

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023

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 Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following spoke regarding harmful impacts due to the use of gas powered leaf blowers:

- Bob Carson
- Chris Howard
- Gwendolyn Woodruff
- David Womack

Mr. Womack also spoke about the issues being addressed by the council regarding the public safety and accessibility of the Pioneer Park area along Division St.

Dorothy Knudson, of Rancho Villa spoke about sample water billings the residents have received from the new owners and expressed some concerns.

Council thanked the citizens for attending and expressed their individual opinions. It was suggested that Ms. Knudson bring a billing, once she receives one, and discuss it with the City Attorney.

City Attorney Donaldson explained that the City is looking into examples of regulations within the State related to gas powered leaf blowers.

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4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution 2023-001: Authorizes a Professional Services Contract with JUB Engineers, Inc. for a Digester Study at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not-to-exceed \$130,000.
- B. Resolution 2023-002: Authorizes a professional services contract with PBS Engineering and Environmental for design of the Pioneer Park Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Improvements project not-to-exceed \$80,443.
- C. Corrects the term ending date for Parks, Recreation, and Urban Forestry Advisory Board Appointments of Long and Maret to December 31, 2025.
- D. Approves the minutes of the December 21, 2022, regular meeting.

Mayor Scribner invited public input, while acknowledging the comments made earlier by Mr. Womack. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on any of these items.

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

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution 2023-003: Authorizes a professional services contract with Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. for design of the 2nd Avenue Pavement Restoration Project in the amount of \$71,515.

Staff provided information on items A, B, and C detailing the coordination of various items in all three projects.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Ms. Knudson made a couple of comments about length of road construction projects.

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There was discussion on:

- Grants.
- Preservation of pavement that is put down.
- Expertise of engineering consultants.
- Utility conditions considerations when planning these projects.
- Patience of people during construction.
- Engineering in how to preserve a roadway.

Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to approve Resolution 2023-003 as presented and discussed. Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion.

Councilmembers expressed their appreciation for the level of detail included by staff in the agenda reports for these items and requested this practice be continued.

The motion carried unanimously with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- B. Resolution 2023-004: Authorizes a professional services contract with Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. for design of the Rose Street (Park to Carey Ct.) Pavement Preservation Project in the amount not-to-exceed \$360,000.

Councilmember Reyna moved to approve Resolution 2023-004 as presented and discussed. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- C. Resolution 2023-005: Authorizes a professional services contract with Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. for design of the 2024 locally funded Pavement Preservation Project in the amount not-to-exceed \$234,157.

Councilmember Casey moved to approve Resolution 2023-005 as presented and discussed. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- D. Resolution 2023-006: Awards the bid for construction of the Cookerly IRRP Project to Premier Excavation, Inc., in the amount of \$1,850,593.59.

Staff provided information on the project and reasons for the need to make the improvements.

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

There was discussion on:

- The timeline (start date and duration) of project construction.
- Access during construction.
- Scoring process to choose IRRP projects.
- Contributing factors to utility failures.

Councilmember Koehler moved to approve Resolution 2023-006 as presented and discussed. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

6. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, finance committee, Chief's advisory, ad-hoc housing, and as a private citizen he attended the County Community Health Advisory Board.

Councilmember Casey reported attendance at the following:

The work session, and Walla Walla Valley MPO.

Councilmember Reyna reported attendance at the following:

The work session and the ad-hoc affordable housing meeting.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the following:

The work session and Fort Walla Walla.

Councilmember Eskil reported attendance at the following:

The work session, the LEOFF Board, and the Fire Pension Board.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the following:

The work session and the ad-hoc affordable housing meeting.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, finance committee, the LEOFF Board, the Fire Pension Board, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and a meeting with Dave Dressler on a compost project.

7. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Nakonieczny made a motion to reappoint Katherine Long and appointment of David Scholl to the Infrastructure Improvement Advisory Committee. Second by Councilmember Koehler and the motion carried unanimously with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

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There was discussion regarding choices for the parking options near Argo Transmission as discussed at the work session.

Councilmember Eskil made a motion to schedule a regular agenda item regarding Argo Transmission to discuss the 9 presented options. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion failed with 3 yes votes (Eskil, Nakonieczny, Casey) and 4 no votes (Moss, Reyna, Scribner, Koehler).

The result of the vote is that the project will proceed as designed and parking may be addressed after the ongoing parking study is completed.

Ms. Chamberlain shared that on January 31st she would be in Olympia for a lobby trip with Councilmember Eskil, Mr. Bealey, and lobbyist Mara Machulsky.

8. MEETING ENDS

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7:47 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk