

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN  
APRIL 28, 2009

**Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on April 28, 2009, 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
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.

**Announcements**

Mayor Johnson made two announcements. Councilmember Weller announced that \$50,000 of County .09 funds had been awarded to the Airport Fireflow Project.

**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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to read the items on the Consent Agenda by title only.

Motion Carried.

City Supervisor Sherman 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 Benjamin seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

**Motions**

- |                             |    |                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minutes - April 14, 2009    | 1. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2009, and approved them as submitted. |
| Minutes - April 21, 2009    | 2. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the special meeting of April 21, 2009, and approved them as submitted. |
| Claim for Dam-ages - Wiecko | 3. | The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Cynthia Ross and Filip Wiecko for                                         |

the sum of \$1,566.33 to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

- Change Order on Parks Restrooms      4.    The Council ratified Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 07-06, Parks Restrooms.

**Resolution**

- Resolution No. R-20-09 - Short-Term Loans for Stormwater Fund      5.    Resolution No. R-20-09  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SHORT-TERM LOANS FROM THE STREET FUND TO THE STORMWATER FUND.

Resolution No. R-20-09 was adopted unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Public Hearing**

- Resolution No. R-21-09 - Transit Development Plan      6.    Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing was scheduled on the Six-Year Transit Development Plan. Transit Manager Thornton presented a staff report which included a summary of the fixed-route and Dial-A-Ride annual reports and capital project plans for the Transit System.

Councilmember Weller noted that there is a trend for moving towards energy efficient fleets through federal stimulus packages and asked if there were any City of Pullman plans or stimulus money available for energy efficient vehicles. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Councilmember Weller noted some Airport entities are using hybrid vehicles. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Mayor Johnson asked for a cost comparison between hybrid buses and regular buses. Transit Manager Thornton responded.

Councilmember Waldrop stated that Los Angeles buses are using natural gas and asked if there was any merit for natural gas buses in Pullman. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Councilmember Paul complimented Transit Manager Thornton on his report, his efforts in securing grants, and overall management of the system. Transit Manager Thornton responded.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. City Supervisor Sherman asked for comments on the WSU student approval of the additional student fees to support Transit services. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Mayor Johnson asked for comments on the potential expansion of weekend services to include Sunday. Transit Manager Thornton responded. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Resolution No. R-21-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SIX-YEAR TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2009-2014 AND 2008 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-21-09. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Meeting**

College Hill  
Parking Issues

7. Mayor Johnson announced that a public meeting is scheduled on College Hill Parking Issues. City Supervisor Sherman introduced the issue. Mayor Johnson and Public Works Director Workman presented a report on the recent lighting and sidewalk safety walk on College Hill. City Supervisor Sherman presented a report that described City staff actions on parking issues, provided background information, described the current parking permit zones, described the City Code criteria for creating restricted residential parking area designations, commented on the Nelson/Nygaard Parking Study, and summarized the College Hill parking options.

Police Chief Weatherly gave a staff report that included examples of parking violations and problems on College Hill, introduced Elizabeth Schaeffer, Code Enforcement Officer for the City, and described the areas with the most problems which helped to define the proposed parking areas. Councilmember Waldrop asked for a description of the parking problems that occur in alleys. Code Enforcement Officer Schaeffer responded. Councilmember Weller described his contacts with landlords on College Hill that spoke against allowing parking zones. Councilmember Weller asked if there was a way to alleviate the parking problems by constructing carports or using existing carports as intended.

Chief Weatherly responded. Councilmember Bloom asked how many spaces are available in the proposed yellow zone. Chief Weatherly responded.

Councilmember Benjamin asked if the yellow zone abuts WSU property. Chief Weatherly responded. Councilmember Benjamin asked if the zone could be extended to include Maiden Lane all the way to the WSU property. Chief Weatherly and Planning Director Dickinson responded. Councilmember Benjamin expressed concern that the parking pressure would be extended to "C" and "D" Streets if the zones are implemented. Chief Weatherly responded.

Councilmember Weller asked for clarification on what days the permits would be good for. Chief Weatherly and City Supervisor Sherman responded.

Councilmember Weller asked if there were enough resources to patrol the area and if there were plans to communicate the plans to the citizens in the area. Chief Weatherly responded to both questions. Councilmember Paul stated he agreed with Councilmember Benjamin about concerns of the parking pressure being shifted and suggested that the areas between "A" and "B" Streets be included in the proposed zones to alleviate that. Chief Weatherly responded.

Councilmember Heath noted that Zone "A" on the map had incorrect times. Chief Weatherly responded.

City Supervisor Sherman stated that parking is tight on College Hill and described curb striping requests that have come in from citizens.

