

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
APRIL 21, 2012

Roll Call A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. at the Fireside Grille, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
John Sherman	City Supervisor
Francis Benjamin	Councilmember
Jeff Hawbaker	Councilmember
Fritz Hughes	Councilmember
Bill Paul	Councilmember
Derrick Skaug	Councilmember
Nathan Weller	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

Goal-Setting The following is the preliminary list of goals that was developed in the initial City
Retreat Council goal-setting retreat. The City Council reviewed the status of the 2011 goals as well as the goals submitted by citizens, employees, and department heads. Individual City Councilmembers also suggested goals of their own. Many suggestions were considered to be administrative or ongoing in nature, so the fact that a suggested goal is not included in the list that follows does not necessarily mean that the concept was rejected. As has been requested in the past by the City Council, goals have been organized together according to policy issues. Accordingly, because goals are lumped together by subject matter they are not necessarily listed in the order they were discussed.

1. Stay abreast and make regular reports on the city's financial status and track the expenditures of all departments. Determine what actions need to be taken to address the projection that General Fund cash reserves will be depleted before the end of the year to the extent that the city will not be able to meet payroll or pay its bills. Implement the Priorities of Government (POG) approach in order to guide the process of determining where cuts will have to be made within the adopted 2012 General Fund budget.
2. Look to reset the EMS levy and the Metropolitan Park District levy at fifty cents per thousand of assessed valuation through a public vote.
3. Approach the students on increasing the Pullman Transit fee to increase transit service.
4. Look to the Lodging Tax as a potential funding source to help support improvements to Reaney Park and the Lawson Gardens Conference Center.
5. Continue to explore options for hiring a grant writer and provide grant writing training in order to increase our revenues. Monitor the use and effectiveness of the e-Civis program to ensure departments are receiving information on grant availability.
6. Continue to promote economic development and job creation through a broad range of initiatives:
 - a. Work with the Chamber of Commerce, SEWEDA, the Palouse Knowledge Corridor and other groups to promote economic development and a more welcoming, business-friendly environment in Pullman.
 - b. Define Pullman apart from WSU by initiating our own branding efforts.
 - c. Advertise the broad range of tourist opportunities within our region to a much greater extent.
 - d. Put smart phone application access (app) at the entry ways to Pullman so that individuals can access information about our region.
 - e. Recruit new businesses to our area by using the new, updated city of Pullman home page video, the SEWEDA "*Palouse Business...Palouse Life*" video, listing awards we have received on our web page, and other recruitment tools. Expand the retail base.

- f. Work with the city of Moscow and our respective Congressional delegations on getting Pullman and Moscow listed as a Micropolitan Statistical Area.
 - g. Consider sponsoring a business-friendly and economic-friendly show or event.
 - h. Continue to support the National Lentil Festival, 4th of July celebration, and other events that attract visitors to the area. Consider developing other major events such as an international festival, jazz festival, international folk festival, etc. Bring the two universities together to support a joint cultural event that will attract tourists to the area like the Borah Symposium, the Lionel Hampton Festival, and the Murrow Symposium do.
 - i. Promote events for high school students in addition to the annual FFA events.
 - j. Bring parents and students from the “Alive” program into the downtown.
 - k. Support WSU reducing summer tuition rates in order to attract more year-round residents so that businesses will have more of a full-year economy; convey the fact that due to SEL growth many businesses are already reporting more of a year-round demand.
7. Continue to pursue options for development of the Pullman-Moscow corridor.
 8. Adopt an urban growth area (UGA) map for 2060 and amend the Comprehensive Plan to accommodate this revised UGA map.
 9. When city finances can support the effort, conduct a thorough update to the existing Comprehensive Plan.
 10. Have the City Council create its own vision for 2020.
 11. Provide strong support for the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport runway realignment and lengthening project. Build support from the two cities, two universities, the two counties and the Port of Whitman County in working together for this project.
 12. Continue to provide support for education from K-12 through higher education.
 13. Drive our own plan for sustainability. Determine how we frame our sustainability and provide specific emphasis in the following areas:
 - a. Promote walking, biking, and utilizing Pullman Transit more.
 - b. Continue to support water conservation measures including pursuing the water-reuse program that provides treated effluent for irrigation at the golf course and other locations. Continue to support rain barreling and other home-based water conservation methods.
 - c. Continue to support reasonable and attainable stormwater regulations and continue to oppose overwhelming state stormwater regulations.
 - d. Replace the Public Works small Ford Ranger pickup that is scheduled for replacement with an electric vehicle and partner with Avista to install an electric vehicle charging station at City Hall.
 - e. Create a community sustainability committee.
 14. Place a strong emphasis on housing and building safety issues including the following:
 - a. With 1,000 more students moving off-campus for the 2012-2013 school year, ensure there is more information available concerning important housing quality issues.
 - b. Provide for better enforcement of the city’s occupancy regulations, especially now that enrollment is increasing at WSU.
 - c. Develop a property maintenance ordinance to improve the appearance and health/safety of existing structures and properties.
 - d. Consider city acquisition of vacant eyesore buildings, structures, and vacant lots.
 - e. Enhance rental housing regulations to ensure sufficient refuse container capacity to ensure refuse is completely contained.
 - f. Consider improving code regulations within the city to clean up unsightly properties and abandoned properties.
 - g. Look to adaptive reuse options for vacant buildings.
 15. Within the constraints of available funding, continue to place a strong emphasis on beautification efforts.

