



WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, August 9, 2018

Wenatchee City Hall
129 South Chelan Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

MINUTES

In attendance:

Mayor Frank Kuntz
Councilmember Jim Bailey
Councilmember Ruth Esparza
Councilmember Lyle Markhart
Councilmember Keith Huffaker
Councilmember Mark Kulaas
Councilmember Linda Herald
Councilmember Mike Poirier

Staff in attendance:

Executive Services Director Allison Williams
City Attorney Steve Smith
City Clerk Tammy Stanger
IS Support Jessi Saucedo
Public Information Officer Annagrisel Alvarez
Public Works Director Rob Jammerman
Economic Development Director Steve King
Senior Utility Engineer Jeremy Hoover
Finance Director Brad Posenjak
Police Chief Steve Crown
Accounting Manager Denise Pearce
City Engineer Gary Owen

4:30 p.m. Executive Session

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of meeting in executive session.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker to meet in executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the city matters relating to litigation or potential litigation to which the city is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the city. RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), with legal counsel present, and for no more than 40 minutes; motion seconded by Councilmember Jim Bailey. Motion carried (7-0).

Council adjourned from executive session at 5:02 p.m.

5:15 p.m. Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

The Mayor called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Councilmember Linda Herald led the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilmembers were present.

2. Consent Items

- Motion to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker to approve the consent items. Councilmember Lyle Markhart seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

3. Citizen Requests/Comments

Mayte Bailmas, 3660 North Cascade, East Wenatchee, Washington, presented a conflict she has with the Department of Health in selling her baked goods at Methow Park, and asked for assistance. Councilmember Keith Huffaker is a representative on the Board for the Chelan-Douglas Health District and will follow up with Mayte.

4. Presentations

- Wenatchee Downtown Association Annual Report presented by WDA Executive Director Linda Haglund, Program & Event Director Meredith Hilger, and WDA President Stacey Doré-Asher. While last year was a challenging year, they persevered and this year is ending up much better.
- Certificate of Municipal Leadership Presentation. Mayor Frank Kuntz announced that Councilmember Ruth Esparza has received a Certificate of Municipal Leadership from the Association of Washington Cities.

5. Public Hearing Item

- A. Consideration of Moving to Election of Council Members by District (continuation of public hearing from July 12, 2018)

Executive Services Director Allison Williams provided an overview from the prior Council meeting, at which a public hearing was held and staff together with the City Attorney provided an overview of the background information that would provide the basis for the decision of City Council to move to election of Council members by District versus the current at large system. This background information, all of which is on the City's website at www.wenatcheewa.gov under "Mayor's Office" included:

- 1) A review of the work done, public outreach carried out and ultimate recommendation of the Electoral Process Committee to move to a District system
- 2) A review of the new Washington Voters Rights Act
- 3) An update on proposed districts as developed by Bill Cooper, expert retained for the purposes of developing defensible districts.

After consideration of the public testimony, the public hearing was continued to the regular meeting of August 9, 2108. During the interceding time period, written public comments have been received and are provided as a part of the packet.

In addition, Council member Ruth Esparza reached out to Bill Cooper to have him develop a three district scenario along with accompanying demographics and a statement of consideration based on his professional opinion.

A key premise of the Federal Voting Rights Act and the Washington State Voters Rights Act is to assure that we have an election system that will provide the opportunity for all to have access to elective office (one person, one vote). In the Washington State Voters Rights Act, the test is:

- 1) Protected Class: Does our city have a large racial, ethnic or linguistic minority group?
- 2) Racially Polarized Voting: Has there been evidence in elections (not just City Council elections) of a pattern of people voting based on race?
- 3) Vote Dillution: Has there been evidence in city wide votes that racial, ethnic or linguistic minority votes have been cancelled out by votes from the majority?

In consideration of the Ordinances, City Council must determine which election system will most fairly provide the opportunity for our City Council to resemble the diversity of our City.

Staff recommends that City Council move to adopt a system of election of Council members by District.

Councilmember Mark Kulaas placed the below motion on the table.

Councilmembers commented.

With no further discussion, the following motion was passed.

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-19, adding Chapter 1.15 Voting Districts to the Wenatchee City Code establishing voting districts for the positions of City Councilmembers, that being five districts and two at-large positions. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-1, Esparza nay).

