MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
JANUARY 22, 2013

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on January 8, 2013, 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
Derrick Skaug	Councilmember
Nathan Weller	Councilmember
Pat Wright	Councilmember

Councilmembers Hughes and Paul were absent. They had asked to be excused prior to the meeting. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to excuse Councilmembers Paul and Hughes from the meeting.

Motion Carried.

Call to Order

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

Presentation by Paul Sturm

Mayor Johnson announced that Paul Sturm, superintendent of Pullman School District, would make a presentation on the school bond measure for Pullman High School and Franklin Elementary. Mr. Sturm started with some updates on the statistical data. They currently have 130 school teachers which average 11.2 years of experience and 69.2 percent of them have master's degrees. The total number of teachers who teach core academic classes are 115. He showed graphs of revenues which had been relatively flat. The payroll costs are going up and total expenditures are going up. The General Fund balance is going down. The reason for the school bond is that Washington State does not fund construction of schools, instead local voters approve the sale of school bonds which are paid back over a period of twenty years. This helps to keep the cost lower for taxpayers.

The elementary class rooms to be added are five classrooms at Franklin Elementary. They have experienced nearly a 10 percent increase in K through 5 enrollment in 4 years. Presently there are at 248 kindergarteners, 205 first graders, and the school will need two more first grade teachers next year. There are no unused classrooms. Franklin had the space for the expansion. If the dollars come in under what they expect, then they will add an additional classroom to that. The total project cost for the High School renovation and construction is $65,500,000 and $2,000,000 for the elementary, for a total cost of $67,5000,000. The State will contribute $14,000,000, so the local finance will come to $53,500,000 for the sale of twenty-year bonds. The bond sale will be financed with an estimated $1.62 per thousand tax assessed value which will bring the school tax levy to approximately $6.36 per thousand. For comparison, in 2002 when Lincoln Middle School was built for $19,000,000 the total local sales tax

was $6.08 per thousand. The main reasons for the renovation and construction at the High School are to improve security and safety. The current 1960s school design with multiple buildings holds security and safety risks from the large number of entrances and exits in a sprawling campus style, to correct inefficient energy use of space, to comply with Title 9 requirements, and to correct deficiencies in the present learning space.

Councilmember Weller asked if the five classrooms at Franklin would be enough. Mr. Sturm stated it should be for the next ten years.

Councilmember Wright asked Mr. Sturm to go through the voting process for those in the audience as well as the viewers. Mr. Sturm stated that they had to have 40 percent of the voters that showed at the last general election and they need a 60 percent affirmative vote on those that do show up. There were no further questions.

Presentation from Paul Kimmel1 - Avista

Mayor Johnson announced that Paul Kimmel1, Avista Utilities, would discuss power outages, outage management, and restoration relative to weather events. Mr. Kimmell went through the process that Avista goes through with an approaching storm to locate and analyze where it is coming from, and what areas might be affected, so they can start getting crews ready to go if it does occur. He said that of the outages they have, 37 percent are due to weather, 15 percent from trees, planned outages amount to 10 percent, equipment failure 9 percent, and the other 29 percent which would include people driving into a power pole. He briefly went through their response and how they handle the outages in coordinating with local authorities. He then introduced Jenny Blaylock, Operations Manager of the Palouse Region, who went through some of the new regulations that the legislature passed in regard to digging to include required notifications. She said they had finally put some teeth in the laws. She said if you are going to dig more than 12 inches deep to call 811 and set up an appointment a couple of days prior to the dig so they can come out and mark locations of utilities. There were no questions on the report.

Confirmation of Appointment - Fire Chief

Mayor Johnson announced that he had appointed Mike Heston as Fire Chief effective February 1, 2013. Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to confirm this appointment.

Motion Carried.

Fire Operations Officer Heston made a few remarks.

Confirmation of Appointment

Library Board

Mayor Johnson announced that he had appointed Daniel F. LeBeau to a term on the Library Board of Trustees expiring on December 31, 2017.

Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to confirm this appointment.

Motion Carried.

