

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**February 8, 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, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Planner Lisa Wasson-Seilo, Parks and Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Scribner read a proclamation declaring the week of February 19-25, 2023 to be National Engineers Week in the City of Walla Walla.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following people made comments regarding the application for a conditional use permit for a cellular tower on property owned by Blue Mountain Community Church and their opposition of the tower.

- Barbara Knudson
- Pamela Culbreth
- Michelle Lucas
- Mary Gibson
- Ray Culver

The following people made comments regarding the intersection at Division and Whitman Streets and safety issues along the Division corridor at Pioneer Park.

- Terry Thompson
- Sybil Barrier
- Cory Johnson

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The following people spoke about issues with speeding on Pine Street and parking causing congestion in the alley between Oak and Pine between 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets:

- Wendy (no last name provided)
- Tonya Ambres
- Andre Laendeau

A nurse, Donna Johnson, who lives at a mobile home park on Isaacs spoke about injuries received from a fall due to the property owner not repairing potholes and that they are raising rents.

Council thanked the citizens for attending and expressed their individual opinions.

Mayor Scribner requested the subject of a moratorium be placed on the agenda at the next work session and regular meeting. In addition, it was noted that the Whitman and Division intersection is currently being reviewed and a comprehensive public outreach will be part of the process.

The Mayor noted that he and the Mayor Pro Temporary had met with staff and reviewed the alley. Their decision was that the no parking on the North side of the alley will remain, and there will be no parking on a short stretch on the West end of the South side and the remaining area will allow parking.

### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution 2023-010: Authorizes the surplus and trade-in of one (1) 2016 Caterpillar 826K Landfill Compactor to Western States Caterpillar.
- B. Resolution No. 2023-011 Renewal of the District Court Agreement.
- C. Approves the minutes for 01-09-2023 and 01-23-2023 Work Sessions and the 01-11-2023 and 01-25-2023 Regular Meetings.

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

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

### 6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Ordinance 2023-01: Adopt amendments to the Walla Walla 2040 Comprehensive Plan Map
- Ordinance 2023-02: Adopts Amendments to Titles 15 and 20 of the Walla Walla Municipal Code

Staff reported on the process that staff, the Planning Commission, and the Ad-Hoc Housing Commission have gone through to develop the proposed amendments to the Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map to add a new land use designation of Manufactured Home Park.

The following people spoke in favor of the proposed amendments while several also spoke about the recent increases in rent that many of these mobile home parks are being subjected to.

- Donna Johnson
- Richard Aruley
- Pat Lemer
- Jerry Davis
- Dorothy Knudson
- Jan Leonard
- Trina Watco
- Steve Wheeler
- Shirley Wadell
- Noah Leavitt
- Jerry Carlyle
- Ruth Brohman
- R.L. McFarland
- Dr. Rachel Elfenbein
- Trish Divine Wilder

There was discussion on:

- Affordable housing.
- The ad-hoc housing committee.
- The process to bring these changes forward.
- Impact of public advocacy.

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- Enforcement of terms of the adopted Ordinances.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-01. Councilmember Koehler seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-02. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**B. Resolution 2023-012: Rejects all bids for the Heritage Square project.**

Staff reported on the bids received for this project and noted the low bid came in roughly \$700,000 over the budget. It was noted that staff is working with the engineers and two bidders of the project to revise the project to modify it and potentially stage items to bring it in within budget. Staff recommends rejection of all bids with the plan to re-bid a revised project at a future date.

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

There was discussion on:

- The timing of a re-bid.
- If the re-bid will be open to all bidders? (yes)
- Reasons for bids coming in so much higher than expected.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-012. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**C. Ordinance 2023-03: Corrects two wastewater rate typos contained in Ordinance No. 2021-40.**

Staff reported on the need to correct typographical errors in an Ordinance passed on utility rates in 2021.

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

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There was discussion on:

- Effects of the changes regarding utility rates.

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-03. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

D. Resolution 2023-013: Authorizes applying for an EPA grant for recycling education.

Staff reported on application for this grant as discussed at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> work session.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

Dorothy Knudson asked what the education would be for.

There was discussion on:

- What the content of the education might be.
- The need for education on what can be recycled, regardless of what is able to be included.
- If the group traveling to Olympia were able to include this in their discussions.

**Councilmember Casey moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-013. Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

E. Resolution 2023-014: Authorizes the purchase of traffic signal equipment for the 2nd/Chestnut traffic signal in the amount of \$120,000.

Staff reported on the need to pre-purchase this equipment to minimize supply chain delays such as we experienced on the Poplar St. project.

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

There was discussion on:

- Timing of the work in conjunction with the IRRP project.
- Order time needed to have equipment in time.
- Age of the equipment and life expectancy.

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**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-014. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

F. Resolution 2023-015: Accepts a \$1,200,000 federal grant for the Pine Street TBD (2nd Avenue to 9th Avenue) Project.

Staff reported on the pursuit of grants for this project to date and noted the desire to go to construction by 2025.

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

There was discussion on:

- Speeding considerations in the design.
- State responsible for the road past 9<sup>th</sup> Street intersection.

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-015. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

### 7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the following:

The work session, the agenda setting, Ad-hoc Housing, a tour of the wastewater treatment facility, and touring the alley mentioned during public comment.

Councilmember Casey reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Walla Walla Valley MPO, and a meeting with Sherriff Crider regarding body worn cameras.

Councilmember Reyna reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Downtown WW F, Ad-hoc Housing, and Historic Preservation.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Fort Walla Walla, and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Eskil reported attendance at the following:

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The work session, and the trip to Olympia.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the following:

The work session, and the Ad-hoc Housing.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, the alley tour, a meeting with the library donor, and a meeting with the Port, County, and City of College Place regarding the Highway Phase 8.

**8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Chamberlain provided an update on the status of the Hwy 12 project.

**9. MEETING ENDS**

**There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9:26 p.m.**

Approved:

Attest:

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Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk