Jon Maland, Police Captain Chris Buttice, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following asked the City Council to remove the requirement for property owner authorization to allow Bacon & Eggs to keep the parklet in front of their business:

- Susan Janelle
- Leroy Cunningham
- Katherine Donlon
- Michelle, owner of Bacon & Eggs
- Nathaniel Farnham
- Darren Digiacinto
- RL McFarland
- Glynis McClellan
- Vicky McClellan
- Mel Sorenson

Staff reviewed the legal issues surrounding the ownership of Main Street. The property under Main street west of 1st Avenue is owned by the City, where the City only has a dedicated easement for transportation related activities for Main Street for the property lying east of 1st Avenue. This

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means the property owner must either agree to allow the parklet or require its removal. The City has worked long and hard to identify alternative solutions without success. The streateries were implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is still ongoing, and it is very disappointing that the property owners are being shortsighted and negatively impacting their tenant. The citizen satisfaction survey shows most residents and visitors enjoy them.

Council thanked the speakers for their comments and asked staff to continue to seek all possible solutions. Council also expressed their disappointment with the property owners.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Staff introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A and B, as follows:

- A. Resolution No. 2022-07 authorizing acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$27,442.80 from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation and authorizing the purchase of an E-hydraulic Holmatro cutter, spreader, and accessories (commonly known as the “jaws of life”).
- B. Approval of minutes of the January 10, 2022, Work Session and the January 12, 2022, regular meeting.

Mayor Scribner invited public input. No one chose to address the City Council on any of these items.

Staff provided a brief report on Item A.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A and B. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution No. 2022-08 determining that the City will accept the proposed annexation for the Narum and Burseth Properties at 3080 and 3082 Cottonwood Road.

Staff provided an overview of the annexation process and boundaries of the proposed annexation.

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Mayor Scribner invited public input. No one chose to address the City Council on this item.

There was brief discussion on the annexation process and maximum number of homes that could be constructed on the property.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-08. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Resolution No. 2022-09 authorizing the purchase of twenty-six 3M Scott Air-Paks, masks with associated communications upgrades, spare cylinders, and 2 RIT packs for rescue in the amount of \$312,000 from Seawestern Fire Fighting Equipment.

Staff reviewed the need to replace the existing Honeywell self-contained breathing apparatus. Staff worked with Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 and City of College Place to coordinate the joint purchase at a fifteen percent savings to the agencies.

Mayor Scribner invited public input. No one chose to address the City Council on this issue.

There was brief discussion on funding for the replacement equipment and whether there is any existing warranty for a claim against Honeywell.

Councilmember Eskil moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-09. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution No. 2022-06 authorizing the write-off of \$77,024 at the Collection Bureau for 419 library accounts.

Staff reported on the efforts to remove economic barriers to library services. Any account over \$100 was sent to the Collection Bureau. These old accounts date back over thirty-six years and have a very negative impact on people's lives. The Library would like to get the materials back and hope this action encourages people to return them. All delinquent accounts over six years old would be written off if approved by Council.

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Mayor Scribner invited public input. No one chose to address the City Council on this issue.

There was brief discussion on the accounts that the Collection Bureau has determined to be non-recoverable and cleaning up uncollectible accounts.

Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-06. Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- D. Resolution No. 2022-10 determining to proceed with a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance of the Office of Justice Programs for \$90,000 over three years towards the acquisition of body-worn cameras for police officers.

Staff reported there have been two extensive discussions at Work Sessions.

Council expressed their individual opinions on the issue of body-worn cameras.

Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-10. Councilmember Eskil seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting; and the ad hoc affordable housing task force.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation Board meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; and the Work Session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the Emergency Management Board meeting; the Water & Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting; the Sustainability Committee meeting; the Valley Transit Board meeting; the Work Session; and the ad hoc affordable housing task force.

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Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the Arts Commission public hearing on the deaccessioning of the Marcus Whitman Statue; a meeting with Councilmember Moss; and the Work Session.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion on how to recognize City employees for outstanding service; reviewing issues being discussed during Council Member meeting reports; and engaging community stakeholders and promoting their work within the community. These are topics that will be discussed at the March 19 retreat.

Councilmember Moss moved to confirm the appointment of the City Council representatives as proposed by the Mayor; and provides declaration of remote interests pursuant to RCW 42.23.040 for any contracts entered into with the associated organizations as follows:

Voting Membership	Appointee(s)
Blue Mountain Action	Gustavo Reyna
Borleske Stadium	Andy Coleman Elizabeth Chamberlain
Firemen's Pension	Tom Scribner Rick Eskil
Good Roads Transportation Assoc; Dist. 5 (3 counties).	Brian Casey Susan Nakonieczny
Infrastructure Improvement Committee	Ted Koehler
LEOFF Board	Tom Scribner Rick Eskil
Lodging Tax Advisory Committee	Ted Koehler
Metropolitan Planning Org (MPO	Brian Casey
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)	Susan Nakonieczny
Valley Transit (PTAB)	Steve Moss, Rick Eskil, Susan Nakonieczny
Volunteer Firemen's Board	Tom Scribner Brian Casey
WW County Emergency Management Board	Gustavo Reyna
External Liaisons	Appointees
Blue Mountain Humane Society	Rick Eskil

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Downtown WW Foundation	Gustavo Reyna
Cannara Sister City	Steve Moss
Mill Creek Coalition	Tom Scribner
Sasayama Sister City Affiliation	Brian Casey
WW Valley Pioneer & Historical Society aka Fort Walla Walla Museum	Susan Nakonieczny
Ex-Officio/No Vote Liaisons	Appointee(s)
Arts Commission	Tom Scribner
Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	Tom Scribner
Civil Service Commission	Steve Moss
CDBG Consolidated Plan Advisory Group	Ted Koehler
Hearing Examiner	Brian Casey
Historic Preservation Commission	Gustavo Reyna
Hotel & Motel Commission	Ted Koehler
Library Board	Tom Scribner
Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board	Steve Moss
Planning Commission	Rick Eskil
Sustainability Committee	Rick Eskil
Transportation Benefit District Advisory Committee	Steve Moss
Visit Walla Walla	Rick Eskil
Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee	Brian Casey
Council Committees	Appointees
Boards and Commissions	Susan Nakonieczny (Chair), Steve Moss, Gustavo Reyna
Finance Committee	Steve Moss (Chair), Tom Scribner, Ted Koehler
Legislative Committee	Rick Eskil (Chair), Tom Scribner, Gustavo Reyna
Ad Hoc Housing Committee	Ted Koehler (Chair), Steve Moss, Gustavo Reyna

Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Staff provided an update on the recruitment for a new police chief.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Scribner announced the City Council will be recessing to Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation to which the City is a party or is likely to become a party pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(j). The Executive Session will last no more than one hour, and the Council may come back in open session.

The meeting was recessed at 8:37 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business in open session, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.