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made five 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 Benjamin moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to read 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 the Council. Councilmember Skaug wanted Item No. 1, the minutes of January 8, pulled for separate discussion. Mayor Johnson so ordered. Councilmember Skaug moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt items 2 through 8 on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried.

Motions

Claim for Damages - Wong

2. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Lap-Ping Wong for the sum of $5,241.40 to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

Wellhouse #8/ Booster #10 Complete

3. The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 09-05, Wellhouse #8/Booster #10.

Palouse Basin Monitoring Wells Complete

4. The Council accepted as complete Contract No. 12-03, Palouse Basin Monitoring Wells.

Resolutions

Resolution No. R-6-13 - Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

5. Resolution No. R-6-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE PULLMAN CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND THE WHATCOM TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY.

Resolution No. R-6-13 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-7-13 - Stadium Way Utility Upgrades

6. Resolution No. R-7-13

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF MOTLEY-MOTLEY, INC. FOR THE STADIUM WAY UTILITY UPGRADES AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PROJECT.

Resolution No. R-7-13 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-8-12 - Pullman Senior Citizens' Association

7. Resolution No. R-8-13

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND THE PULLMAN SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WHITMAN COUNTY NUTRITION PROJECT AND CITY-SPONSORED PROGRAMS.

Resolution No. R-8-13 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-9-13 - Council on Aging and Human Services Agreement

8. Resolution No. R-9-13

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND THE COUNCIL ON AGING AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.

Resolution No. R-9-13 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Motions

Minutes - January 8, 2013

1. Councilmember Skaug said that in the minutes for January 8, a motion had been made for the Council approving disbursement represented by accounts payable checks. He noted that they are blank and he was informed that they are always blank and Council is approving these disbursements in advance. Councilmember Skaug moved, Councilmember Benjamin to approve the minutes of January 8, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance

Ordinance No. 13-4 - Interfund Loans

9. Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance has been prepared relating to interfund loans. Finance Director Mulholland explained that a loan agreement was approved by resolution allowing borrowing from the Utility Fund to the General Fund, but that ended on December 31, 2012. This would put into place, by ordinance, a policy setting up steps on notification, request and repayments of any interfund loans. Total loans cannot exceed $800,000.

Ordinance No. 13-4 by title only reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN, WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO TITLE 4, FUNDS, ADDING CHAPTER 4.90, INTERFUND LOANS, AND OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

Councilmember Benjamin moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 13-4. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution and Ordinance

Resolution No. R-10-13 - Fire Truck Purchase

10. Mayor Johnson announced that a resolution has been prepared accepting the bid of Crimson Fire, Inc. d/b/a Spartan ERV for the purchase of one Spartan ERV "Star Series" apparatus on a Spartan Gladiator chassis. Councilmember Skaug noted that in the CIP committee, it was one of the higher priorities. Councilmember Benjamin questioned the $592,000 cost.

Resolution No. R-10-13 by title only reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF CRIMSON FIRE, INC. d/b/a/ SPARTAN ERV FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) SPARTAN ERV "STAR SERIES" APPARATUS ON A SPARTAN GLADIATOR CHASSIS AND DELIVERY OF THE CONTRACT FOR SAID PURCHASE.

Councilmember Wright moved, Councilmember Benjamin seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-10-13. The motion carried unanimously.

Fire Operations Office Heston thanked the Council for approving the contract and the work that staff and the grant committee did to obtain the grant.

Discussion

2013 Legislative Priorities

12. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on 2013 legislative priorities. Councilmember Skaug said that the legislative priority to oppose charging differential tuition for different higher degrees, which would have an adverse effect on stem degrees such as engineering and science degrees. It would also repeal GET, the Guaranteed Education Tuition, credit. Councilmember Benjamin thought that the goals were very good, but that they should be grouped in relation to ones that concerned the City and grouping others of like nature. There were no additions or deletions from the list.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business. There was none.

Executive Session

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

Conferring with legal counsel representing the City concerning litigation or potential litigation that has been specifically threatened to which the City, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party.

The City Council will take a five-minute recess and will reconvene in open session in 15 minutes. The Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:46 p.m. The Council reconvened at 9:01 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 9:02 p.m.