

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN
SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pullman was held on September 8, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, Pullman, Washington with the following present:

Glenn A. Johnson	Mayor
Jane Joyce	Deputy City Clerk
Keith Bloom	Councilmember
Ann Heath	Councilmember
Barney Waldrop	Councilmember
Nathan Weller	Councilmember

Call to Order

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

Announcements

Mayor Johnson made three announcements.

Confirmation of Appointment

Finance Director

Mayor Johnson announced that he has appointed William "Bill" Mulholland to the position of Finance Director. Mr. Mulholland was introduced to the Council and audience. Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to confirm the appointment of Mr. Mulholland to the position of Finance Director. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to read the items on the Consent Agenda by title only.

Motion Carried.

City Supervisor Sherman 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 Bloom moved, Councilmember Weller seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Motions

Minutes - August 25, 2009

1. The Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 25, 2009, and approved them as submitted.

Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Electronic Transfers - September, 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 - O'Lexey 3. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Kelly L. O'Lexey for Aleah O'Lexey for an undermined amount to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

Claim for Damages - Markwart 4. The Council referred a Claim for Damages submitted by Tyler J. Markwart for the sum of \$75.00 to the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA).

Resolutions

Resolution No. R-51-09 - FAA Grant 5. Resolution No. R-51-09
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION GRANT FOR THE PULLMAN-MOSCOW REGIONAL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE PHASE 3.

Resolution No. R-51-09 was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. R-52-09 - Surplus Property 6. Resolution No. R-52-09
A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN AND AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF SAID SURPLUS PROPERTY, TO-WIT: PERSONAL PROPERTY, TO GOODWILL INDUSTRIES, A NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.

Resolution No. R-52-09 was adopted unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Ordinance

Ordinance No. 09-22 - Bond Ordinance Amendment 7. Mayor Johnson announced that an ordinance had been prepared to amend Ordinance No. 09-20, the bond ordinance. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating that this is a minor change that has been requested by the bond review committee. This will change the wording from "Principal and Interest Account" to "Bond Fund".

Ordinance No. 09-22 by title only reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON, RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF WATER AND SEWER REVENUE BONDS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 09-20 §4 (2009) AND OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

Councilmember Heath moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 09-22. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Collective Bargaining Agreement with Support Services 8. Mayor Johnson announced that a motion is requested to approve a collective bargaining agreement for Pullman Police Department Support Services employees for 2009. City Supervisor Sherman presented the staff report stating that this is the 6th and final union contract for 2009. He

stated that this is the same agreement as was given to Teamsters for Parks and Recreation and Public Works and to non-union employees. He thanked Human Resources Manager Sires and consultant Kevin Wesley for all their work.

Councilmember Waldrop moved, Councilmember Bloom seconded to approve the collective bargaining agreement for Pullman Police Department Support Services employees for 2009. Councilmembers Weller voted aye and Councilmember Heath abstained from the vote. Mayor Johnson announced that this item would be brought back to the Council at the September 15 meeting.

Discussion

Railroad Issues

8. Mayor Johnson announced that a discussion is scheduled on railroad issues. Mr. Bob Scarfo, WSU Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, stated that his students are looking at trends in passenger rail. He stated that five trends are occurring. They are energy scarcity, water scarcity, climate change, aging society, and declining public health. He stated that the above trends are converging, they are global, national and regional, and they are first-time events. If we can solve one trend, it will help solve the other trends. He stated the primary solutions are higher density, mixed use, pedestrian friendly, multi-modal, and intergenerational.

He then did a presentation called "Powering the Palouse" which is a study to reintroduce passenger rail to the Palouse. He talked about existing rail, rail crossings, ways to power a train, and rail stations at Spokane and Whitman County towns and cities. He discussed plans for Oakesdale and Rosalia. Councilmember Bloom stated he agreed we need to get back to rail and commended Mr. Scarfo on the idea. He stated it is a great first step but we need to consider high speed rail. Mr. Scarfo agreed with Councilmember Bloom and talked about the economical feasibility of passenger rail being combined with freight.

Councilmember Heath stated she would like to be able to get on a train and go to Spokane, She stated that if this would effect the growth of smaller communities that water could become a problem.

Councilmember Waldrop thanked Mr. Scarfo for the presentation and asked if there is a market why buses cannot serve the market. Mr. Scarfo stated buses might work, he does not have facts and figures for this. Councilmember Waldrop asked Mr. Scarfo to talk about what happened to Cuba when they lost their oil supply. Mr. Scarfo stated that they went to bicycles which they hated. They went from three universities to about 50 universities. They developed more smaller markets and developed a tractor-trailer type truck for transportation. Government vehicles also had to offer rides to anyone going in their direction.

Whitman County Public Works Director Storey thanked Mr. Scarfo for the presentation. City Supervisor Sherman talked about the rail history in Pullman. City Supervisor Sherman and Mr. Scarfo both talked about grants that are being applied for to help upgrade local rail lines.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any new business from either the Council or audience. Councilmember Waldrop asked about having a presentation on the H1N1 Virus at a Council meeting. Police Chief Weatherly stated that the H1N1 virus outbreak is widespread, but it is only really serious for a few categories of people.

Mayor Johnson stated that the number of cases is declining. City Supervisor Sherman stated that Chief Weatherly did an article in the Community Update about this issue.

Councilmember Heath asked about a letter the Council received from Wiley Hollingsworth regarding taxi stops. Chief Weatherly stated he had attempted to contact Mr. Hollingsworth and explained that the taxi stop Mr. Hollingsworth was commenting on is a dangerous location for vehicles to stop. He explained the nearest safe place for a taxi stand in the area and stated that taxis are the same as anyone else, they need to stop in safe locations. He is trying to find solutions to the problem.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bloom 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 8:20 p.m.