Public Works Director Workman presented a staff report that included the public works view of striping curbs, the description of legal standards for striping, painting challenges due to the weather, and a summary of vehicle and pedestrian accident reports. Councilmember Heath asked if the City was painting curbs near fire hydrants. Public Works Director Workman

responded. Councilmember Heath asked how the City was enforcing the State RCW sections on prohibited parking areas. Code Enforcement Officer Schaeffer, Public Works Director Workman, and Chief Weatherly responded.

City Supervisor Sherman introduced the land use provision options related to parking. Planning Director Dickinson reported the parking requirements within the land use provisions. Councilmember Heath asked how much time the College Hill Tomorrow group has spent on the parking issue. Planning Director Dickinson responded.

City Supervisor Sherman described the final parking option which was WSU long-term storage lots. City Supervisor Sherman closed the staff reports by describing the citizens urging for action on the parking issues, raised issues about imposing time limits within the zones, and what level of input would be allowed for petitions; as an example, should it be property owners only or anyone that lives within the zone.

Anita Hornback, 405 NW North Street, stated that the Nelson/Nygaard Study showed that 138 cars would be removed from the Lybecker area but with a cost of \$52,000 to enforce the program. Ms. Hornback urged the Council to allow anyone who lived in the zones to be able to obtain a permit and to enforce the permits for limited hours during the day.

Paul Dec, 715 NE California, speaking on behalf of CHAD (College Hill Advisory Directive) spoke in opposition of the permit system because it does not make any distinction between residents, students, or commuters. Mr. Dec noted that the enforcement is inconsistent and that any off-street parking options that are developed would just allow for more parking for commuters on the street.

Anton Maslennikov, 405 NE Oak, stated that the proposals have the potential to solve problems, noted that car covers will hide the permits which will make enforcement difficult, and stated that the weekend parking is worse than the weekday parking. Mr. Maslennikov asked if an arrangement could be made with the Sacred Heart church parking lot to help alleviate problems. Mayor Johnson responded.

Wayne Popeski, 515 NW Robert, urged the Council to conduct more exploration of off-street parking options, noted the dangerous driving and parking situations on Michigan, and urged that the Council consider making Michigan a one-way street.

Dave Gibney, 760 Reaney Way, noted that the parking issue has been delayed for over a year, noted that the parking issue seems to be due to commuter parkers, noted that parking would be displaced to the nearest free areas if the zones are not big enough, and noted that off-street parking options would just allow for more parking for commuters.

City Supervisor Sherman made closing comments and asked the Council how staff should proceed. Councilmember Heath stated she felt that the

Council should hear the College Hill Tomorrow and Planning Commission recommendations first. Planning Director Dickinson responded.

Councilmember Benjamin asked if a parking area is approved by the Council would a petition trump the Council action. City Supervisor Sherman responded. Councilmember Waldrop thanked all of the presenters, noted that the City ordinance says that owners need to solicit the permit systems, and noted conversations from a few years ago with fraternities and sororities that indicated parking was not a problem at that time.

Councilmember Waldrop agreed that parking would be displaced to areas outside of the approved zones. Councilmember Waldrop noted that the City can take action on some of the issues now such as painting the curbs in problem areas, remove obstructions, consider relaxing commercial parking requirements, and consider changes on Michigan, and perform a cost-benefit analysis of the parking permit systems. Councilmember Waldrop did note that the current parking permit areas seem to work. Council concurred to defer any decision until the College Hill Tomorrow Plan is presented. Mayor Johnson asked if staff could review the Michigan and commercial parking issues. Planning Director Dickinson and Public Works Director Workman responded. Councilmember Weller suggested that staff begin to look at parking lot options for long-term solutions. Planning Director Dickinson responded. Councilmember Benjamin suggested that City Code changes be reviewed before taking action. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

**Resolution and Ordinance**

Resolution No. R-22-09 and Ordinance No. 09-11 - Zoning Designation

8. Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution and ordinance have been prepared establishing a low-density residential designation and an R1 classification for 35.8 acres located south of Old Moscow Road. Planning Director Dickinson presented a staff report that described the Planning Commission's recommendation and a description of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions. Councilmember Benjamin asked if the proposed South Bypass project is compatible with the R1 designation. Planning Director Dickinson and Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Heath stated that fifteen families are happily living in the area and that there is an R1 shortage within the City. Councilmember Paul asked if the proposed zoning change considered the City Council preferred South Bypass alternative or other alternatives. Planning Director Dickinson responded.

Councilmember Benjamin asked for clarification on which zones abutted the proposed zone change. Planning Director Dickinson responded. Councilmember Weller suggested that an R3 designation be considered because of future growth. Planning Director Dickinson and Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Waldrop noted that the original petition was well stated, that the area is pristine, and the R1 designation will help preserve that. Councilmember Wright concurred with Councilmember Waldrop.

Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Bloom

seconded to adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions.

Motion Carried.

