

Waitsburg City Council Regular Meeting – September 21, 2011

Mayor Gobel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe called the roll. The following were present:

Mayor Walt Gobel

Council Members: Marty Dunn, Karl Newell, Orville Branson, Scott Nettles, Kevin House and Fletcher Baker

Others: City Attorney Kris Hedine, Mike Zenk, and Edna Downing

Agenda Approval

Mayor Gobel informed the Council of an agenda change whereby the Council would be asked to table item f under new business and consider the addition of an executive session after approval of the City's Bills. Council Member Dunn also requested a change to the agenda to add item g to new business related to a position related change and would be for discussion only. With no objections to the amended agenda, the agenda was approved and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2011 Special Meeting

With no changes, the minutes were approved and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Edna Downing expressed her displeasure with the City's intended plan to update its abatement code process.

New Business

a. Planning Commission Appointments

Appointments of Karen Gregutt and KC Kuykendall to the Planning Commission, filling two vacant positions. Council Member Branson moved to approve with Council Member Dunn seconding. Motion to appoint was approved and passed unanimously.

b. Interlocal Agreement Amendment

Amendment to an interlocal agreement with Walla Walla County related to the distribution of low income housing dollars within the County. Council Member Dunn moved to approve with Council Member Nettles seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

c. Ordinance 2011-984

Ordinance amending various sections of the Municipal Code related to the Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Preservation Overlay Zone requirements. Council Member Dunn moved to approve with Council Member Branson seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

d. Ordinance 2011-985

Ordinance updating the City Municipal Code related to the abatement of all municipal violations to where the City would proceed with disconnection of utility services instead of the past practice of ticketing. Council Members discussed the matter including the appeal process and its relation to continued utility bill accrual. Council Member Nettles asked that an exemption be added related to medical hardships. With no more discussion, Council Member Dunn moved to approve as amended with Council Member Branson seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed with four votes to one with Council Member Nettles voting against.

e. Ordinance 2011-986

Ordinance updating the Municipal Code to reflect the recently approved agreement with Basin Disposal for solid waste collection. Council Member Dunn moved to approve with Council Member Nettles seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

f. Abandoned Railway line

Tabled until ownership could be verified by the City.

g. Position Change

Discussion item related to the City adding the position of City Administrator and designating the City Clerk to that position due to the current duties already being performed. Council discussed the establishment of the position including the appointment process and management structure whereby the Mayor would retain overall authority. Council instructed the Clerk to draft an ordinance related this appointment to be considered at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Gobel informed the Council of an email he received from the Columbia County Hospital District CEO regarding the prescription drug delivery service being offered by the City in conjunction with Elk Drug and their willingness to help provide funding for 2012 and beyond. Mayor to contact CEO for clarification and consideration for Council at a future date. He also expressed his lose to the Community for Bill Thompson who passed away prior to the meeting.

Council Reports

Council Member Newell informed the Council of his attendance at the Emergency management meeting regarding their attempts to fill the director position with Emergency Management. Council Member Nettles offered a thank you to the Crew related to work they recently performed. He also ask the Clerk about potential impact from Liquor Privatization should it pass in November.

City Clerk Report

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe informed the City Council on various day to day business matters of the City.

Executive Session

City Council went into Executive session under RCW 42.30.110 (i) related to potential litigation at 8.12pm for roughly 20 minutes. Council reconvened to the regular session at 8:35 p.m. with no action taken related to the matter under discussion.

Approval of Bills

With no questions related to the City’s obligations, Council Member Dunn moved to approve with Council Member Nettles seconding. Motion to approve the bills was approved and passed unanimously.

September Payroll Clearing (Warrants 7744 - 7762)	\$ 17,568.81
September Payroll Clearing (Warrants 7763 – 7787)	\$ 19,021.22
Treasurer’s Checks (5012 and 5013)	\$ 150.00
Claims Clearing Vouchers (Warrants 16808-16855)	<u>\$115,369.26</u>
Total	\$152,109.29

Adjournment of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Approved:

10/19/2011

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk