MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
APRIL 14, 2009

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on April 14, 2009, 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
Pat Wright	Councilmember

Call to Order

Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Bloom moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to excuse Councilmember Weller from the meeting.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made six announcements.

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 Waldrop 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. There were none. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Waldrop seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motions

Minutes - March 31, 2009

1. The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 31, 2009, and approved them as submitted.

Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Electronic Transfers - April, 2009

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.

Claim for Damages - Armstrong

3. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Camille Armstrong for the sum of $1,500.00 to the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool (WSTIP).

Addendum to Optical Fiber Right of Way Use Agreement

4. The Council authorized an Addendum to the Optical Fiber Right of Way Use Agreement with the Port of Whitman County.

Tank 10 Utility Construction Complete

5. The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 06-14, Tank 10 Utility Construction.

Resolutions

Resolution No. R-17-09 - Transit Development Plan

6. Resolution No. R-17-09

A RESOLUTION SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A SIX-YEAR TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2009-2014 AND 2008 TRANSIT ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN.

Resolution No. R-17-09 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-18-09 - Sidewalk Infilling 2009

7. Resolution No. R-18-09

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF ACE ELLIOTT LAND FOR SIDEWALK INFILLING 2009 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-18-09 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-19-09 - Street Crackfill 2009

8. Resolution No. R-19-09

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF BCV, INC., FOR STREET CRACKFILL 2009 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-19-09 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Joint Meeting with Pullman School District

Pullman School District Board Member Johanson arrived at this point in the meeting. The following School District Board Members were present:

Jim Evermann	Board Member
Karl Johanson	Board Member
Dean Kinzer	Board Member
Jeff Sellen	Board Member
Susan Weed	Board Member

Review and Discuss the Current District/City Facilities Agreement

9. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled with the Pullman School District to review and discuss the current District/City Facilities Agreement. City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the joint facility agreement, facility by facility. City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the Military Hill and Rowland Lions Athletic Complex sections of the agreement. There were no questions.

City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the Aquatic Center section of the agreement. Recreation

Superintendent Dahmen provided a staff report that included an Aquatic Center performance update for 2008 that described revenue and expenditure data, swim lesson programs, memberships, and cost recovery for the Aquatic Center. Mayor Johnson asked for clarification on the expenditure level and cost recovery. Recreation Superintendent Dahmer responded. Mayor Johnson asked if the recent repairs to the Aquatic Center would be reflected in increased Government Building rates. Finance Director Woo responded. Board Member Evermann asked for a description of the City and School District insurance coverage as it relates to the requirements within the agreement. Finance Director Woo and School Superintendent Paul Sturm responded. Councilmember Paul made comments on the difference between personal liability and property liability. Board Member Johanson stated that the community needs to work on adding additional flat fields because of the challenges with weather, field wear, and competition for use. Councilmember Bloom asked where athletic teams practiced when the weather does not cooperate. Board Member Johanson responded.

City Supervisor Sherman described discussions between the City, Washington State University, and the Pullman School District to address the field shortages. City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the Pioneer Center section of the agreement. Councilmember Waldrop asked for a status report on upgrades at Pioneer Center. City Supervisor Sherman and Public Works Director Workman responded.

City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the Sunnyside Gym section of the agreement. Mayor Johnson asked if the leaking issue at Sunnyside Gym has been resolved. School District Superintendent Sturm responded that there are still minor issues with the leaking. Mayor Johnson asked if the issues are covered under warranty. School District Superintendent Sturm responded that they are. Councilmember Bloom thanked Superintendent Sturm and Executive Director of Support Services Dan Hornfelt for their work in replacing the stairs at Sunnyside School.

District Over-View of Concepts for High School

10. Pullman School District Superintendent Sturm presented a staff report that included cost estimates and option considerations for a complete renovation of the existing school and a brand new building for the high school. Superintendent Sturm described the project resources and bond capacity of the School District and stated that it would be between three to six years before the School District seriously considers the high school project. Councilmember Heath asked when the other School District bonds will mature. Superintendent Sturm and Executive Director of Support Services Hornfelt responded. Councilmember Heath asked when the Hospital bonds would be maturing. Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Heath stated she was interested to hear that the new building proposal has less square footage than the renovation proposal and asked for additional comments on why that is. Superintendent Sturm and Executive Director of Support Services Hornfelt responded.

Councilmember Benjamin asked for comments on student enrollment trends and future enrollment numbers and the State's discussion about consolidating smaller schools. Superintendent Sturm responded. Councilmember Bloom asked how much it costs to heat and cool the Pullman High School. Executive Director of Support Services Hornfelt responded. Councilmember Bloom asked if any energy efficient studies had been performed at the high school. Executive Director of Support Services Hornfelt responded.

City Supervisor Sherman noted that the Office of Financial Management released information that the higher education enrollment would remain flat from 2010 through 2027. Mayor Johnson responded. Councilmember Wright asked if the proposed State funding match for the high school project would be viable in the future because of the current State economic situation. Superintendent Sturm responded.

Nathan Weller joined the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

City Overview Of Concepts for Future Community Center

11. City Supervisor Sherman reviewed the boundaries of the Pullman High School and Military Hill Park area, past Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation grant considerations, and an overview of past Community Center discussions.

Recreation Superintendent Dahmen presented a staff report that included desired community center amenities based on a recent needs-assessment survey. Recreation Superintendent Dahmen commented on some of the amenities that are currently being met by the Pullman Aquatic Center.

