

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Absent: None.

City staff in attendance: City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Accounting Supervisor Liz Moeller, Senior Planner Jon Maland, and City Clerk Kammy Hill.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PRESENTATIONS** – None.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one chose to address the Council at this time.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Staff introduced the Consent Agenda, Items A through G, as follows:

- A. Resolution No. 2022-43 approving a 48-month lease with Copiers Northwest in an amount not to exceed \$26,280 per year.
- B. Resolution No. 2022-49 authorizing a contract with Priority One Fence in the amount of \$117,612 for installation of fence and netting at the driving range at Veterans Memorial Golf Course.
- C. Resolution No. 2022-50 adopting proclamation issuance guidelines.
- D. Resolution No. 2022-51 authorizing the annual cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service for protection of the Mill

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Creek watershed in the amount of \$99,617.28.

- E. Resolution No. 2022-52 sets May 25, 2022, as the public hearing date for the Narum and Burseth annexation.
- F. Resolution No. 2022-53 authorizing a reimbursement agreement with Walla Walla County for costs to relocate components of the City's raw water transmission main in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.
- G. Approval of minutes of the retreat held March 18; the retreat held March 19; the Work Session held March 21; and the regular meeting held March 23.

Council asked that Item B be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

RL McFarland, Walla Walla, expressed concerns that the May 23 City Council minutes did not accurately reflect his comments on the issue of the Myra Road grant and the City working outside of the efforts of the Highway 12 coalition.

Council was provided a brief report on tax increment financing; and why the City is responsible for costs associated with the water transmission line and the County's Mill Creek Road project.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A, and C through G. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**6. ACTIVE AGENDA**

- B. Resolution No. 2022-49 authorizing a contract with Priority One Fence in the amount of \$117,612 for installation of fence and netting at the driving range at Veterans Memorial Golf Course.

Staff reviewed the project to replace the net and fencing at the driving range. The netting is overdue for replacement and the fencing will also assist with the area as a concert venue. The work is anticipated to be

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complete prior to the first June concert. The music promoters are responsible for the set up and security costs for the concerts.

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

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-49. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- A. Resolution No. 2022-54 adopting the City's 2022 Strategic Plan update.

Staff reviewed the process for developing the strategic plan and the strategic plan objectives and initiatives in the four main "buckets": Livability, Safe Community, Economic Health, and High Performing Organization.

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

Council commended Deputy City Manager Chamberlain for her leadership and process used in developing the strategic plan.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-54. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Resolution No. 2022-55 authorizing a professional services contract with WIH Resource Group for recycling programs assistance in an amount not to exceed \$51,590.

Staff reported this contract will assess the feasibility and costs for glass recycling as consistently asked for by citizens on the annual satisfaction survey and will assist staff with the renewal of the recycling contract.

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

There was discussion on the scope of the contract and obtaining the data to determine how much a glass recycling program would cost. Concerns

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were expressed with spending money to determine that a glass recycling program is not financially feasible versus having the actual data to provide residents and whether this is the appropriate time to study the issue. The contract will also provide the assistance of an industry expert to assist staff in navigating a new recycling contract.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-55. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried with 4 yes votes and 3 no votes by Councilmembers Casey, Eskil, and Nakonieczny.**

- C. Ordinance No. 2022-10 amending the Municipal Code to increase the City Manager's contracting authority; and Resolution No. 2022-56 adopting an updated purchasing policy.

Staff reported these actions will increase the City Manager's contracting and purchasing authority from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

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

Council commented that this was brought before the Finance Committee. Staff researched the different approval levels from communities of similar size. A quarterly report will be provided to Council.

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

**Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-56. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- D. Ordinance No. 2022-11 amending the Municipal Code to require utility accounts be maintained in the property owner's name.

Staff reported that in 2015 a change was made to allow property owners to put the utility bill in the tenant's name. This change has caused confusion and extra work. This amendment will help clarify that the utility bill remains the responsibility of the owner.

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

There was discussion on communicating the change to property owners; current payment plans are interest free to clear up delinquent accounts due to the pandemic; and working with commercial property owners to assist them with any delinquent accounts. This simply clarifies the responsibility of utility charges.

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-11. Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- E. Resolution No. 2022-57 authorizing a professional services contract with PBS Engineering & Environmental Inc. for design services on the Chestnut – 2<sup>nd</sup> to Howard Street infrastructure repair and replacement project in an amount not to exceed \$349,617.

Staff reviewed the scope of the contract and project.

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

There were comments on this project accommodating a potential roundabout at the Howard and Chestnut Street intersection and the scope of the project.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-57. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- F. Resolution No. 2022-58 determining that the City will accept the proposed ten percent annexation petition for property located at 700 McBeth Road.

Staff reviewed the steps in the annexation process and the property boundaries.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

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Travis Watts, representing the Watson's on the sale of the property contingent upon it being annexed to the City, commented that the property will be developed with residential housing that is needed within the community. The property will roughly accommodate thirty homes.

There was discussion on the property being owned one hundred percent by the petitioner and confirmation that any proposed development will have two access points.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-58. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

G. Resolution No. 2022-59 approving the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant projects. (SHR-22-0002).

Staff reviewed the shoreline development permit process and project area.

Mayor Scribner polled the City Council for any conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues. None were reported.

**Councilmember Casey moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-59. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

H. Resolution No. 2022-60 approving the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit for the Heritage Square project. (SHR-22-0001)

Staff reviewed the shoreline development permit process and project area.

Mayor Scribner polled the City Council for any conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues. None were reported.

**Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2022-60. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

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- I. Approval of March 2022 accounts payable register containing check numbers 17780 through 17782; 17874 through 18098; 345 through 355; 357 through 360 totaling \$4,211,787.52.

**Councilmember Moss moved to approve the March 2022 accounts payable register containing check numbers 17780 through 17782; 17874 through 18098; 345 through 355; 357 through 360 totaling \$4,211,787.52 except for the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the checks to the Blue Mountain Action Council. Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention by Councilmember Koehler.**

## **7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting; the affordable housing task force meeting; the presentation by the Association of Washington Cities on the opioid settlement process; a meeting with Mayor Scribner; the Parks, Recreation & Urban Forestry Advisory Board meeting; the Valley Transit agenda setting meeting; the agenda setting meeting; and the Work Session. There was brief discussion regarding the membership of the Chief's Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Casey reported attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting, and the Work Session.

Councilmember Reyna reported attendance at the affordable housing task force meeting, and a meeting with Police Captain Buttice.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the golf transition committee meeting; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting; the Work Session; the Fort Walla Walla Museum Board meeting; and the oath of office ceremony for the Police Department.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the affordable housing task force meeting; the Work Session; and the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee meeting.

Councilmember Eskil reported attendance at the Planning Commission meeting and the Work Session.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the Public Library Board meeting; a meeting with Councilmember Moss; the Arts Commission meeting; the agenda setting meeting; the Work Session; and the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting.

#### **8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

There was discussion on whether the Council wished to hold another Work Session on the request for a City tattoo policy. It was the consensus of a majority of Council to place this issue on the May 11 City Council active agenda for a decision, with thirty minutes allocated to the three proponents of a policy.

Staff provided an update on the Federal lobby efforts; and a \$50,000 grant for housing plan implementation. Staff is proposing this grant be used to review and possibly modify the SEPA thresholds to streamline the development process.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.**