Resolution No. R-22-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DESIGNATION ON THE OFFICIAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR THE REAL ESTATE HEREIN DESCRIBED CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 35.8 ACRES LOCATED ALONG JOHNSON AVENUE APPROXIMATELY 2000 FEET SOUTH OF OLD MOSCOW ROAD.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-22-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 09-11 by title only reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN R1 CLASSIFICATION FOR THE REAL ESTATE HEREIN DESCRIBED CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 35.8 ACRES LOCATED ALONG JOHNSON AVENUE APPROXIMATELY 2000 FEET SOUTH OF OLD MOSCOW ROAD.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 09-11. The motion carried six to one with Councilmember Weller voting nay.

**Resolutions**

Resolution No. 9.  
R-23-09 - Identity  
Theft Prevention  
Program

Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution has been prepared adopting an Identity Theft Prevention Program. Finance Director Woo presented the staff report which included a description of the Federal Trade Commission Red Flag Rule requirements and a description of the proposed Identity Theft Program. Councilmember Bloom asked what impact the program would have on the City. Finance Director Woo responded. Councilmember Benjamin and Finance Director Woo discussed which City accounts this would impact and if the program would impact LEOFF 1 medical payments.

Resolution No. R-23-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING AN IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM.

Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-23-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 10.  
R-24-09 - One-Way  
Streets

Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution has been prepared designating portions of streets as one-way streets. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report which included a description of the proposal, description of the Transpo Group traffic engineering study, and identified the areas of the study that would not be implemented. Mike Leonas, WSU Capital Planning and Development, presented a report that described the Library Road Phase III project and the need for changes in the area.

Councilmember Heath asked how the two lanes would converge from Thatuna to Colorado. Mike Leonas responded. Councilmember Heath noted that “B” Street is very challenging. Councilmember Weller asked if there was a potential conflict with cars entering the Thatuna parking lots and the designated bus lanes. Mike Leonas responded. Councilmember Wright asked if the proposed change would have any impact on football weekends especially consideration of pedestrian traffic. Mike Leonas responded.

Resolution No. R-24-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PORTIONS OF THATUNA STREET, B STREET AND CAMPUS STREET AS ONE-WAY STREETS.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-24-09. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion**

2009 City  
Council Goals

11. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to adopt the 2009 City Council goals. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report and thanked all who provided input.

Councilmember Weller suggested that the goal to remove the juniper bushes on Stadium Way be included. Mayor Johnson and City Supervisor Sherman responded. Councilmember Weller suggested that they go to meet with City advocacy groups to organize input from the WSU area be included. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

Jo Mark, Terrace Estates, suggested that a goal to emphasize the use of bicycles be included. Mayor Johnson responded.

Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Wright seconded to adopt the 2009 City Council goals. The motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion**

Avista Presen-  
tation

12. Mayor Johnson announced that an Avista presentation is scheduled. Paul Kimmell, Regional Business Manager for Avista, presented a report that described the financial health of Avista, the importance of its financial condition to its customers, Avista's efficiency, environmental and conservation programs, and challenges Avista will face.

Tim Olson, Avista south area engineering, presented a report that included a description of the Pullman District system and the planned system improvements. Councilmember Benjamin asked when the transmission lines would hit capacity and how much power growth can be accommodated in Pullman. Mr. Olson responded to both questions. Councilmember Weller asked why there was such a significant change to the hydroproduction percentage in 2017. Paul Kimmell responded. Councilmember Weller noted that the County transmission lines were overloaded three years ago and if Avista expected problems to occur. Mr. Olson responded. Councilmember Weller asked if the majority of the power lines

are underground. Mr. Olson responded.

Mayor Johnson asked for a description of the costs to put the 230 lines underground. Mr. Olson responded. Councilmember Weller described the Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories transmission lines interruption detection devices. Mr. Olson responded. Councilmember Weller asked if the segregation between the north and south Pullman areas creates problems and would it not be better to have them together to provide redundancy. Mr. Olson responded.

Councilmember Weller described Moscow's use of solar street lights and LED lights and asked how much solar street lighting costs. Mr. Kimmell responded. Councilmember Paul complimented Avista on its charity work and asked for comments describing Avista's charity programs. Mr. Kimmell responded. Councilmember Benjamin asked if the reliability of the system is improved versus past years. Mr. Olson responded. Councilmember Waldrop thanked Avista for its presentation, described the Safeway fueling stations advertisement that it uses 100 percent renewable energy, and asked how that is accomplished. Mr. Olson responded. Councilmember Bloom stated he thought that the Safeway fueling station was buying more expensive energy which is generated from renewable sources.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Weatherly provided a swine flu update by describing the City of Pullman's preparedness, a description of the Whitman County Flu Plan, and described the different phases of the flu. Councilmember Bloom asked for the status on the vaccinations that are available at Whitman County Health. Chief Weatherly responded. Mayor Johnson asked how effective Tamiflu was in fighting this flu strain. Chief Weatherly responded.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Weller 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 10:42 p.m.