

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 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, and Mayor Tom Scribner.

Absent: Gustavo Reyna

City staff in attendance: City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Parks and Recreation Director Andy Coleman, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Police Chief Buttice, Library Director Erin Wells, HR Director Pamela Taylor, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dorothy Knudson spoke about rent relief bills in the legislature that our local representatives did not vote for.

Sybil Barrier expressed concerns about the scope of work of the contract with PBS for the study for the intersection at Division and Whitman. She was concerned about the public input not actually being a valued consideration in the final decision.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- A. Resolution 2023-023 Updates the contract with Pacific Security for the Public Library.
- B. Resolution 2023-024: Awards the bid for the material purchase of Hot Mix Asphalt to Humbert Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of \$266,805.00.
- C. Accepts the resignation of Barbara Knudson from the Lodging Tax Advisory Commission.

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- D. Approves the minutes for the 02-06-2023 and 02-21-2023 work sessions and the 02-08-2023 regular meeting.

Mayor Scribner thanked Ms. Knudson for her valued participation on the Lodging Tax Advisory Board and invited public input. No one in the audience chose to address the City Council on any of these items.

Staff provided a brief explanation on the reason for the security need at the library.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Consent Agenda Items A through D. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**6. ACTIVE AGENDA**

- A. Ordinance 2023-04 Interim Zoning Ordinance related to Wireless Communications Facilities.

Staff provided a timeline of discussions to date and a review of the proposed interim zoning ordinance.

Mayor Scribner opened a public hearing at 6:46 p.m.

The following people spoke about the need for additional regulation to restrict this type of wireless communication facilities noting unintended consequences such as fire, collapse, aesthetic issues, property devaluation, and health issues. In addition the willingness of the neighbors to assist the church in getting out of the lease was mentioned.

- Barbara Knudson
- Pamela Culbreth
- Beth Call
- Susan Akers
- Ray Culbreth
- Nancy Powell
- Douglas DeMers

Jim Snider, Pastor of Blue Mountain Community Church spoke about the church property and asked if the council believed they made a wrong choice when they passed the ordinance last year.

Mayor Scribner closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

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There was discussion on:

- The reason behind the original ordinance last year being an attempt to be proactive in relation to recent FCC rulings.
- If there had been any new applications in the past two weeks. (none)
- Status of the current application and estimate of late April or early May for a hearing.
- Federal regulations are preempting the ability of local governments to limit placements of these facilities.

**Councilmember Koehler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-04**  
**Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried**  
**unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- B. Resolution 2023-025: Authorizes a construction contract in the amount of \$93,010.00 to Conframe Construction for the Pioneer Park Storage Building Renovation project.

Staff reported on the offer of Michael and Eva Murr to replace the dilapidated greenhouse at Pioneer Park and requested authorization to award this contract for the renovation of the building.

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

There was discussion on:

- The generosity of the Murr's who are paying the full cost of the renovation.
- The process of the contractor being chosen from the MRSC Small Works Roster.
- Having a plaque on the building thanking the Murr's.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-025**  
**Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion carried**  
**unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Resolution 2023-026 Authorizing the preparation of policy and use of Body-Worn Cameras by the Walla Walla Police Department.

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Staff reported on the proposed resolution to authorize the use of body-worn cameras and the preparation of the policy to regulate their use.

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

There was discussion on:

- The involvement of the Chief Advisory Commission in the development of the policy.
- Negotiations with the Police Guild.
- Public involvement facilitation for the policy development.
- Timeframe for deployment of the cameras.
- City legal counsel involvement in the policy development.

**Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-026  
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried  
unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- D. Resolution 2023-027: Approves recommendation and installation of artwork selected by the Arts Commission to be displayed in Council Chambers.

Staff reported on the process for submissions and recommendation of 10 for display in the chambers.

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

There was discussion on:

- Having a reception with the artists.
- Yearlong commitment to have the art on display.

**Councilmember Casey moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-027  
Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried  
unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

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**7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, Finance Committee, and a tour of the Sleep Center.

Councilmember Casey reported attendance at the

The work session.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the following:

The work session and the Fort Walla Walla board.

Councilmember Eskil reported attendance at the following:

The work session.

Councilmember Koehler reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Finance Committee, Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board, and the Infrastructure Improvement Committee.

Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, Library Board, Blue Mountain Community Foundation Celebration of Giving, and a meeting with College Place Mayor Hernandez.

**8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Councilmember Nakonieczny made a motion to allow Erik McLaughlin to continue to serve his term on the Planning Commission after he moves from a property in the city limits to a property outside the city limits, yet still within the urban growth area. Councilmember Eskil seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Ms. Chamberlain noted that the joint meeting with College Place is planned for April 19<sup>th</sup> and will be held in College Place. She also informed council that she, Councilmember Eskil, and Public Works Director Bealey will be attending the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> via Zoom as they will be in Olympia to advocate for transportation priorities.

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**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Scribner announced the City Council would be recessing to executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the City:

**Subject 1:** To discuss the strategy or position to be taken by the City Council in the course of collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings and to review proposals made in negotiations pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b)

**Subject 2:** RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency

The executive session will last no longer than 90 minutes, and no further business will come before the Council in open session. The meeting recessed at 8:00 p.m.

**10. MEETING ENDS**

**There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.**

Approved:

Attest:

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Mayor

*Anna St. deputy*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk