

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN  
MAY 8, 2012

**Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on May 8, 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
Nathan Weller	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

**Call to Order**

Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Announcements**

There were two announcements and two proclamations.

**Reports**

Police Department  
2011 Annual Report

Mayor Johnson announced that the 2011 Police Department Annual Report is scheduled. Police Chief Jenkins presented the report. He noted several items including an officer had been attacked with a knife and the credit card fraud investigation they had during the year. There were over 600 reported victims. Business registration was up for residential and down for commercial from the previous year. The staffing of College Hill changed. The reserve police officer program of volunteers and highlighted Officers Derek Lambert and Dennis Pratt provided over 1,0460 volunteer hours. Chaplin Pastor Matt McNelly contributed 112 volunteer hours the past year. Four activities with the special weapons and tactics teams (SWAT) were conducted. He discussed grants, especially the Department of Justice Smart Policing Initiative grant. He went through the crime statistics for the year. Total violent crime was down from the previous year. Property crimes were also down. He noted that the organizational assessment had been completed and it was being used for improvement and development of the strategic plan for the department. He noted the website and social media were completely reorganized during 2011. He said that in August we added the capability for Pullman residents to report online non-urgent nuisance violations, graffiti, and credit card fraud. He pointed out the composition of the 2011 membership of the Police Advisory Board.

Councilmember Benjamin asked about the difference in the cases investigated in relation to meth delivery and possession, which were down from the previous year, but the weight was almost double what it was the previous year. Police Chief Jenkins indicated that a couple of the busts had a large quantity. He also asked about the aircraft security which had increased significantly. Police Chief Jenkins said that the security contract with TSA requires they have officers to



\_\_\_\_\_ and directed that they be paid upon approval of the Auditing Officer and Audit Committee.

- Change Order on WWTP Disinfection Upgrades 4. The Council ratified Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 08-17A, WWTP Disinfection Upgrades.
- Change Order on Lake Street Sewer Monitoring 5. The Council ratified Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 11-10, Lake Street Sewer Monitoring.
- City Hall Standby Generator Complete 6. The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 11-15, City Hall Standby Generator.

### **Resolutions**

- Resolution No. R-26-12 - TWAS Pump Improvements Project 8. Resolution No. R-26-12  
ON AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND CH2M HILL FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING THE TWAS PUMP IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-26-12 was adopted unanimously.

- Resolution No. R-27-12 - Accelerated Streets Resurfacing 2012 9. Resolution No. R-27-12  
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF MOTLEY-MOTLEY, INC. FOR THE ACCELERATED STREETS RESURFACING 2012 PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-27-12 was adopted unanimously.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **Public Hearing**

- Resolution No. R-28-12 - Transit Summer "H" Route 10. Mayor Johnson announced that a public hearing is scheduled on the modification of the Pullman Transit Summer "H" Route. Transit Manager Thornton presented the staff report and went through why they wanted to modify the "H" Route for the summer. He noted that an additional ten minutes would be added to the routes, making them 40 minutes loops and would not add any costs to the general summer service budget, but would create a sliding schedule. The other option for summer service was to add a loop route for the summer, but the cost would be between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

Councilmember Hughes asked about ridership to Walmart, if it was very high. Transit Manager Thornton said it was good, but not great. However, that is normal with beginning of routes. He said he expected it to improve in the future. Councilmember Benjamin wanted to know if summer traffic would affect the route. Transit Manager Thornton said he did not believe it would. He thought it would add about three to five minutes for people to transfer stations and about five to seven more minutes to campus.

Councilmember Weller asked if this is the most efficient way to deal with the problem. Transit Manager Thornton said not necessarily, but it is the cheapest.

Councilmember Paul noted that in a letter he had received from workers at WSU, the additional five or ten minutes could possibly make them late for work. Councilmember Benjamin said that with a 7:30 a.m. start plus the 40-minute ride, then they would be late to work at WSU.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Wendy Williams stated she is a bus rider and is concerned with the return trip from work taking longer than it had been.

Kathleen Dorgan wanted to know where the ridership came from. Was it from the town or campus? Transit Manager Thornton did not know.

Jamie Bush thought it might be better to have the "C" Route changed and keep the "H" Route as it is.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Resolution No. R-28-12 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF THE PULLMAN TRANSIT SUMMER "H" ROUTE.

