

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
JULY 21, 2009

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on July 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
Jane Joyce	Deputy City Clerk
Keith Bloom	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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to excuse Councilmember Benjamin from the meeting.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made three announcements.

Councilmember Paul announced that the Eastern Washington and Central Basin Regional Recycling Summit was held in Moses Lake on June 29, 2009. He presented two handouts from the summit.

Report

Hybrid Buses

Mayor Johnson announced that a report is scheduled on hybrid buses. Transit Manager Thornton presented the staff report stating that hybrid buses are a good match for Pullman. There is a 40 to 50 percent fuel savings on each bus. The main drawback is that each hybrid bus costs \$200,000 more than a conventional bus. It is unlikely we would recoup the extra \$200,000 through the life of the bus. Transit Manager Thornton advised that he has applied for grants to purchase hybrid buses but has not heard back on the grant.

Councilmember Waldrop thanked Transit Manager Thornton for the report. He stated he would also like the City to look at other alternatives for

buses such as natural gas and propane. Mayor Johnson stated that when he was in Orlando, Florida he looked at hydrogen buses. The back of the bus is a container for the hydrogen.

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 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 Wright moved, Councilmember Bloom 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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Wright seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motions

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| Minutes - July 7, 2009 | 1. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 7, 2009, and approved them as submitted. |
| Whitman County Humane Society Contract | 2. | The Council authorized the "Eighth Amendment to Contract" with the Whitman County Humane Society. |

Resolutions

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| Resolution No. R-39-09 - WS-DOT Aviation Grant | 3. | Resolution No. R-39-09

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AVIATION DIVISION (WS-DOT AVIATION) GRANT FOR MULTIPLE PULLMAN-MOSCOW REGIONAL AIRPORT PROJECTS. |
|--|----|---|

Resolution No. R-39-09 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No.
R-40-09 - Lease
Agreement

4. Resolution No. R-40-09

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH BETHANY D. JOHNSON FOR THE CITY-OWNED HOUSE AT 1080 NW GUY STREET.

Resolution No. R-40-09 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearings

Resolution No. 5.
R-41-09 - Capital
Improvement Program

Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled on the Capital Improvement Program. Planning Director Dickinson presented the staff report. City Supervisor Sherman gave a staff report stating there are no new projects in the General Fund or Government Buildings Fund.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There were no questions from the Council or audience. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Resolution No. R-41-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SIX-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2010 THROUGH 2015.

Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-41-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 6.
R-42-09 - Trans-
portation Improve-
ment Program

Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled on the Transportation Improvement Program. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report. Councilmember Heath asked if it was likely we would receive TIP funds for the Bishop/Klemgard signal project. Public Works Director Workman responded.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There were no questions. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Resolution No. R-42-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2010 THROUGH 2015.

Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-42-09. The motion carried unanimously.

- Resolution No. 7. Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled to consider the 2009-2010 Transit Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Ride service and staffing levels. Transit Manager Thornton presented the staff report. He stated that WSU students had voted for additional Transit services. He explained the route changes for the 2009-2010 school year for Pullman Transit and Dial-A-Ride. He explained that they plan on eliminating regular Dial-A-Ride service after 9 p.m. Anyone wanting Dial-A-Ride services after 9 p.m. will have to schedule the ride 24-hours in advance. Transit also would like to start a "Senior Shuttle". This would be a fixed-route service that goes to shopping, medical facilities, senior housing, and other services. Councilmember Heath asked what type of numbers they need for the "Senior Shuttle" to be considered a success. Transit Manager Thornton stated 10 passengers an hour would be considered successful. Mayor Johnson asked if Dial-A-Ride services were not mandated by law. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Transit Manager Thornton stated that they will need the half-time bus washer to become a three-quarter position. With all the changes in services they will need to go from 38 positions to 45 positions. Councilmember Paul and Transit Manager Thornton discussed routes.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There were no questions. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Resolution No. R-43-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING 2009-2010 TRANSIT FIXED-ROUTE AND DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICE AND STAFFING LEVELS.

Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-43-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance

- Ordinance No. 8. Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance had been prepared adopting regulations for illicit discharge detection and elimination of stormwater. Stormwater Services Program Manager Buchert

announced that the Palouse Basin Water Summit is scheduled for October 6. He announced that he has asked Otak to provide some options relating to stormwater for undeveloped property. He also stated that July 7-14 had been the public comment period on this ordinance. He received several comments from the public and has changed the ordinance in several places as a result of their comments.

Stormwater Services Program Manager Buchert talked about illicit discharges including pet waste. He stated he feels the ordinance is flexible but addresses the concerns.

