

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on September 29, 2009, 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
Ann Heath	Councilmember
Bill Paul	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 Wright seconded to excuse Councilmember Waldrop from the meeting.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made four announcements including reading a proclamation naming the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month". He also proclaimed October 15 as "Passionate Pink Pullman Day" as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. He introduced Holly Campbell of ATVP to the Council and audience.

Report

Cemetery

Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report stating that he received two bids within the donors' donation amount and requested approval to proceed with paving Fairmount Cemetery Road. He stated the low bid is Motley-Motley at \$20,120.

Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to proceed with the paving of Fairmount Road. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Heath 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

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

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson thanked Transit Manager Thornton for his work in securing grants for Pullman Transit.

Motions

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| Minutes - September 15, 2009 | 1. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of September 15, 2009, and approved them as submitted. |
| Sidewalks 2009 Complete | 2. | The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 09-01, Sidewalks 2009. |
| Rocky Way Barrier Complete | 3. | The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 09-11, Rocky Way Barrier. |
| Parks Restrooms Complete | 4. | The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 07-06, Parks Restrooms. |
| Claim for Damages - Moore | 5. | The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Julianne K. Moore for an undetermined amount to the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool (WSTIP). |
| Grant Application - EECBG | 6. | The Council authorized the submittal of a grant application and letter of commitment for a Washington State Department of Commerce, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). |

Resolution

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| Resolution No. R-56-09 - Transit Grant Application for Grand Avenue Widening | 7. | Resolution No. R-56-09

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A CONSOLIDATED FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 5311 OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT, STATE SPECIAL NEEDS GRANT, AND STATE RURAL MOBILITY/SALES TAX EQUALIZATION GRANT FOR PULLMAN TRANSIT FIXED-ROUTE AND DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICES. |
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Resolution No. R-56-09 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing

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| Resolution No. R-57-09 - Opposition to Initiative 1033 | 8. | Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled to consider a resolution in opposition to Initiative 1033. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report. He went over the state of our current affairs in relation to proposed Initiative 1033. He read Resolution No. R-57-09 to the Council and audience. |
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Councilmember Bloom asked if an estimate was available as to the effect Initiative 1033 would have on the 2011 budget. City Supervisor Sherman responded that it was difficult to put a dollar out due to population growth, however, if in effect this year with a negative implicit price deflator (IPD), it would have resulted in a decrease to the General Fund of approximately \$60,000. He continued that the effect of a Wal-Mart sales tax revenue would exceed the cap and would not go to the General Fund. Mayor Johnson stated that at an Association of Washington Cities (AWC) meeting the information given would limit population

growth as the City would not annex new areas, a normal procedure for growth, as services would not be available to these new areas.

Councilmember Benjamin asked why the OFM report showed zero for 2010. City Supervisor Sherman explained that 2009 was the base year, 2010 the measurement year, and 2011 was the first year for the transfers.

Councilmember Heath asked if we were to increase sales tax revenues by \$500,000 due to new businesses such as Wal-Mart, which is not that unrealistic, that the amount going to the City would be down \$400,000 that we would never see.

Councilmember Heath declared this would be quite substantial and limit services to our City. Councilmember Weller stated that he is a proponent of keeping government small but could voter approval be obtained for an increase in property tax or a sales tax earmarked for specific projects.

City Supervisor Sherman responded that only the incremental amount could be used. We have a limited amount of options.

Councilmember Heath asked if we could go to the voters for an increase to be used for a specific purpose. City Supervisor Sherman responded, reading from Initiative 1033, that growth would be limited to inflation, capped by Initiative 747, and population growth, not including voter-approved incremental revisions. All revenues received above this limit are restricted to reduce the subsequent years property tax levy by the excess amount.

Mayor Johnson then opened the public hearing. There were no questions or comments from the public. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Paul commented that this initiative would limit our ability to govern. This is a loss of freedom to administer our funds.

Councilmember Heath stated she had looked at her property statement and 41 percent of the taxes were voted in by the citizens of Pullman. One might complain about the increases, but we are getting to enjoy the results of these increases. The Council has limited growth to 1 percent for the last seven years. If Initiative 1033 passes, police and fire will be hurt and as Councilmember Paul pointed out, the City of Pullman is being told what to do. This type of measure has been proposed in 20 states. Colorado is the only state that passed this type of legislation. They passed this type of legislation six years ago and recently rescinded it. Let's not be the second state to vote this legislation in.

Resolution No. R-57-09 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO INITIATIVE 1033, THE TITLE OF WHICH IS "INITIATIVE NO. 1033 CONCERNS STATE, COUNTY AND CITY REVENUE. THIS MEASURE WOULD LIMIT GROWTH OF CERTAIN STATE, COUNTY AND CITY REVENUE TO ANNUAL INFLATION AND POPULATION GROWTH, NOT INCLUDING VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE INCREASES. REVENUE COLLECTED ABOVE THE LIMIT WOULD REDUCE PROPERTY TAX LEVIES. SHOULD THIS MEASURE BE ENACTED INTO LAW?"

Councilmember Heath moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-57-09. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Restricted Residential Parking - Upper Drive 9. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to accept a petition to designate Upper Drive as a restricted residential parking area. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report presenting background material.

Councilmember Benjamin asked how the parking on College Hill impacted this parking problem. City Supervisor Sherman stated that there is already a restricted residential parking permit area on Juniper Way.

Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to accept the petition to designate Upper Drive as a restricted residential parking area and to refer the petition to the City Traffic Engineer for an engineering and traffic investigation. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Agenda Items for Joint Meeting with ASWSU 10. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on agenda items for the joint meeting with ASWSU. City Supervisor Sherman went over proposed agenda items. He proposed the following agenda items.

- 1. The College Hill Core Neighborhood Plan
- 2. 2009 College Hill projects to include efforts with ASWSU on lighting improvements and sidewalk repair.
- 3. Pullman Transit issues including route changes as a result of improvements by the old campus book store.

Councilmember Bloom stated he was glad that the lighting issue was on the agenda as lighting needs to be included. Councilmember Paul suggested a cooperative effort working together with solid waste pickup should be included. Councilmember Benjamin suggested Issues and concerns and feedback on stormwater in relation to car washing. City Supervisor Sherman accepted the recommendations and stated that he would send them to ASWSU for their additions.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 8:12 p.m.