Councilmember Heath and Recreation Superintendent Dahmen discussed the demographics of the survey respondents. Councilmember Waldrop asked if the demands on current facilities were concentrated during the after-school hours or if the demand was spread out throughout the day. Recreation Superintendent Dahmen responded.

Board Member Johanson stated that not only do School District sports create additional demand, but club sports also increase demand on the facilities. Recreation Superintendent Dahmen responded.

Board and Council Brainstorm Discussion on Collaboration

12. City Supervisor Sherman presented examples of current School District and City cooperation. City Supervisor Sherman and Mayor Johnson made comments on the need for additional ball fields. Superintendent Sturm stated that there could be future collaboration on the Pullman High School project and cited sharing gym space and expanding the Aquatic Center to a community center as examples.

Councilmember Heath asked what will happen to the old high school building if a new building is constructed. Superintendent Sturm responded. Councilmember Heath asked if there was any way to use the old high school building for community space. Superintendent Sturm responded. Councilmember Benjamin asked if there would be any cost savings to replacing the high school on the current site if housing the students was not an issue. Superintendent Sturm responded.

Councilmember Benjamin asked if there would be potential space at WSU facilities because of the potential reductions in enrollment. Superintendent Sturm responded.

Board Member Johanson noted that the land acquisitions costs were not included in the new high school site proposal. Mayor Johnson and Superintendent Sturm discussed the amount of land that would be needed to relocate the high school.

Executive Director of Support Services Hornfelt stated that there would be bond arbitrage considerations if an off-site proposal was chosen because of the slower construction process.

Councilmember Benjamin asked if there were any examples of School District collaboration in other cities. Superintendent Sturm responded. Councilmember Benjamin asked if there was any emerging technology collaboration. City Supervisor Sherman responded.

Councilmember Waldrop shared an example of a Ferndale employer who did not have access to high- speed internet and the problems it caused with processing payroll. Councilmember Waldrop stated he was interested in seeing an assessment for field and gymnasium space and stated that there could be potential land donors for such space because of the incentive to bring utilities for their developments. Board Member Johanson gave an example of collaboration that occurs in Fairbanks, Alaska relating to the Transit system and the School District bus maintenance and capital purchasing.

City Supervisor Sherman stated that there have been past discussions on a joint alternative fuel center. Councilmember Weller asked if there was any way to save a portion of the Pullman High School to be used as a Pacific Northwest museum that could help promote tourism. Superintendent Sturm and Mayor Johnson responded. School District Board President Kinzer made comments on Councilmember Weller's suggestion, the challenges that have arisen because of the economic situation, and his appreciation for the cooperation with the City.

Mayor Johnson thanked the School District Board for their cooperation and attendance at the meeting. Mayor Johnson announced there would be a five-minute recess to reset the Council Chambers to continue the Council meeting.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Mayor Johnson reconvened the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Wiley Hollingsworth of A-Z Taxi made comments related to the incorrect enforcement of the City's itinerant registration requirement and the Washington State licensing requirements. Mr. Hollingsworth stated that the Pullman Green River ordinance does not apply to the taxi industry. George Hudson, Moscow Taxi company owner, stated that when he established his company there were no permit requirements and that the itinerant registration does not apply to the taxi industry and wants a ruling to determine if the registration requirements apply to taxi

businesses. Michael Sims, Pegasus Taxi, asked for clarification as to what requirements are required for taxi businesses. Police Chief Weatherly explained the enforcement of the itinerant vendor ordinance and the business registration ordinance and described the State license requirements for taxi companies. City Attorney McAloon stated that these questions were raised during the education process that took place in January, described the application of the itinerant registration ordinance, and described discussions she had with Dave Waterstraat, the owner of A-Z Taxi. Mayor Johnson asked for clarification on the police department information campaign and the timing of the enforcement of the ordinances. Police Chief Weatherly responded. Mayor Johnson suggested a thirty-day non-enforcement period to allow taxi companies to obtain their State licenses. Police Chief Weatherly and City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Heath stated she supported the enforcement of the current laws and was not comfortable with not enforcing the State permit requirements. Councilmember Waldrop asked for clarification that all taxi services must obtain a State permit and that the out-of-state operators must obtain the City's itinerant registration. City Attorney McAloon responded. Mayor Johnson asked for comments on the itinerant operating time limits. City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Bloom stated that he liked the idea for a separate licensing requirement for taxis and stated that he supported the enforcement of the current laws. City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Waldrop asked that the itinerant vendor hours limitation be resolved at this time. City Attorney McAloon responded. Councilmember Waldrop asked if the Airport Manager could request the taxi companies to serve the Airport during landing times to avoid the itinerant vendor limitations. Mayor Johnson and City Attorney McAloon responded.

George Hudson stated the he would not license in Washington due to the increased costs. Wiley Hollingsworth stated that he wanted to publically thank the Packard family for their support of A-Z Taxi and described the increased demand for taxi services in Pullman.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Johnson announced that the Council would adjourn to Executive Session for:

To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease.

To discuss the strategy or position to be taken by the City during the course of collective bargaining or grievance proceedings.

Mayor Johnson announced the Council would take a two-minute recess and Executive Session would last one hour.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m. Mayor Johnson reconvened the meeting at 10:33 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 10:33 p.m.