Councilmember Hughes moved, Councilmember Skaug seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-28-12. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution**

Resolution No. 11.  
R-29-12 - Six-Year  
Transportation  
Improvement Program

Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution had been prepared amending the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. This was the result of an application submitted to the Washington State Department of Transportation for a Safe Route to School grant for the Jefferson School Path project. The project will provide for the construction of an asphalt pedestrian path from Eden Drive in the Copper Basin Subdivision area to the end of Darrow Street with associated lighting and drainage improvements; construction of ADA sidewalk ramps on Darrow to Jefferson Elementary; purchase and installation of eight radar speed signs and purchase of one mobile radar speed sign truck; education through the school district; and on-street enforcement of speed limits in yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks. He estimated the cost of the project is \$368,000 with \$328,000 coming from the grant. This had been one of the proposed uses for the bond money. In order to qualify for the grant, it has to be submitted as part of the Transportation Improvement Program, which is the reason for the request.

Councilmember Paul was concerned that if we didn't get the grant, would we still be committed to do the project? Public Works Director Workman said that we wouldn't.

Resolution No. R-29-12 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2012 THROUGH 2017.

Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-29-12. The motion carried unanimously.

### Motion

Transit Labor Contract 12. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to ratify a labor contract for 2012 with Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1015 for Transit and Equipment Rental Division (ERD) employees. The major change in the contract was a 2 percent wage increase effective February 1, 2012, and the represented employees agreeing to cost sharing on insurance premiums or moving to a less costly insurance plan. City Supervisor Sherman highlighted the differences in the insurance programs and then opened it up for discussion. There was none.

Councilmember Skaug moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to ratify the labor contract. The motion carried unanimously.

### Discussions

Taxicab Ordinance 13. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion on the taxicab ordinance is scheduled. Police Chief Jenkins noted that the Council adopted the taxicab licensing ordinance in 2010 and since that time his department has discovered some provisions that he recommends to Council for revision. Some of the revisions include reckless driving, any sexual offenses that the drivers may have incurred, denial versus suspension or revocation of license, responsibility for lighting and other equipment violations. This was not very definitive as to who was responsible and which license gets pulled for a vehicle not being in proper condition. They want to add fingerprinting and background checks, a change from the proof of insurance being delivered to the City Clerk, and a change in initial license and application fee. They want to identify the license fee as nonrefundable. There is no provision for fraudulent applications or a charge for replacement licenses.

Councilmember Weller wanted to know if our requirements are similar to Moscow's. Police Chief Jenkins indicated they are probably better.

The Council decided it was okay to pursue, so they will incorporate this and change the ordinance and bring it for adoption later in the year.

Levels of Service and Priorities 14. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on levels of service and priorities. City Supervisor Sherman went through parts of his memo for the reasons for starting the process. He went through the history with the 2000 levels

of service and priorities process, the fifteen criteria that were instituted with that as well as the 2002 budget prioritization process. He went through the summary of the current budget situation and current theory relating to addressing budget challenges which was from a couple of online classes from the International City Management Association. Due to depletion of the General Fund cash and a lack of growth in the local economy, the diagnosis of a wait-and-see attitude may carry us over the financial cliff. As a result, he recommended that we consider carefully making additional reductions with the adopted 2012 budget. He noted that the Mayor, Finance Director, and City Supervisor met on April 17 and decided it would be prudent to request department heads to propose possible areas for cuts within the General Fund. He figured waiting for midyear would be too late. He suggested we work through his recommendations in the attachment section and decide which recommendations they want to accept and which they choose to reject. He also recommended the employer-paid medical premiums be reduced for non-union employees effective July 1, 2012, in line with the recommendation contained in the attached memo from the Human Resources Manager. According to the calculations compiled by Finance Director Mulholland, the savings for these medical insurance premiums will range from \$29,000 to \$71,000 depending on which options non-union employees take.

Councilmember Paul complimented department heads on the work done putting these items together and thought they did a fine job, but needed more time to digest the various suggestions. Councilmember Weller agreed with Councilmember Paul as well as Councilmember Skaug. Councilmember Benjamin noted the size of the cuts that were proposed and additional cuts would have to be made. The consensus was that they would go ahead with the insurance program on July 1 and that they will hold a workshop on May 22 to determine how they are going to handle the budget problem.

Insurance  
Coverage Changes  
and Savings

15. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on insurance coverage changes and savings. Human Resources Manager Sires went through the basic coverage changes and the savings with the Council. There were no questions on her report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business from either the Council or audience. Councilmember Weller thanked department heads for help with his project.

Gary Labusohr addressed the Council, saying that he was upset with how the employees were being charged for insurance at the same level regardless of pay. He talked for six minutes and when he ended Councilmember Weller agreed we are in difficult times and that he would talk to him after the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Hughes 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 9:27 p.m.