

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on September 21, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
William F. Mulholland	Finance Director
Francis Benjamin	Councilmember
Keith Bloom	Councilmember
Jeff Hawbaker	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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to excuse Councilmember Paul.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made two announcements.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing

West Street
Vacation

1. Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled on an ordinance to vacate a portion of West Street. Deputy Public Works Director Gardes presented the staff report and went through the particulars of the request.

Mayor Johnson asked for questions from the Council. Councilmember Benjamin wanted clarification that there was no potential for a road in the area that was being vacated. Public Works Director Workman answered that there was none. Councilmember Benjamin wanted to know if it would have an impact on the existing trail. Public Works Director Workman indicated that there was none. Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Tom Johnson, one of the petitioners, presented a handout on the proposed vacation area as well as

how they came up with their evaluations.

Walter Butcher, one of the petitioners, had a handout on the evaluation of the land to be vacated.

He is also taking the time of two other petitioners that gave up their speaking time to him. He went through his methodology of how he came up with his evaluation. Councilmember Waldrop wanted to know where he obtained his valuations for the comparable properties. Mr. Butcher indicated they were from the County Assessor. He also complimented Mr. Butcher on his handouts.

Councilmember Benjamin wanted to know what the lot size would be after the addition. He was informed it would be approximately 10,000 square feet. Councilmember Bloom wanted to know why, after all these years of owning the property, they wanted the vacation. Mr. Butcher told him that they just wanted to make certain that at some point in the future, even though there were no plans on developing the right-of-way now, that this would not occur.

Councilmember Bloom asked Deputy Public Works Director Gardes where our evaluation came from.

Public Works Director Workman responded that the methodology for vacancy had been used by the City for over twenty-five years. They have kept the same methodology, the numbers may go up or down, but the methodology remains the same.

Mayor Johnson asked City Attorney McAloon if we changed valuation methods, would we be liable to other groups that have already gone through the vacation process. City Attorney McAloon indicated only if they had not fully paid, then they could renegotiate their valuation.

Councilmember Bloom also noted why they could not find an appraiser. Mr. Butcher indicated that most of appraisers in this area had done work with the City and felt they might not be completely independent. Councilmember Weller felt that if we change our methodology, then it could come back to haunt us in the future.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Bloom indicated we should get an independent appraiser to look at the property. Councilmember Benjamin indicated that was incumbent on the petitioners to obtain the evaluation. City Attorney McAloon recommended that the council table the motion.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to table Ordinance No. 10-18 until which time as either the petitioners decide not to vacate the land or they come back with an appraisal. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance

- Ordinance No. 10-19 - Parking Ordinance 2. Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance has been prepared relating to parking. Police Chief Jenkins presented the staff report.

Ordinance No. 10-19 by title only reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE PARKING LOTS AND THE DOWNTOWN FREE PARKING ZONE; AMENDING PULLMAN CITY CODE 12.15.040 AND PULLMAN CITY ORDINANCES NOS. 82-12 §4 (1982), 87-12 §3 (1987), 87-37 §3 (1987), 93-8 §3 (1993), 95-10 §1 (1995), 97-32 §2 (1997), 98-12 §1 (1998), 99-28 §1 (1999), 03-4 §1, 2003, 03-12 §3 (2003), 04-12 §2 (2004), 05-17 §1 2005), 08-12 §2 2008) AND 08-16 §1, (2008) RELATING TO TIME LIMITS FOR SAID CITY-OWNED PARKING LOTS AND THE DOWNTOWN FREE PARKING ZONE.

Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 10-19. The motion carried unanimously.

Motions

- Arts Commission 3. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to accept the Arts Commission's intent to develop concepts or plans for three projects. Mike Yates, Pullman Arts Commission, went through the projects which included a mural to be painted on the pump house on the wall facing the pool at Reaney Park with the City approving the final image. A request to facilitate the implementation of an entry kiosk and welcome area located on the Davis Way right-of-way, and the other request was to continue the mural painted by Pat Siler on the Old J.C. Penney Building. Councilmember Bloom made some comments in regards to the Pine Street Plaza mural.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to approve the Commission's intent to develop the concept. The motion carried unanimously.

