MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

Roll Call

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on September 9, 2008, 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 three announcements including declaring September 11 as “911 Day” that honors dispatchers, rescue workers, and remembrance of the 9-11 victims.

Reports

2007 Police Department Annual Report

Mayor Johnson announced that Police Chief Weatherly was present to answer questions on this report. Councilmember Waldrop expressed his appreciation to Officers Dentler and Engle for their high graduation placement from the academy and asked for more information relating to the Emergency Communication Advisory Committee and an accountability report relating to the sales tax receipts. Police Chief Weatherly responded. Mayor Johnson asked if the emergency communication sales tax receipts were going to be used for the digital conversion or the inoperability between entities. Police Chief Weatherly responded.

Riverwalk Parking Permit Report

Police Chief Weatherly presented the staff report that included a description of the permit sales and the parking statistics since enforcement began.

Jon Anderson, business owner in downtown Pullman, presented his Riverwalk Parking Lot statistics and stated that the City Council has eliminated the park-and-ride use of the parking lot but now there is not sufficient parking for downtown employees. Mr. Anderson suggested that the City sell more permits at a lower price and reduce the number of two-and-three hour parking limit spaces. Councilmember Bloom asked if the elimination of the park-and-ride use of the lot has hurt downtown business. Mr. Anderson responded.

Stacy Williams, 340 E. Main, stated she chose the downtown area for her business because she was told that parking would be available for clients and employees. Ms. Williams stated that many of her clients spend up to seven hours at her

business so those clients do not have anywhere to park.

Tammy Lewis, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, shared comments that she had received from businesses which included that only permit holders are using the lot and those permit holders are taking the spaces closest to the street. Ms. Lewis suggested that the City sell more permits and that the permit holders be required to park at the far end of the lot.

The City Council reached a consensus to direct staff to prepare the necessary action items that will allow the City to sell a total of 60 permits, limit the permit parking to the farthermost end of the parking lot, and to change the short-term parking to three hours only. Councilmember Heath asked if these changes would help the business owned by Ms. Williams. Ms. Williams responded.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Recommendations of Consent Agenda Items

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 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. Councilmember Benjamin requested that item No. 6 be removed for separate discussion. Mayor Johnson so ordered. Councilmember Paul moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt items 1 through 5 and No. 7 on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried.

Motions

Minutes - August 26, 2008

1. The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 26, 2008, and approved them as submitted.

Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Electronic Transfers - September

2. The Council approved disbursements represented by accounts payable checks numbered _____ through _____ totaling $ inclusive, payroll checks numbered through _____ totaling $_____ inclusive, and electronic transfers totaling _____ and directed that they be paid upon approval of the Auditing Officer and Audit Committee.

High School Tank Exterior Painting Completed

3.

The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 08-15, High School Tank Exterior Painting.Decant Waste Facility Completed	4.	The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 08-04, Decant Waste Facility.
Stormwater Permit with WSU	5.	The Council authorized the execution of a contract with Washington State University entitled “Agreement Pertaining to Determination of Stormwater Permit Compliance Requirements and Stormwater Permit Compliance Planning”.

Resolution

Resolution No. R-82-08 - IOOF Cemetery Irrigation System Project	7.	Resolution No. R-82-08 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND THOMAS, DEAN & HOSKINS, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DESIGN SERVICES FOR IOOF CEMETERY IRRIGATION SYSTEM PROJECT. Resolution No. R-82-08 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Motion

Chamber of Commerce Agreement	6.	Mayor Johnson announced that this item had been removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Councilmember Benjamin. Councilmember Benjamin asked how the increase to the contract would be funded. Finance Director Woo responded. Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to amend the agreement. The motion carried unanimously

Ordinance

Ordinance No. 08-15 - Monetary Donation	8.	Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance had been prepared accepting a restricted monetary donation. Finance Director Woo presented the staff report. There were no questions. Ordinance No. 08-15 by title only reads as follows: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A RESTRICTED MONETARY DONATION FROM THE FRIENDS OF NEILL PUBLIC LIBRARY TO THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR THE NEILL PUBLIC LIBRARY PATIO AREA EXPENDITURES. Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 08-15. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution

Resolution No. R-83-08 - University District	9.	Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution had been prepared authorizing an interlocal agreement with WSU for the purpose of establishing a University District. City Supervisor Sherman presented a staff report which included a history of the University District, a description of the components and implementation phases of the agreement, and a review of selected areas of the agreement that included the goals, recitals, law enforcement, planning and zoning, housing, and

the neighborhood environment. Mr. Sherman also noted the public input that has been received and that the Council had those comments before them in the form of handouts.
Mel Taylor, Executive Director of Real Estate and External Affairs, described WSU's commitment to the University District and stated that President Floyd urges that the Council not act on the agreement because of the large student turnout on the issue. Mr. Taylor stated that action should not occur until the students are heard from and that WSU will create avenues to accomplish that.

Councilmember Waldrop moved to continue the item to a future date. Councilmember Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor stated that all parties should be involved in those discussions and those parties include students, landowners, and business owners.

Dan Antoni, 101 NE Whitman, thanked the students and Kathy Wilson for their attendance and stated that student rights should be protected.

Reilly Davis, 815 NE California, stated that students do not want to see this issue continued but want to see it stopped. The students do not want more discussions on the item. Mr. Davis stated that safety issues do not exist on College Hill.

Johan Duon stated that the students do not want delays or for the vote to happen at a different time when the students are not in attendance. Mayor Johnson responded.

Preston Olan stated that he was opposed to the "U District" and felt that student views should be respected and heard and that the students will fight the "U District" proposal to the end.

Chrissy Ayers, 805 NE Ruby, described activities conducted by the students that do enhance the College Hill environment.