6. Action Items

B. Sewer Connection Loan Program

Finance Director Brad Posenjak and Accounting Supervisor Denise Pearce presented the staff report, and provided a draft of the Sewer Connection Fees Policies and Guidelines. Council asked questions and discussed the financing options interest rates coming to agree on: financing of \$3,000 and above, up to 60 months, interest rate is prime plus 1%; financing \$5,000 and above, up to 120 months, interest rate is prime plus 2%.

Motion by Councilmember Linda Herald to approve Ordinance No. 2018-21, of the City Council of the City of Wenatchee relating to the sewer utility and to incentives for conversion of on-site septic systems serving existing single family residences to public sewers for the purposes of making more efficient use of the City's sewer services and protecting the City's groundwater supply; adding a new section to Chapter 4.08 of the Wenatchee City Code (WCC) to be codified as WCC 4.08.140; providing for the creation of connection financing options and rules and regulations pertaining to financing, for severability, and for effective dates. Councilmember Mike Poirier seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

The Mayor called for a 5 minute recess at 6:06 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

C. Horse Lake Road Sanitary Sewer Extension – Project No. 1713

Senior Utility Engineer Jeremy Hoover presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to award the contract for construction of the Horse Lake Road Sanitary Sewer Extension Project #1713 to DW Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$504,323.41, and further authorize the Mayor to approve the construction contract. Councilmember Linda Herald seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

D. Miller Street Realignment and Storm Repairs: PWTF Construction Loan Contract

City Engineer Gary Owen presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Mike Poirier for City Council to approve the Public Works Board Construction Loan Contract number PC18-96103-019 and authorize the Mayor's signature on the document. Councilmember Jim Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

E. Wenatchee Underground Conduit Project SW17-05 Bid Award

Public Works Director Rob Jammerman presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Neppel Electrical for the Wenatchee Underground Conduit Project SW17-05 in the amount of \$149,592.00. Councilmember Lyle Markhart seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

F. WSU Sponsored Project Agreement ORSO #134458-001

Police Chief Steve Crown presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Jim Bailey for City Council to approve the Sponsored Project Agreement (ORSO #134458-001) with Washington State University. Councilmember Lyle Markhart seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

G. Architectural and Engineering Services for City Hall Remodel

Economic Development Director Steve King presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to authorize the Mayor to negotiate and sign a contract with Forte Architects and Pacific Engineering for services associated with remodeling City Hall. Councilmember Linda Herald seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

H. Wenatchee Federal Building Architectural Services – Contract Extension

Economic Development Director Steve King presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas for City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment #1 to the contract with ARC Architects extending the completion date to January 1, 2019. Councilmember Ruth Esparza seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

I. Engineering Services for NEPA and Pre-Design Services

Economic Development Director Steve King presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Ruth Esparza for City Council to authorize the Mayor to negotiate and sign a contract with KPG Engineering for services associated with NEPA

review for Confluence Parkway and preliminary engineering design for the North Wenatchee Master Plan. Councilmember Lyle Markhart seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

J. RH2 General Services Amendment – 2 & 3

Public Works Director Rob Jammerman presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Mike Poirier for City Council to approve the contract agreement amendments 2 & 3 with RH2 Engineering agreement providing on-call engineering and SCADA support services and authorize the Mayor's signature. Councilmember Linda Herald seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

7. Public Hearing item

K. 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program

City Engineer Gary Owen presented the staff report. Council had no questions or comments.

The Mayor asked for public comment. There was no one who wished to speak.

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas to approve Ordinance No. 2018-22, adopting a revised and extended comprehensive street program for the ensuing six years for the City of Wenatchee as required by the laws of the State of Washington. Councilmember Jim Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

8. Reports.

a. Mayor's Report

1. The Mayor reported that he attended the Smart Cities Tour in Spokane on Wednesday.
2. No work session next week. Councilmember Mark Kulaas asked Councilmembers be more proactive in what they want for work sessions.
3. The Mayor added that the city is working in partnership with the Port and PUD to study the Fifth Street location and assisting with the ultimate transition.

b. Reports/New Business of Council Committees

1. Councilmember Mark Kulaas reported that he attended a meeting of the Wenatchee Downtown Association yesterday.
2. Councilmember Keith Huffaker reported that Rivercom Director Jim Fosse announced his retirement.

3. Councilmember Linda Herald reported that she attended a dinner on Tuesday with Misawa exchange students.

9. Announcements. None.

10. Adjournment. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.



Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy L. Stanger, City Clerk