16. Given the growth in Pullman's population, develop a comprehensive traffic flow and pedestrian circulation plan that addresses the following:
 - a. With our over-dependency on Grand Avenue for north-south traffic, Main Street for east-west traffic, and the WSU Master Plan proposal to close Stadium Way to through traffic, explore options for increasing our traffic flow options.
 - b. Consider again the option of creating another traffic lane on Grand Avenue in the downtown area, such as by posting the curb lane for "no parking" during the peak traffic hours.
 - c. Reconsider whether there should be no left turn for north bound traffic on Grand Avenue wanting to turn onto West Main Street.
 - d. Reconsider whether the pedestrian signal at Paradise and Grand should be allowed to be activated during the rush hour when it backs up traffic.
 - e. Although the new local law relating to the Public Works Director being able to declare a snow emergency to move parked cars has been a major improvement, continue to consider additional measures to facilitate snow removal, picking up gravel, leaf pickup, etc.
 - f. Improve bicycle and pedestrian trails.
 - g. Update the 1996 Pullman Pedestrian/Bicycle Circulation Plan to include joint planning between WSU and the City for a coherent plan throughout campus and town. Develop a comprehensive plan for bicycle and pedestrian paths that connects all areas in Pullman.
 - h. Request that the Pullman Chamber of Commerce highlight paths in color on the new city maps.
 - i. Make it safer for biking and walking in Pullman. Provide for a bicycle safety education program.
 - j. Coordinate with WSU in being recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community and in developing regulations on riding bicycles on the street, on sidewalks, or on separated paths.
 - k. Continue to carefully consider requests for pedestrian crossings in high-traffic areas.
 - l. Pursue the Pullman-to-Colfax trail if the railroad right-of-way is abandoned in the future.
17. Address parking issues such as the following:
 - a. Explore options for addressing parking issues on arterials and collector arterials where allowing parking on both sides of the street creates traffic safety issues such as around Lincoln Middle School.
 - b. Consider raising the parking time limit on streets in the downtown area from two hours to three hours.
 - c. Reexamine how to allow people who drink at bars in the downtown to be allowed to leave their vehicles on the street overnight, rather than driving.
 - d. Explore parking issues in the Greek Row area.
 - e. Work with WSU on the development of vehicle storage lots.
 - f. Consider using city park parking lots for evening parking for residents.
18. Provide public presentations on emergency preparedness, the city emergency plan, and what individuals can do to help themselves and others during an emergency situation.
19. Consider alternative work schedules and telecommuting options for productivity and energy-saving reasons.
20. Repair the City Hall façade.
21. Explore options for remodeling the north fire station to accommodate larger fire equipment.
22. Continue to explore fire station site alternatives and moving the fire training facility away from the Port Industrial Park site.
23. Continue to explore social media options within the constraints of legal and staffing limitations.
24. Meet with the Whitman County Commissioners once each year.
25. Provide opportunities for organizations such as Decagon Devices to make presentations to the City Council in addition to the annual presentations by SEL.
26. Ensure year-round Pullman Transit service to the Community Action Center.

27. Hold an open house for all city board and commission members to meet one another.
28. Ensure the Police Advisory Committee becomes more visible within the community.
29. Recognize volunteers during National Volunteers Week. Consider having a volunteer of the year award similar to what Pullman Regional Hospital provides. Recognize volunteers in the *Pullman Community UPDATE*.
30. Recognize and encourage competition between service clubs in their volunteer efforts and encourage WSU faculty involvement in volunteerism efforts.
31. Create a streamlined form explaining all provisions that are necessary to be met in applying for open City Council positions.
32. Provide a preference for new people to serve on expiring board and commission positions.
33. Increase diversity within the city workforce.
34. With the remaining 2007 bond monies, ensure that the creation of the spray pool at Reaney Park is the top priority.
35. Explore the use of any remaining 2007 bond monies and consider the use of lodging tax dollars to make additional improvements at Reaney Park such as moving the gazebo, improving the shower rooms, putting a new liner in the main pool, improving the entryway into the park, etc.
36. Pursue a brownfields project in Pullman such as cleaning up the old city dump and building a connecting street over it.
37. Improve town-gown relations with WSU.
38. Continue to coordinate with others to develop the "Let's Move!" program in Pullman.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Glenn A. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2 p.m.

Mayor Glenn A. Johnson

Attest:

City Supervisor John Sherman