Bob Enslow, 600 NE Colorado, stated he knows these students as well as anyone, that the Pullman Police Department does a good job, and asked who would pay for these additional services. Mr. Enslow described the alumni support that comes from the "Greek System" and asked if the University District would fall under the Liquor Control Board. City Attorney McAloon and Mayor Johnson responded.

Kathy Wilson, DRA Real Estate, stated that the Council should listen to the students since they are here to speak.

Lauren Edholm stated that the University District was an important issue to students and stated that the current ASWSU body has not been approached on the issue. Mayor Johnson asked if the fall joint meeting with ASWSU had been scheduled. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

Eileen Macoll described past civil unrest and described Police Department efforts, the Pullman Police Guild issue with unfair labor practices, the fact that citizens have voted to improve

public safety, and urged the City Council to consider this issue carefully.

Donald Schneider, business owner within the proposed University District, stated that he was opposed to the University District because safety is not an issue and that WSU should bear the burden of proof, that issues exist, that the market should dictate the standards of living, that code enforcement equates to harassment, and concerns related to lowered property values because of the University District.

Alaina Robertson, 805 NE Ruby, stated she was opposed to the University District, questioned the police internship program, and stated that design standards should be a collaboration between the owners and the City without WSU in the mix.

Julie Schneider, landowner and student, questioned the agreement's value, stated that the agreement was just an outline without any basis, and stated that the "U District" would allow WSU to expand commercial retail space which would cause traffic issues. Ms. Schneider urged the Council to slow the process and to consider the item carefully.

Eric Wynkoop, employee of the Pita Pit, stated that the current police response to issues is very fast and money for additional police officers should be spent on roads. Mayor Johnson responded.

Ryan Bartholomew stated he hasn't felt safer on College Hill, that he trusts the Pullman Police, and stated he felt that too many police would create unease.

Kimberly Kern, 805 NE Ruby, stated that Pullman is not what it used to be and that she chose WSU because of "community". Ms. Kern stated she did not want to see the increased expenses related to the "U District" because it will impact students and the "Greek" community.

Brandon Brooks stated that safety was not an issue and that the students have built relationships that promote safety and that business development in the "U District" would hurt the downtown area.

Greg Baldridge, 6601 Clearcreek Road, Palouse, stated that the "U District" is moving too quickly and that there is a profound difference with this interlocal agreement because WSU is not held to the standards of the voters. Mr. Baldridge stated that the City should not relinquish its authorities because under the agreement the City will have to have the consent of WSU to make changes.

Bob Cady, business owner in the proposed district, stated that the wrong stakeholders were engaged and that all the owners within the district should be notified of this proposal. Councilmember Bloom and Mr. Cady discussed the stakeholders of the "U District" proposal.

Courtney Clayton stated she was not associated with the "Greek" groups but was still opposed to

the issue. Ms. Clayton described improvements she had made to her front yard and that owners are taking initiatives to improve College Hill. Brian Floyd, speaking as a member of the Housing Board and a student, urged the Council to consult the Housing Board on the issue.

Terry Carlson, property owner within the proposed district, described concerns he had with the agreement by using specific sections of the proposed agreement and stated that owners would be losing control of their own properties.

Dave Gibney, 760 Reaney Way, stated that there were positives and negatives of the agreement and that the City Council should address the parking issue on College Hill.

Alex Hammond, 1110 NE Indiana, College Hill Association, urged the University to put the public forums together, that there was a great deal of self-interest involved with the "U District", that there is substandard housing issues that need to be resolved, and that the "U District" addresses many long-term problems.

Alison Munch-Rotolo, 635 NE Illinois, College Hill Association, urged the City Council to continue their efforts in moving the "U District" forward, that the "U District" proposal is a claim to the area, that the proposed "U District" addresses many of the improvements that students have asked for for years, and urged the Council to continue the discussion to mold future efforts.

An unidentified subject stated that great progress has been made on College Hill, described issues that she has faced, and stated that long-term residents of College Hill are impacted as well.

Mayor Johnson closed the discussion on the issue and stated that the City Council will not act on the item tonight and that further discussion will take place.

Motions

Palouse Basin Water Summit

10. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to authorize $1,000 as the City of Pullman's financial contribution to the 4th Annual Palouse Basin Water Summit. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report. There were no questions.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Heath seconded to authorize the payment of $1,000 as the City of Pullman's financial contribution to the 4th Annual Palouse Basin Water Summit scheduled for October 7 of this year. The motion carried unanimously.

Sidewalk Plaques

11. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to authorize covering the downtown sidewalk plaques with traction tape during the winter months. Public Works Director Workman presented the staff report. Councilmember Bloom stated this is an ongoing issue in which the costs will escalate in the future. Councilmember Bloom expressed concern related to additional risk of litigation and that the City should look

for a long-term solution rather than this temporary fix. Mayor Johnson suggested that the plaques be installed on the walls of downtown buildings. Councilmember Weller if any additional work to the plaques such as roughing up the surface could be done. Public Works Director Work responded.

Councilmember Bloom, Councilmember Weller, and Public Works Director Workman discussed the issues related to snow and the slippery surface. Mayor Johnson suggested that the Chamber of Commerce present the issues to downtown business owners. Councilmember Benjamin spoke in favor of mounting the plaques on walls and suggested the plaques be located at the edge of the sidewalk near the building to remove them from the main traffic areas. Councilmember Waldrop suggested that if the plaques are moved, that the orientation of the plaques be improved so that they could be read from two different directions. Councilmember Bloom and Mayor Johnson stated that the temporary fix should be moved forward this year.

Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Wright seconded to authorize covering the plaques with traction tape during the winter months. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 9:07 p.m.