

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN  
MARCH 18, 2008

**Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on March 18, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
Troy Woo	Finance Director
Francis Benjamin	Councilmember
Ann Heath	Councilmember
Bill Paul	Councilmember
Barney Waldrop	Councilmember
Nathan Weller	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

**Call to Order**

Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to excuse Councilmember Bloom from the meeting.

Motion Carried.

**Announcements**

Mayor Johnson made nine announcements. Anthony Smith from ASWSU and Jessica Creager announced a March of Dimes walk event to help fight premature births. The walk will take place on April 5 from noon until 3 p.m.

**Reports**

**Affordable Housing  
for Whitman County**

City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report that included a background on the affordable housing issues and discussions and introduced Tammy Lewis, the managing director of the Whitman County office of the Palouse Economic Development Council. Ms. Lewis described the guest speakers for the Affordable Housing for Whitman County forum that will take place on March 20. Mayor Johnson stated he appreciated the efforts of everyone involved and said that last year's forum was excellent. City Supervisor Sherman made comments regarding the Whitman County housing market and the City of Pullman building permit statistics for single-family and multi-family units.

City Attorney McAloon commented on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision not to hear the Pasco rental inspection ordinance appeal. Ms. Lewis commented on the Whitman County housing market statistics relating to first-time home buyers.

**Water Conservation**

Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report which included descriptions of the 2007 water usage, conservation rates, the need for a new rate schedule within the next year, public education, state water efficiency standards, and conservation kits and toilet rebates that are available for citizens.

Julie Titone, who serves on the Citizen Advisory Group for PBAC, provided her background and stated that she was excited about the City's Water Conservation programs. Ms. Titone urged for expansion of the City's website relating to

water conservation and the Council's support for a stronger ordinance regarding irrigation restrictions. Mayor Johnson described involvement by Decagon and the City Water Department providing water irrigation systems for City parks. Public Works Director Workman responded. Councilmember Benjamin asked if water conservation information would be included in an upcoming community update. Public Works Director Workman responded.

College Hill  
Historical  
Preservation Report

Allison Munch-Rotolo stated that historic preservation was a top priority for the College Hill Association and summarized past, present, and future actions relating to historic preservation. Bobbie Ryder, WSU, stated that WSU fully supports the historic district and design standards that would contribute to the character of the area. Ms. Rotolo stated that there is a family home on the historic register that has been condemned and that the matter is urgent. Councilmember Heath noted that the College Hill Association had submitted a list of goals for the City Council to consider and asked if the historic district along with guidelines and zoning overlays is the top priority in that list. Ms. Rotolo responded. Councilmember Heath stated she would like to see a time frame to consider the zoning overlay for College Hill at the goal-setting retreat or by the April neighborhood meeting. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Recommendations of Consent Agenda Items

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Johnson reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda with the Council and audience. He stated that the items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by a single motion of the Council without separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by Council request. Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to read the items on the Consent Agenda by title only.

Motion Carried.

City Attorney McAloon read the items on the Consent Agenda by title only. Mayor Johnson asked if there were any requests for removal of items from the Consent Agenda from either the Council or audience. There were none. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Paul seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motions

- |  |    |  |
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| Minutes - March 4, 2008                  | 1. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 2008, and approved them as submitted. |
| Accelerated Streets Resurfacing Complete | 2. | The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 07-11, Accelerated Streets Resurfacing 2007.                                     |
| Claim for Dam-ages - Cillay              | 3. | The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Valory and Dave Cillay for an  |

undetermined amount to Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

- Claim for Dam- 4. The Council referred a Claim for Damages  
ages - Haug submitted by Tom Haug for the sum of \$261.95 to  
Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

**Resolution**

- Resolution No. 5. Resolution No. R-24-08  
R-24-08 - City Hall  
Plaza Reconstruction A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF S & K MOUNTAIN  
CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR PULLMAN CITY HALL PLAZA  
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION  
AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-24-08 was adopted unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Discussions**

- Fighting 6. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is  
Ordinance scheduled on a proposed fighting ordinance. City  
Attorney McAloon presented the staff report which  
included a history of the item and a description  
of the draft ordinance which focused on fines,  
prohibited conduct, and civil versus misdemeanor  
infractions. City Attorney McAloon asked the  
City Council for its direction on changes and  
when the ordinance should be brought back to  
Council for action. Councilmember Waldrop  
thanked all involved for their work on the  
ordinance and asked if the criminal language  
should be removed from the ordinance since the  
violations will be civil infractions and if the  
references to three or more persons in the  
ordinance should be one or more persons. City  
Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Paul  
suggested that the language stating three or more  
would be helpful as a tool to be used in riot  
situations. City Attorney McAloon responded.  
Councilmember Heath suggested that the language  
read two or more persons not three or more.  
Councilmember Waldrop suggested that the  
ordinance be brought back to the Council for  
action sooner rather than later especially since  
the weather will warm up soon.

Mayor Johnson asked when the ordinance would be legal after City Council adoption. City Attorney McAloon responded. Mayor Johnson asked if the second offense could be considered a criminal infraction rather than just an increase to the fine. Councilmember Paul stated that self-defense should not be punishable under the fighting ordinance. City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Wright agreed that the escalating punishment to criminal infractions is a good idea. Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Heath asked under which circumstances would Section 8.26.010(b) be enforced. Police Chief Weatherly and Police Commander Tennant responded. City Attorney McAloon asked for clarification of the Council direction for the two or more or three or more persons language. Councilmember Heath asked if one person could be penalized under the fighting ordinance with its current language. City Attorney McAloon responded. City Council concurred that the language should read two or more persons. City Attorney McAloon stated that

criminal charges would be prosecuted if the evidence supported that. Mayor Johnson and Police Chief Weatherly responded. Councilmember Heath asked if the ordinance needed to be changed to reflect the district court judge's request to have more discretion to enforce through the fine structure. Mayor Johnson suggested that the ordinance be brought back to City Council for action at the next meeting, April 8. City Council concurred.

Bishop Boulevard  
Consultant  
Presentation

7. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on the Bishop Boulevard Consultant Presentation. Public Works Director Workman presented background information on the Bishop Boulevard issue and introduced Gary Norris, a registered traffic engineer, to present the project report. Mr. Norris presented the report which included a description of the purpose of the study, the study area, the project scope, data collection and analysis, level of service per intersection, recommendations and cost estimates.

Councilmember Heath, Mayor Johnson, Public Works Director Workman, and Mr. Norris discussed the cost estimates and if the proposed Wal-Mart improvements were included in those estimates. Councilmember Benjamin noted the changes proposed for the Bleasner intersection and asked how the trail system would be impacted. Mr. Norris and Public Works Director Workman responded. Mayor Johnson asked what the cost estimate was for the South Bypass. Public Works Director Workman responded. Mayor Johnson asked if the South Bypass would alleviate traffic on Bishop Boulevard. Public Works Director Workman responded. Councilmember Heath noted the spot speed statistic of 33 miles per hour at Johnson Road and stated she would be opposed to increasing speed limits in that area. Public Works Director Workman responded.

Public Works Director Workman made summary comments on the plan and described funding options for the project. Councilmember Wright stated she would rather provide traffic lights than landscaping for the projects.

2007 Preliminary  
Year-End Financial  
Report

8. Mayor Johnson announced that the 2007 preliminary year-end financial report was now scheduled. Finance Director Woo presented the staff report which included a summary of the 2007 revenues, 2007 expenditures, and the 2008 outlook. Councilmember Heath thanked City staff for their efforts in staying within the budget constraints.

Fire Department  
Equipment Use

9. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on Fire Department equipment use. Fire Chief Wilkins presented the staff report which addressed minimizing risks, safety procedures, and actions taken related to the incident. Councilmember Waldrop thanked Chief Wilkins for the report and stated that the City Council shared the goals in minimizing risks and supporting safety procedures and asked what standard operating procedures were in place at the time of the accident in regard to grocery store runs. Fire Chief Wilkins responded. Councilmember Waldrop suggested establishing definitions for what is considered official business and the best way to accomplish safety

procedures. Councilmember Waldrop urged that the Safety Committee be aggressive with its recommendations, that management be involved immediately during accidents, and that use of City equipment should be a management decision. Fire Chief Wilkins responded. Councilmember Waldrop stated that the labor union will have good suggestions on how to move forward and that the perception is important to maintain public trust. Fire Chief Wilkins responded.

Mayor Johnson asked at what level supervisor would be considered management. Fire Chief Wilkins responded. Councilmember Weller stated he understood the importance of time response and asked how many accidents the fire ladder unit has been involved in. Fire Chief Wilkins responded.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Johnson announced the City Council would adjourn to Executive Session for:

To review the performance of a public employee.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m. and announced the Council would return at 10:50 p.m. It was announced the Executive Session would be extended 35 minutes.

Mayor Johnson reconvened the meeting at 11:26 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 11:26 p.m.