- Support for Whitcom Resolution 4. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested supporting Whitcom Resolution No. R-1-2010 which

was support for imposing an additional 20 cents on all line users for the 911 project. A failure to do so would result in Whitcom losing \$450,000 a year. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report and encouraged adoption of the resolution.

Councilmember Benjamin wanted clarification that if the County didn't get this increase that there would be a loss of funding. City Supervisor Sherman indicated there would. Councilmember Waldrop wanted to know if this was just for hard-wired phones. City Supervisor Sherman indicated it was both for hard-wired, wireless as well as VOIP.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to support Whitcom Resolution No. R-1-2010. The vote was four to two, Councilmembers Bloom and Benjamin opposed it due to the State of Washington not taking proper action and not on the merits of the proposal.

Discussions

Certified Local Government 5. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on Certified Local Government. City Attorney McAloon presented the staff report on the Certified Local Government discussion.

EMS Contract with Rural 4 and City of Palouse 6. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on the EMS contract with Whitman Rural Fire Protection District No. 4 and the City of Palouse. Fire Chief Wilkins presented a staff report. After Chief Wilkins' report, Councilmember Bloom asked how many times Pullman EMS goes to Palouse in the course of a year. Fire Chief Wilkins indicated about 80 times.

City Council indicated to proceed to get the contract set up and bring it to them for approval.

Joint Meeting with ASWSU 7. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on the joint meeting with ASWSU. City Supervisor Sherman was looking for agenda items for discussion at the joint meeting. He indicated that Police Chief Jenkins was going to do a memo on traffic issues. Planning Director Dickinson was going to do a memo on planning issues in the College Hill Core Plan. Public Works Director Workman was going to do a memo on traffic issues. Mayor Johnson indicated that it might not be a bad idea to get Devon Felsted from Pullman Disposal to talk about the new recycling plan on College

Hill.

Councilmember Bloom thought that maybe having the Humane Society there on the Spring problem with students dumping their pets. Councilmember Weller as well as Bloom indicated that they could also talk about the leash laws and cleaning up after their pets on campus. Councilmember Weller also indicated there should also be a discussion on the other hills as well as College Hill.

Councilmember Benjamin liked to add the Certified Local Government discussion.

Status of 2010
Adopted City
Council Goals

8. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on the status of the adopted 2010 City Council goals. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating that about this time of year we update them on where we are at on the goals that were set by Council. He indicated that on Goal No. 6 to explore the creation of a self-supporting or shared grant writer, he had talked with WSU and with the funding situation they cannot do it at this time.

City Supervisor Sherman then asked if there was anything in the goals and the status of them that need more clarification or reemphasis. Councilmember Benjamin indicated that on 4e., exploring the concept of park-and-ride lots and vehicle storage. He indicated that it was indicated that the park-and-ride lots on Terre View by Chief Jo Apartments and the Playfield Lot at Valley Road are underutilized. He felt it was a function of awareness and signage and that we need to proceed in getting the word out on campus because he felt that once that occurred then there would be good utilization of the lots.

Current Economic
Conditions

9. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on current economic conditions. City Supervisor Sherman went through certain elements of the staff report to the Council and the national, state, and City of Pullman economy. After his analysis he turned it over to Finance Director Mulholland who went through a series of slides that were presented at the WFOA convention in Vancouver last week, and highlighted several comments that John Mitchell had brought up there.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business from either the Council or audience. There was none.

Executive Session

Mayor Johnson then indicated the Council would be adjourning to Executive Session for the purpose of:

To discuss the strategy or position to be taken by the City during the course of collective bargaining or grievance proceedings.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. He announced there would be a five-minute recess and the Executive Session would convene at 9:07 p.m.

At 9:37 p.m. the Executive Session was extended for an additional 15 minutes. At 9:52 p.m. the Executive Session ended.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 9:52 p.m.
