

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
February 6, 2023

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: City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Library Director Erin Wells, Police Chief Chris Buttice, Development Services Director Preston Frederickson, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Accountant Liz Moeller, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, and City Clerk Lisa Neissl.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Overview of Tax Increment Financing Legislation and Applicability in Walla Walla

Staff provided a brief overview of Tax Increment Financing, which is now allowed in Washington State after the passing of House Bill 1189, and the process necessary to implement this tool within the city.

There was discussion on:

- Financial impacts
 - On taxing authority.
 - On other taxing districts.
 - Timeline and avenue to repay debt.
- Potential implications of future agreements with neighboring entities.
- Considerations in determining the boundary of the area(s).
- Timelines:
 - RFP for consultant for a project analysis in next week or two.
 - Consultant award to council in April.
 - Submission to State in early 2024.
- Purpose of consultant and costs involved.
- State constitutional issues resolved through the House Bill to allow TIF in Washington State.

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- B. Library expansion fundraising discussion and presentation by Rebecca Zanatta from RJZ Connections.

Staff and Ms. Zanatta presented information on possible ways to raise necessary funds to be able to move forward with reconstruction of the library.

There was discussion on:

- Various avenues of funding availability.
- Potential of going out for voted bond.
- Timing of bond vote and percentage of votes to pass.
- Type and timelines of private donation solicitation.
- Time requirements for expending State and ARPA funds.
- Options to scale the project depending upon funding.
- Uses of a library in this day and age.

- C. Discussion on Development of Resolution to Create a Body-Worn Camera Policy.

Staff reported the need to have a Resolution from Council authorizing the use of body worn cameras by the department as well as setting out the process and community involvement for development of the policy for use of the body worn cameras.

There was discussion on:

- Existing policies throughout the state.
- Background knowledge of the Chiefs Advisory Committee.
- Additional opportunities for public input including town halls.
- Need to negotiate impacts of new policy with the Police Guild.
- Timeline for development of the policy and training.

3. OTHER BUSINESS – None.

4. MEETING ENDS

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 5:32 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk