

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
APRIL 24, 2012

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on April 24, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
Bill Mulholland	Finance Director
Francis Benjamin	Councilmember
Jeff Hawbaker	Councilmember
Fritz Hughes	Councilmember
Bill Paul	Councilmember
Derrick Skaug	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

Call to Order

Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Johnson announced that Councilmember Weller would be late to the meeting. Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Skaug to excuse Councilmember Weller.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

There were three announcements.

Reports

Architecture
Students' Project on
Davis Way

Mayor Johnson introduced Professor Gregory Kessler, an architecture professor at WSU. He told the Council that this project is the result of the leadership institute that met in Seattle last year. The students were to put together a leadership project. The project leader, Amanda Kennedy, came up and introduced other members of her team, Adam and Seth, and said that they had put a contest together for an entryway to the City on Davis Way. They had 10 entries that were put on display in Neill Public Library. There were 150 votes cast for the entries. The top two entries were shown to Council.

Councilmember Hughes wanted to know where this location was. Mayor Johnson indicated it was the "Old Burgerville". Councilmember Benjamin wanted to know if this was meant to be interactive, in other words would they stop to look at these. Ms. Kennedy indicated that it was.

Public Works 2011
Annual Report

Mayor Johnson announced that 2011 Public Works annual report is scheduled. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report going through highlights of the Engineering Division, Protective Inspections, Building activity, Stormwater Services Division, Transit, Maintenance and Operations, Water, and Sewer. He noted accomplishments of Equipment Rental and the Wastewater Treatment Plant as well as major projects that have been completed. He also discussed significant activities performed by Government Buildings.

Councilmember Benjamin complimented Public Works Director Workman on the new lighted street signs. Councilmember Paul wanted to know what the manhole rehab was about. Public Works Director Workman

explained. Councilmember Hughes congratulated them on the widening of Nye. He said it was greatly appreciated.

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 Paul 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 the Council. There were none. Councilmember Skaug moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motions

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| Minutes - April 10, 2012 | 1. | The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2012, and approved them as submitted. |
| Claim for Damages - Oliver | 2. | The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Evan Oliver for the sum of \$200.00 to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA). |

Resolutions

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| Resolution No. R-24-12 - Surplus Property | 3. | Resolution No. R-24-12

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS TO BE EXCESS AND SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE THEREOF.

Resolution No. R-24-12 was adopted unanimously. |
| Resolution No. R-25-12 - Public Hearing Date | 4. | Resolution No. R-25-12

A RESOLUTION SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON ROUTE CHANGES FOR SUMMER 2012 PULLMAN TRANSIT SERVICE.

Resolution No. R-25-12 was adopted unanimously. |

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing

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| Pullman 2020 | 5. | Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled on Pullman 2020. City Supervisor Sherman went through the process for 2020, starting off with the kickoff in the SEL Event Center with Ed Schweitzer and President Floyd giving the keynote speeches. He went through the highlights |
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of the 18 presentations given during the process. The public hearing was opened at 8:10 p.m.

Dave Gibney indicated that we should go along with Greg Partch's call for the joint-tax area and that the Old Moscow Highway should be the scenic entryway into Moscow. City Supervisor Sherman addressed the joint-tax issue that has been going on for several years and said that it was the changing of the boundaries that had held it up most recently. They intend to get back on the issues before long.

Steve Worthman wanted it noted that we need to be working better with Moscow for regional issues and he was in favor of a joint heliport.

The public meeting was closed at 8:12 p.m.

City Planner Dickinson stated that the Comprehensive Plan will use the 2020 input in that plan and staff will be working with the Planning Commission to get organized for the plan revision effort. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1999.

City Supervisor Sherman wrapped up the discussion stating that Pullman was a great place to raise kids, but we need to look on how we can improve on this in the future.

Discussions

Current Economic
Conditions

6. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on current economic conditions. City Supervisor Sherman went through a brief update for Council of where we were in relation to the Federal, State, as well as the local area. He noted that the Federal taxes were the lowest in half-a-century and our State spending is less per person, adjusted for inflation, than it has been at any time in the last 25 years. He ended his update stating that, given the continued erosion of our General Fund cash reserves, the less than strong economic recovery outlook, and the cuts we received in the recently adopted State budget, we feel it is prudent to discuss potential areas for reduction with the adopted 2012 General Fund budget.

Councilmember Benjamin wanted to know if our schools had seen an increase in enrollment. City Supervisor Sherman said they had which was to counter the article that had come out that day in the paper indicating that education levels were down throughout the State. He also noted they were up at WSU.

First-Quarter
Financial Summary

7. Councilmember Weller arrived during Finance Director Mullholland's presentation.

Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled for the first-quarter financial summary. Finance Director Mulholland gave the staff report. The expenditures were at 21.84 percent of the 2012 budget as compared to 20.94 in 2011. This was an increase of \$217,000 which concerned him since the budget was approved over the previous year by \$348,000. Revenues were at 14.9 percent of the budget. The previous year was 15.0 percent. He cautioned the Council not to read too much into these numbers as it is still early in the year and he felt that the revenues and expenditure numbers

would come in closer to being where they should be by the end of the year. A lot of items can be affected by timing issues. He pointed out that the Police expenditures were higher than they were last year and it was a result of when they purchased ammo. Commander Tennant mentioned that it had been taking 14 months from the time they ordered it to the time they received it. That time has now been cut down, so when he ordered in the fall he received it at the beginning of the year. Previously they had been receiving the ammo toward the end of the year.

Finance Director Mulholland indicated that the declining cash balance resulted in having to obtain authority for the Council to borrow from the Utility Fund to cover payroll and expenditures short term while waiting on property tax collection. He noted having lost \$575,000 in interest income from the State Pool from the 2008 level. The 1 percent property tax is not a sustainable model for government as property tax makes up 29 percent of our revenues. He noted the page showing the actual expenditures by department from 2006 to 2011. He also had a net cost by departments page for 2011. 2011 revenues directly attributable to departments was utilized to come up with the actual net cost to run the departments. He had a revised year-end cash position as a result of the Washington State Legislature plundering the City of the excise taxes for the last half of this year. He noted that our physical cash amounted to \$337,757 at the end of March.

Councilmember Benjamin noted that the escalating cost trends in three of the departments had to be stopped.

Board and
Commission
Assignments

8. Mayor Johnson announced that the City Council would consider Board and Commission assignments. Councilmember Wright requested to be taken off the Audit Committee. Councilmember Hughes stated that he would go on the Audit Committee.

Councilmember Wright stated that she would go on the LEOFF Board. Councilmember Hughes stated that he would go on the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee and Councilmember Weller and Skaug both said they would serve on the CIP Committee. This realigned all the Committee assignments with the departure of Councilmembers Bloom and Waldrop.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business from either the Council or audience. Councilmember Weller announced that he had received an internship with NASA that would take him out of the area from the beginning of June to the beginning of August.

Dave Gibney wanted the Council to support the Hawkins Addition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:57 p.m., Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting to an 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.

Mayor Johnson announced they would take a five-minute recess before conducting the Executive

Session. The Executive Session will last approximately 15 minutes. They extended the Executive Session for another two minutes.

Mayor Johnson reconvened the regular meeting at 9:23 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Wright 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 9:23 p.m.