

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN  
JULY 31, 2012

**Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on July 31, 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. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to excuse Councilmember Weller.

Motion Carried.

**Announcements**

There were two announcements.

**Reports**

**Project Update**

Public Works Director Workman went through current projects, the Accelerated Street Resurfacing, Holbrook Sewer Replacement, State Street Water Line, Stadium Way Utilities and Repaving, Wawawai Road Improvements, SR 270 and the Airport Road/Sewer as well as other projects to include the Reaney Park Spray Pool. He said that Design West Architects have been selected to prepare schematic designs, preliminary designs, and cost estimates. The goal is to have the recommendation for City Council consideration in the 2013 budget. Councilmember Paul wanted to know why Stadium Way was taken care of by us rather than the State. Public Works Director Workman said it was not part of the highway system, but a part of the city's roads.

**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 Hawbaker moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to read the Consent Agenda by title only.

City Attorney McAloon read the items on the Consent Agenda by title only. Item No. 9., Ordinance No. 12-11, had been asked to be pulled earlier in the day. Mayor Johnson asked if there were any other requests for removal of items from the Consent

Agenda from the Council. There were none. Councilmember Hughes moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt items 1 through 8 on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried.

**Motions**

- Minutes - July 10, 2012 1. The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 10, 2012, and approved them as submitted.
- Lodging Tax Grant - Washington Distinguished Young Women 2. The Council approved a Lodging Tax grant to Washington Distinguished Young Women in the amount of \$1,500.
- Lodging Tax Grant - Pullman High School Wrestling 3. The Council approved a Lodging Tax grant to Pullman High School Wrestling in the amount of \$4,000.
- Quad-City Drug Task Force Interlocal Agreement 4. The Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Quad-City Drug Task Force.
- Claim for Damages - Steinmetz 5. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Carl Steinmetz for the sum of \$225.00 to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).
- Claim for Damages - Bruya 6. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Lorna and Larry Bruya for an undetermined amount to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).
- Holbrook Sewer Reconstruction Complete 7. The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 10-17, Holbrook Sewer Reconstruction.

**Resolution**

- Resolution No. R-46-12 - Stadium Way Resurfacing Project 8. Resolution No. R-46-12  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A PROJECT PROSPECTUS AND LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT FOR THE STADIUM WAY RESURFACING PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-46-12 was adopted unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Ordinance**

- Ordinance No. 12-12 - Budget Amendment 10. Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance has been prepared amending the 2012 budget. Finance Director Mulholland requested an amendment to the General Fund Police and Transit Fund budgets.

Ordinance No. 12-12 by title only reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 11-18 ADOPTED DECEMBER 6, 2011, AND ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PULLMAN FOR THE YEAR 2012".

Councilmember Hughes moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 12-12. The motion carried unanimously.

## Motion

- 2013 Preliminary Budget Schedule
11. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested on the 2013 Preliminary Budget Schedule. Finance Director Mulholland said that Tuesday, November 6 was on the schedule and it is also the national election. He requested if they decide to change, that it would either be Monday the 5<sup>th</sup>, or Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. The Council decided to move it to the 5<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Skaug moved, Councilmember Hughes to approve the 2013 Preliminary Budget schedule with the change of November 5 for the Mayor's presentation of the 2013 budget message. The motion carried unanimously.

## Discussions

- 2012 Mid-Year Financial Summary and Year-End Projections
12. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on the 2012 mid-year financial summary and year-end projections. Finance Director Mulholland went through the General Fund expenditures through June 30, as well as projections for expenditures for the remainder of the year. He went through the revenue forecast through June 30, as well as predictions for year-end. He said that on the expenditure side, the approved cuts by Council amounted to approximately \$444,000 and reductions in our pension contributions were included in the year-end expenditure forecast. Together with other items, the forecast showed a reduction of \$600,000 on the expenditure side. He stated we still need another cut of \$500,000. With the original shortfall of \$760,000, this would give us a cushion of \$340,000. He stated that the City will take an additional hit for 2013 budgeting purposes for increased ERD charges of \$200,000 which no longer can be deferred. He said that he had to sell an investment that the ERD fund had had for several years in order to give them cash, as they had gone into a negative position as a result of deferring charges to the various funds for several years. He said we could not do that anymore.

Councilmember Wright asked about the ending cash balance shown on page 8 of the packet. She wanted to know how that was fitting in with the projections. Finance Director Mulholland said that with the projected savings of a little bit more than the \$555,000 shown on there. It put us at a little bit higher level and if we can achieve the additional savings of \$500,000 that would bring it up to 9.8 percent level which is far below the Council goal of 13 percent, but a lot better than we were looking at the beginning of the year.

