

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
November 14, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scribner called the meeting to order at 4:00 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: Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Police Chief Buttice, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Technology Services Director Chris Owen, HR Director Pam Taylor, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Accounting Manager Liz Moeller, Deputy Fire Chief John Knowles, Deputy Fire Chief Eric Wood, Deputy Public Works Director Mike Laughery, Library Director Erin Wells, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

Also present: Jonathan Hartung and David Curran of SHKS Architects

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Continued Review of 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

Staff provided an overview of the proposed 2023-2024 Biennium Budget including some additional information regarding the benefits and staffing requirements of adding a body camera program.

There was discussion on:

- Trust in the community.
- Conservative sales tax revenue estimates.
- The opportunity to adjust if needed through budget amendments.
- The budget process to determine what is included.
- Priority lists from departments.
- Revenues and banking of property tax increases.
- Usage of fund balances.

B. 6-Year Capital Facilities Plan

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Staff reviewed the proposed capital facilities plan noting that there may continue to be roadblocks due to staffing and supply issues.

There was discussion on:

- Planning – future facilities plan.
- Grant funding and project timing.
- Contingency plans for changes.
- Sewer replacements in alleyways in the spring (allowing timeline flexibility when weather allows to July first to get better bids).
- Wastewater treatment plant cooperation with the City of College Place.

C. Library Pre-Design Report Update

Staff reported on the history of the library planned expansion, the current pre-design plan and estimated budget as well as some potential funding options.

There was discussion on:

- Flexibility of the space as use of libraries change.
- Current cost projections are for a 2024 start date.
- Generous donation of 6 million dollars and needed matching funds.
- How to raise additional funds such as bonds (Fire Station bond ends in 2023), grants, etc.
- Ability to renovate the existing structure due to the energy code and seismic design.
- Design of space for safety, ADA accessibility, future plans, etc.
- Parking availability.
- Staffing needs for new design.
- The timeline and process to reach the point of construction.

3. MEETING ENDS

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 5:57 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk