

**WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 22, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

Absent: Ted Koehler.

City staff in attendance: City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain (virtually), City Attorney Tim Donaldson, Public Works Director Ki Bealey (virtually), Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Environmental Engineer Leah Rohan, Planner Jon Maland, Deputy Public Works Director Mike Laughery, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sybil Barrier expressed concerns with the contract for revisions at the intersection of Whitman and Division with PBS. Specifically, she was concerned with task #4 and if there would be true public involvement and genuine alternatives explored. She provided a handout to each of the council members.

Brian Cariveau asked what the amount listed on his utility bill as a sewer base is for. He expressed concern with senior citizens being able to pay for this.

The following people spoke regarding concerns with the cell tower being proposed for installation at the Blue Mt. Community Church. Some of the items noted were permit application deficiencies, policy failing to protect, current code not being enforced, noise and aesthetics, and failed attempts to meet with the Church.

- Mary Gibson
- Barbara Knudson
- Vickie McClellan

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Mayor Scribner noted there would be a meeting tomorrow at the Pioneer Park Garden Center regarding the Whitman and Division intersection.

He suggested the utility bill question be directed to the clerk for forwarding to the appropriate department, and Councilmember Moss suggested he look into the discount.

At the Mayor's request, staff provided an update on the status of the conditional use permit application for the cell tower.

### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Resolution 2023-028: Authorizes a professional services contract with Brown and Caldwell for wastewater pretreatment program assistance in the amount of \$166,680.
- B. Resolution 2023-029: Authorizes a two-year professional services contract with Aspect Consulting for landfill groundwater monitoring and environmental consulting in the annual not to exceed amount of \$192,240.
- C. Resolution 2023-030: Awards the bid for gravel and spoils hauling/disposal to Humbert Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of \$77,073.98.
- D. Resolution 2023-031: Authorizes a two-year professional services contract with Aspect Consulting for landfill gas collection, flare, and leachate collection system operations and maintenance in the annual not to exceed amount of \$137,600.
- E. Approves the minutes of the 2/22/2023 regular meeting.

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

Staff provided a brief explanation of items A, B, and D.

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

### 6. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Resolution 2023-032: Declaring certain city owned property as surplus and authorizing the City Manager to dispose of such property.

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Staff reported on property that the city acquired previously for a waterline and would like to sell a portion of it to an adjacent property owner.

Mayor Scribner invited public input.

R.L. McFarland spoke about some history of the property and easement for this waterline. He expressed concern of this sale limiting the ability to put an access bridge through for pedestrians and/or bicycles in the future.

David Reinholtz commented that the portion of the property he is requesting to purchase is not part of the easement.

There was discussion on:

- Potential of future path not being precluded by this action.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-032  
Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried  
unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

B. Resolution 2023-033: Resolution approving the Alteration of Subdivision, generally located near Klingman Court and Fern Avenue.

Staff reported on the need for the city council to approve the alteration of the subdivision in order to process the sale of the surplus property.

Mayor Scribner opened the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

R.L. McFarland requested a summary of the wetland area that is part of this item and being sold and expressed concerns of encroachment on the creek property.

Mayor Scribner closed the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

There was discussion on:

- Wetland setbacks and protections.
- Restrictions on development of the land being sold.
- Critical area not included in property being sold.
- Location of utility easement.
- Potential of walking bridge in the future.

**Councilmember Moss moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-033**

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**Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- C. Resolution 2023-034: Resolution approving the Alteration of Subdivision, generally located on Abbott Road.

Staff reported on the need to make adjustments to two subdivision lines for the property owners to be able to make boundary line adjustments.

Mayor Scribner opened the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Greg Flowers stated that he was the land surveyor for this project and is available if anyone has any questions.

Mayor Scribner closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

There was discussion on:

- Reason for adjustment of boundary lines to allow more density for future development.

**Councilmember Casey moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-034  
Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- D. Resolution 2023-035: Adoption of the City of Walla Walla Historic Preservation Plan.

Staff reported on the plan development by Northwest Vernacular as presented in the work session on Monday.

Mayor Scribner opened the public hearing at 7:43 p.m. Being no one in the audience chose to address the City Council on this matter, the hearing closed.

There was discussion on:

- Excitement about the plan and historic preservation in the city.
- Public education on historic preservation.
- Tax breaks for improvements on historic properties.

**Councilmember Nakonieczny moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-035  
Councilmember Reyna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

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- E. Resolution 2023-036: Construction bid award of the Chestnut - 2nd to Howard IRRP Project to Culbert Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$4,178,463.55.

Staff reported on the Chestnut IRRP project aspects and how the project will be scheduled in phases to minimize disruption of public roadways. This will result in various elements taking place over a two-year period starting after the Park/Alder intersection opens.

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

There was discussion on:

- Planning ahead on the project to minimize disruption.
- Estimate of Park/Alder intersection opening in May.
- Time of Chestnut/2<sup>nd</sup> intersection work – scheduled for 40 days with incentives to finish early.

**Councilmember Reyna moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-036  
Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried  
unanimously with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

- F. Resolution 2023-037: Authorizes a professional services contract with Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc. for design of the Pine Street (2nd-9th) project in the amount of \$760,108.16.

Staff reported on the design contract for the Transportation Benefit District project. It was noted that this is not an IRRP project as it only includes minor utility. There is potential for a light at the 9<sup>th</sup> and Pine intersection.

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

There was discussion on:

- Estimated cost of total project to be around \$7,000,000.
- Staff are seeking funding through various grant programs.
- The design for this project will require more paperwork to be completed to the federal level to qualify for federal funding.

**Councilmember Casey moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-037**

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**Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.** (Clerk note – Councilmember Eskil temporarily left the meeting due to technical difficulties.)

- G. Approves February 2023 Accounts Payable Register - Checks #21771; 21773-21775; 21777-21879; 21881-21898; 21900-22051; 506; 508-520 totaling \$3,858,772.40.

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

**Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the February, 2023 check register containing check numbers 21771 through 21773; 21777 through 21879; 21881 through 21898; 21900 through 22051; 506, 508 through 520 totaling \$3,858,772.40, except for the check to Councilmember Rick Eskil. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Moss moved to approve payment of the check to Rick Eskil totaling \$182.00. Councilmember Nakonieczny seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes.**

**7. COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS**

Councilmember Moss reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, Valley Transit, Chiefs Advisory, Ad-hoc Housing, Committee on Committees, and a meeting with Tom Krebs to tour the wastewater treatment plant.

Councilmember Casey reported attendance at the following:

The work session, and the Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee (which was cancelled for lack of quorum).

Councilmember Reyna reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Downtown Walla Walla Foundation, and the Committee on Committees.

Councilmember Nakonieczny reported attendance at the following:

The work session, Valley Transit, Committee on Committees, and toured the alleyway that has been a topic of public comments at several meetings.

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Mayor Scribner reported attendance at the following:

The work session, agenda setting, a meeting with Mayor Pro-tem Moss, and a meeting with City Attorney Donaldson.

**8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Councilmember Nakonieczny made a motion to appoint the following people to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee:**

- **Mark Brotherton to a term ending 12/31/2023.**
- **Patrick Cabbage to a term ending 12/31/2023.**
- **Aniko Samy-Kuschatka to a term ending 12/31/2024.**

**Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Nakonieczny made a motion to appoint the following people to the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board:**

- **Clayton Bond to a term ending 12/31/2024.**
- **Alayna Brinton to a term ending 12/31/2025.**
- **Jon Rickard to a term ending 12/31/2026.**

**Councilmember Casey seconded the motion. Councilmember Moss noted that this would increase the board to 9 members. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**Councilmember Nakonieczny made a motion to appoint Dan Leeper to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a term ending 12/31/2023 as a member representing an entity that pays the lodging tax. Councilmember Moss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

Councilmember Eskil reconnected with the meeting at 8:16 p.m. and reported attendance at the following:

The work session, and various meetings in Olympia.

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**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**


A. Executive Session Subject: Mayor Scribner announced an executive session 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 one hour, and no further business will come before the Council in open session. The meeting recessed at 8:20 p.m.


**9. MEETING ENDS**

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

Approved:

  
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Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:

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