Councilmember Waldrop asked about charity car washes and addressing items of high interest so citizens will know what is allowed and what is not allowed. He suggested addressing such things as cleaning out creeks, deicer that the City puts on the streets, and pressure washing of homes. Councilmember Waldrop passed out an article from the *Colfax Gazette* regarding the word "navigable" in the Clean Water Restoration Act. Councilmember Waldrop stated that we need to tell citizens what the ordinance will allow and not allow. He also stated that he feels the ordinance should be changed to state that City personnel need to be invited onto property or they need to have a warrant. City Attorney McAloon and Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Waldrop stated that he feels the ordinance needs to be explicit about issues. Stormwater Services Program Manager Buchert stated that he wants to find solutions to problems, he wants to educate, not write infractions. He plans to make contact with property owners before writing infractions.

Councilmember Waldrop stated that private property is not defined in the ordinance. City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Waldrop stated that the City needs to define where charity car washes can be held. It needs to be specific so citizens know what they can and cannot do. Public Works Director Workman stated that they will try to come up with an inclusive list. Mayor Johnson talked about having an education campaign. Stormwater Services Program Manager Buchert stated that they are focusing on solutions and that he had talked to the Department of Ecology (DOE) about deicer. DOE has not identified deicer as a problem.

Councilmember Heath asked which facilities are

subject to regulation under Chapter 10.31.070. She feels the ordinance should be clear on issues.

City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Bloom, Councilmember Heath, Councilmember Waldrop, Mayor Johnson, Public Works Director Workman, and City Attorney McAloon discussed adding wording on property issues, a list of what can and cannot be done under the ordinance, a definition of pressure washing, and when a discharge is legal and when it is illegal. At the end of the discussion the consensus of the Council was to have changes made to the ordinance and consider it at a later meeting.

Resolution

- Resolution No. 9. Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution had been prepared authorizing a Transit agreement with WSU. R-44-09 - Transit Services with Washington State University
- Transit Manager Thornton presented the staff report thanking WSU and WSU students for supporting Pullman Transit. He stated the students voted in favor of 15.5 additional hours of Express Service. He discussed changes that will be made to the routes. Mayor Johnson asked how the City receives feedback from the students. Transit Manager Thornton responded.

Resolution No. R-44-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO STAFF, STUDENTS, FACULTY AND RETIREES FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR.

Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-44-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Motions

- Labor Contract with Teamsters 10. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to adopt a labor agreement with Teamsters Local 690 for Public Works and Parks and Recreation employees for 2009. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating this agreement is for 2009 only.

Councilmember Waldrop asked about the vacation provisions of the agreement. He stated that the City needs to measure all benefits with other jurisdictions. City Supervisor Sherman stated

that comparables have been looked at and the City is behind other jurisdictions in accumulations.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Wright seconded to ratify the labor agreement with Teamsters for Public Works and Parks and Recreation employees. The motion passed five votes aye with Councilmember Heath abstaining.

Salary Increase for Non-Union Employees 11. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to approve a salary increase of 2 percent for non-union employees effective August 1, 2009, and increase vacation benefits for employees with 20 and 25 years of service with the City. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating these are the same benefits that were given to Public Works and Parks & Rec employees. Councilmember Heath asked if this is ratified could the Council change it back at a later date. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Wright seconded to approve the salary increase and vacation benefits to non-union employees. The motion carried with Councilmembers Bloom and Heath voting nay.

Fire and Emergency Services with WSU 12. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested approving an interlocal agreement with Washington State University for fire and emergency medical services for calendar year 2010. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating that this is the same amount WSU paid in 2009 but they have agreed to pay the cost of one firefighter for the fifth year of the current federal grant program. City Supervisor Sherman stated that last year the payment was raised by 6.2 percent.

Councilmember Keith moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to approve the interlocal agreement with Washington State University. The motion carried with Councilmember Paul voting nay.

Agreements with Whitman County Fire Protection District No. 12 13a. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to approve an interlocal agreement with Whitman County Fire Protection District No. 12 for fire and emergency medical services for calendar year 2010. Fire Chief Wilkins presented the staff report stating that under this contract Rural 12 will handle certain types of calls and Pullman will not respond until requested. The agreement is for 2010 and the cost will remain the same as 2009.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Bloom

seconded to approve the interlocal agreement with Whitman County Fire Protection District No. 12. The motion carried unanimously.

Automatic Aid Agreement with Fire District No. 12 13b. Fire Chief Wilkins presented the staff report stating that under this agreement when certain events occur both departments will automatically respond.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to approve the Automatic Aid Agreement with Whitman County Fire Protection District No. 12. The motion carried unanimously.

Memorandum of Understanding with Fire District No. 12 13c. Fire Chief Wilkins presented the staff report stating this is a cost-sharing mechanism for the purchase of equipment that is utilized cooperatively by both departments. It also consolidates the recruitment and training of reserve firefighters rather than each department doing it independently.

Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Bloom stated that he feels the Council should consider repealing their recent salary increase. He feels that saving money should start at the top and this Council salary increase sends the wrong message. He would like to see the Council salary reduced from the current \$400 a month back to \$300 a month.

Councilmember Waldrop stated he was in support of reducing the Council salary.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Heath moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 9:18 p.m.