



WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, February 25, 2021
Wenatchee City Hall Council Chambers
301 Yakima Street, 2nd Floor
Wenatchee, WA 98801
MINUTES

Present: Mayor Frank Kuntz, Councilmember Position 1 Jose Cuevas, Councilmember Position 2 Jim Bailey, Councilmember Position 3 Ruth Esparza, Councilmember Position 4 Travis Hornby, Councilmember Position 5 Mark Kulaas, Councilmember At-Large "B" Keith Huffaker

Staff Present: Executive Services Director Laura Merrill, City Attorney Steve Smith (via phone), City Clerk Tammy Stanger, IS Support Jessi Saucedo, Finance Director Brad Posenjak, Building/Fire Code Official Cliff Burdick, Public Works Director Rob Jammerman, Deputy Public Works Director Jessica Shaw.

5:15 p.m. Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call. Mayor Frank J. Kuntz called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Councilmember Jose Cuevas led the Pledge of Allegiance. The excused absence of Councilmember Linda Herald was noted for the record.

2. Consent Items

Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby to approve the agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings. Councilmember Jose Cuevas seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

3. Presentation

- Red Cross Month Proclamation read by Councilmember Keith Huffaker. Ryan Rodin, Red Cross Executive Director of the Inland Northwest, said a few words and the Mayor thanked him for the efforts and great work of the Red Cross.

4. Action Items

- A. Sewer Capital Project Budget Updates
- (a) Project No. 1908-Knowles Road Sanitary Sewer
 - (b) Project No. 2105- School Street Sanitary Sewer
 - (c) Project No. 2106 Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Building Improvements

Deputy Public Works Director-Utilities Jessica Shaw presented the staff report and an updated budget for the Knowles Road project.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to approve the amended capital project budgets for the three projects listed above. Councilmember Jim Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

- B. Ordinance #2021-11, authorizing the sale, issuance and delivery of not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the City's Water and Sewer Refunding Bonds

Finance Director Brad Posenjak presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Ruth Esparza for City Council to adopt Ordinance No 2021-11 authorizing the sale, issuance and delivery of not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the City's Water and Sewer Refunding Bonds. Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

- C. Code Enforcement Board Appointment – James Snyder

Building/Fire Code Official Cliff Burdick presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas for City Council to pass Resolution No. 2021-08, designating the appointment of James Snyder to the Code Enforcement Board for a two-year term ending December 31, 2022. Councilmember Jose Cuevas seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

- D. An amendment of the City budget for two funding changes to the Chelan-Douglas Homeless Program:

- A new grant award by the Washington State Department of Commerce to the City of Wenatchee for the administration of the Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP).
- A funding increase amendment to the existing Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) grant between the Washington State Department of Commerce and the City of Wenatchee.

Housing Programs Coordinator Oliver Crain presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to accept the Chelan-Douglas Homeless Housing Task Force's recommendations and authorize the Mayor to: (1) Enter into a new grant agreement between the Department of Commerce and the City of Wenatchee for the Treasury Rent Assistance Program Grant (T-RAP); (2) Enter into a new Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP) sub grantee agreement with Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council; (3) Enter into an amended agreement to increase the funding for the existing Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) contract between the Department of Commerce and the City of Wenatchee; and (4) Enter into an amended agreement for the existing Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP) sub grant contract with the Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council. Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

E. Revisions to water and sewer utility credit policies

Finance Director Brad Posenjak presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby for City Council to adopt Ordinance No 2021-12, relating to water and sewer utility billing credit; amending WCC 4.08.060(5) and WCC 9.12.540(4); and adding WCC 9.12.540(5). Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0).

F. Rhinehart Ten Percent (10%) Annexation Petition for review, adjustment, approval or denial

Neighborhood and Community Services Coordinator Brooklyn Holton presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas for City Council to accept the ten percent annexation petition, as presented and described and presented to the City Council, to accept the geographic boundary and the proposed annexation area option #2, as mapped as proposed annexation area #2, and at time of annexation will require simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, and would require the assumption of all or any portion of existing city indebtedness by the area to be annexed. Motion seconded by Councilmember Jim Bailey. Motion carried (6-0).

5. Public Hearing Items

The Mayor called the public hearing to order and explained the public hearing process.

G. Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2021-07 granting a franchise to Computer 5, Inc dba LocalTel Communications

Executive Services Director Laura Merrill presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

The Mayor asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak. There was no one who wished to speak.

No action was requested. Ordinance No. 2021-07 will be on the next regular meeting agenda on March 11, 2021, for final adoption.

6. Reports

a. Mayor's Report.

- (1) The Mayor reported that Glen DeVries, Sandra VanOsten and Chief Crown were attending the City of East Wenatchee's work session this evening on the 1590 funding.

- (2) It is the consensus of staff to go ahead with the INFRA application. The deadline is March 19. There are some additional considerations for this year's application (i.e. social equity, climate change, environmental justice, etc.). Meetings with Senators Cantwell and Murray and Congresswoman Schrier's team have been held, and additional meetings scheduled. Staff will be working hard to the finish line.
- (3) The Supreme Court ruled on the issue of arrests for drug possession. The Police Chief is frustrated at this ruling as it will have a significant impact on drug enforcement.
- (4) The Finance Committee met today and the 2020 budget came in much better than anticipated with about \$3,000,000 in additional funds in reserves than what was originally budgeted.

b. Reports/New Business of Council Committees

Councilmember Keith Huffaker reported that the Chamber banquet is coming up next week. He recently attended the Chamber Board meeting and they discussed current real estate trends, the high unemployment numbers in our region (mostly from the hospitality industry), and potential soil testing processes which may have an impact moving forward with developing land. He also reported that the waste facility is still doing very well, and that Douglas County is not interested in joining.

7. Announcements

The Mayor announced that David Erickson will have a presentation for the Council at the March 11 meeting to provide an update on Parks and Recreation programs and impacts related to Phase 2 COVID guidelines.

8. Adjournment.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy L. Stanger, City Clerk