Mayor Johnson wanted clarification on the L&I report that we had received showing a 19 percent increase to make sure that it did not hit until next year. That is correct. It would not be effective until 2013 and at a level that would probably be a little bit less than that.

Councilmember Benjamin wanted Finance Director Mulholland to explain to the audience the reserve concept, the 6.4 percent, the 13 percent as well as what best practices were. Finance Director did that.

Current Economic 13. Mayor Johnson advised that a discussion is  
Conditions scheduled on current economic conditions. City  
Supervisor Sherman went through the national, the  
state, as well as the City of Pullman economic  
conditions.

Levels of 14. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is  
Services and scheduled on levels of services and priorities for  
Priorities - public services and the library.  
Parks and Recreation

Parks Superintendent Alan Davis went through his report, pointing out costs of the various fields in the functions based on 2011 figures as well as the history of cuts that had been made in 2000 and 2002. In conclusion, he brought up some possible suggestions that we probably need to look at pursuing. Several of the services they perform are really functions of Streets and should be reimbursed from that fund. This includes snow removal in parking lots as well as sweeping sidewalks and other properties. The cost was approximately \$16,000 which should be charged to Streets. With the proposed changes, which includes shifting some of the individuals to other departments and charging other departments, it would save the General Fund approximately \$121,000, but would increase the Street Fund reimbursement by about \$66,000, so it is something that needs to be looked at.

Councilmember Wright said it is a consideration going forward. She also had a question regarding the Metropolitan Park tax levy. She said it had been at 50 cents and she wanted to know if it was still at that level. Finance Director Mulholland said it was at 40.76 cents. She then wanted to know what it would take to get back up to that 50 cent level. City Supervisor Sherman informed her of the steps that would need to be taken to do that. Councilmember Hughes wanted to know if the Parks Department was involved with the College Hill restoration project outside of taking care of the trees and such. Parks Superintendent Davis said they do some work on eliminating graffiti up in the area as well as tree infilling which they have planted six trees so far this year.

Recreation Superintendent Kurt Dahmen went through the Recreation services. He talked about functions of Pioneer Center, the Preschool, the Senior Center, as well as the Aquatic and Fitness Center. He said the staffing at Reaney Pool is done by his section, but the maintenance is performed by the Parks staff.

Councilmember Skaug had inquiries about Reaney Pool being closed next summer. He wanted to make certain that the Barracuda Swim Team program was not going to be closed. Recreation Superintendent Dahmen said it would be held at the Aquatic Center.

Councilmember Benjamin had a question about the reason a town this size has two pools and would it be more beneficial to combine them and the the Aquatic Center. Recreation Superintendent Dahmen said he had not looked at that, but cost would be a factor.

Library Library Services Director Bailey went through her report and statistics. When she concluded, there were no questions.

Public Meeting on  
Levels of Services  
and Priorities

There were 13 individuals that spoke: Bill Brock, Ruth Day, Aaron Moe, Karen Aberth, Claire Gordon, Eileen Macoll, Ingrid Johansen, Dan Morrison and Cheryl Iiams all spoke in support of the Library and not cutting any of the funding. Bill Condon did not want to see the lap pool taken away, he thought the Spray Pool could be built around it. Kristen Guenther was very in favor of not making cuts in programs at the Aquatic Center and its programs. Scott McBeath praised Parks and Recreation and did not want to see any cuts. Emily Vyhnanek wanted to keep funding for the Aquatics and Parks and Recreation.

City Council  
Discussion of  
Options

City Supervisor Sherman said that the procedure they would go through now is trying to get some of the input put together for the meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> to decide what areas would be affected and discussion on what other information the Council needed. Councilmember Skaug mentioned that since Councilmember Wright had brought it up about the Metropolitan Park, he wanted to know if there were any other revenue areas we could go to for voter approval to expand our revenue base. Councilmember Hughes wanted to know why the increase in voter registration costs. City Supervisor Sherman addressed that. He also wanted to find out what the impact was of not filling the positions. Councilmember Benjamin would like to see what the effect on the General Fund would be without grants which are sometimes one-time charges.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business from either the Council or audience. There was none.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 10:36 p.m., Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting to go into 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 stated that the Executive Session would convene in five minutes and last for twenty minutes.

**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 11:07 p.m.