



**WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Thursday, February 10, 2022**  
Wenatchee City Hall Council Chambers  
301 Yakima Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
**MINUTES**

*"To create community through responsive leadership and services for the citizens and visitors of the Apple Capital of the World."*

**Present:** Mayor Frank Kuntz; Councilmember Position 1 Jose Cuevas, Councilmember Position 2 Mike Poirier; Councilmember Position 3 Top Rojanasthien; Councilmember Position 4 Travis Hornby; Councilmember Position 5 Mark Kulaas; Councilmember At-Large "A" Linda Herald; Councilmember At-Large "B" Keith Huffaker

**Staff Present:** Executive Services Director Laura Merrill; City Attorney Steve Smith; City Clerk Tammy Stanger; IS Support Jessi Saucedo; Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director David Erickson; Police Captain Brian Chance; Police Chief Steve Crown; Finance Director Brad Posenjak; Community Development Director Glen DeVries

**5:15 p.m. Regular Meeting**

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.** Mayor Frank J. Kuntz called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Councilmember Keith Huffaker led the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilmembers were present.

**2. Consent Items**

*Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

**3. Citizen Requests/Comments**

Wayne Loranger, 1415 Jefferson Street, Wenatchee, wished to address the Council about homeless matters in residential neighborhoods (after the recent request by Grace Lutheran Church to build homeless housing on the church property which backs his property) and read a written statement about his experience with homeless issues in his neighborhood. He would like to see the city code updated to prevent this in residential neighborhoods.

#### 4. Action Items

A. Lincoln Park Change Order No. 1

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director David Erickson presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Mike Poirier for City Council to approve Change Order No. 1 with KRCl in the amount of \$160,728.00 for the Lincoln Park Project. Councilmember Jose Cuevas seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

B. Columbia River Drug Task Force (CRDTF) Interlocal Agreement

Police Captain Brian Chance presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

Motion by Councilmember Linda Herald for City Council to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

C. Reappointment to Tourism Promotion Area Board

Executive Services Director Laura Merrill presented the staff report. Freyda Stephens was also present. Councilmember Linda Herald recused herself due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Councilmember Top Rojanasthien for City Council to approve Resolution No. 2022-05 reappointing Freyda Stephens to the Tourism Promotion Area Board for a three-year term ending December 31, 2024. Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (6-0; Herald conflict).

#### 5. Reports

a. Mayor's Report. The Mayor reported on the following:

- (1) There is a scheduled work session next week for "all things parks related." He and two Councilmembers will be gone next week, so he asked the Council if they still wished to hold the work session or if they would prefer to have Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director Dave Erickson present to the PW/ED and Finance Committee instead. The consensus was to have the presentation at the committee meetings. The work session will be canceled for next week then.
- (2) The Mayor testified before the State Transportation Committee today on the transportation bill. The request for Confluence Parkway was not on the list for projects recently announced to receive state funding. He and staff will continue to monitor and keep in contact with Senator Hawkins and local Representatives Goehner and Steele. If Confluence Parkway doesn't make it this round of state

funding staff will be working for additional federal funding, which could take another 8-10 years.

- (3) Executive Services Director Laura Merrill and team continue to work on the environmental process for Confluence Parkway. They participated in a presentation to the Chelan County PUD Commissioners this week and are requesting a concurrence letter from the Chelan County PUD Commissioners. This is a very important step in the process for our region. Executive Services Director Merrill added that the environmental assessment does need to be complete to move forward on the funded part of the project.
- (4) The Mayor spoke about the decision to change insurance carriers from AWC / RMSA to WCIA. He and staff met with WCIA last week. There will be an initial savings of \$300,000 to \$400,000. This will take effect January 1, 2023. He asked City Attorney Steve Smith to research if this needs Council action. AWC/RMSA has been very good to the city for a very long time, and we appreciate the relationship we have had with them over the years.
- (5) The Mayor said the city is considering loosening its masking policy for city staff and will be updated soon. The current city policy is stricter than the governor's policy, and it sounds like the governor will be removing some restrictions in the very near future.
- (6) The noise ordinance update and retaining wall ordinance are both being tabled for the time being. In the meantime, police will continue to respond to noise complaints as per current city code.

b. Reports/New Business of Council Committees

Councilmember Huffaker reported that the moderate risk waste facility is still going strong and is looking at a change of hours (same hours but going to only one Saturday a month). He also mentioned there is a proposed legislation/composting bill being considered that would require counties to set aside land for food and yard waste. Also, he is serving again on the Chamber Executive Director search committee.

Councilmember Linda Herald mentioned she will be gone next Tuesday and will not be able to attend the PW/ED committee meeting. Councilmember Huffaker will attend as the alternate.

Councilmember Mike Poirier attended the Chelan-Douglas County Transportation Council meeting where they viewed presentation by Mike Kaputa/Chelan County on a proposed new trail from Wenatchee to Malaga with a possible water park. He also asked about Our Valley Our Future's action items. Executive Services Director Laura Merrill is the chair this year and there are quite a few items where the city is the lead.

Councilmember Top Rojanasthien attended the Community Action Council meeting where they reviewed the Our Valley Our Future action plan and they have some lead

and supporting roles. He was also impressed with the guest Speaker, Alma Chacon, of CAFÉ, and their expanded tutoring program with student tutors.

Councilmember Travis Hornby reported that the Wenatchee Downtown Association has been busy and First Fridays are back, and the Annual Appreciation Dinner is on February 23.

Councilmember Mark Kulaas provided an update on the Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center's search for a Museum Director, the Museum's strategic planning process, and a capital campaign being launched for improvements to the Museum.

**6. Announcements.** None.

**7. Adjournment.** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

  
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Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Tammy L. Stanger, City Clerk