



## WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Wenatchee City Hall Council Chambers

301 Yakima Street

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 Gloria; City Attorney Danielle Marchant; City Clerk Tammy Stanger; IS Support Tim McCord; Finance Director Brad Posenjak; Deputy Public Works Director-Utilities Jessica Shaw; Facilities Manager Elisa Webb; Community Development Director Glen DeVries; Public Works Director Rob Jammerman; Project Engineer Zachary Horton (via Teams)

#### 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. All Councilmembers were present. Councilmember Top Rojanasthien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Citizen Requests/Comments.** None.

#### 3. Consent Items

- Motion to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings.  
Vouchers:  
Claim checks #206133 through #206156 in the amount of \$1,461,009.85 for January 10, 2023  
Claim checks #206157 through #206225 in the amount of \$681,193.07 for January 12, 2023  
Claim checks #206626 through #206233 in the amount of \$10,060.44 for January 13, 2023  
Claim checks #206234 through #206276 in the amount of \$625,205.45 for January 17, 2023  
Payroll distribution in the amount of \$447,755.00 for January 20, 2023
- Motion for City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign a pipeline crossing agreement with the Wenatchee Reclamation District.

*Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings, and for City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign a pipeline crossing agreement with the Wenatchee Reclamation District. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

#### 4. Presentation

- Presentation of the Wenatchee Convention Center Schematic Design Report by ALSC Architects

Executive Services Director Laura Gloria, and ALSC Architects Rustin Hall and Justin Simonsen presented information and a power point presentation for the schematic design for the Wenatchee Convention Center expansion project. Finance Director Brad Posenjak provided information regarding the financial aspect of the project.

Comments were also taken from local stakeholders who were supportive of the expansion, as follows: Jessica Clay, Vice Chair of the Numerica Performing Arts Center Board; Doug Rigoni, CEO and President of Coast Hospitality; Mark Miller, General Manager of the TTC and board member of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee; Dan Frazier, Chelan County PUD; Freyda Stephens, Coast Hotel and Board Chair of the Tourism Promotion Area Board; and citizen Carl Ellard who spoke not in favor. The Mayor and Councilmembers each provided comments as well. Parking is a concern. It was the consensus of the Council to move forward with the project as presented, including the built out unfinished basement, prepare an amendment to the ALSC contract, and begin working with bond counsel for financing the project.

#### 5. Action Items

- A. Interlocal Agreement with Cascadia Conservation District

Deputy Public Works Director-Utilities Jessica Shaw presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

*Motion by Councilmember Linda Herald for City Council to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Technical Assistance, Project Coordination, and Support Services with Cascadia Conservation District and authorize the Mayor's signature. Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

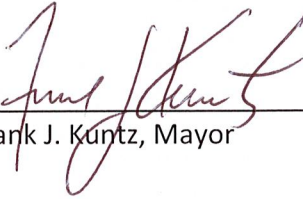
#### 6. Reports

- a. Reports/New Business of Council Committees
  - Councilmember Jose Cuevas reported that he attended the Chelan Douglas Homeless Housing Task Force last week where they discussed the homeless counts. Commissioner Overbay was appointed the chair and Leavenworth Mayor Florea was appointed vice-chair for 2023.
  - Councilmember Mark Kulaas reported that he attended the Link Transit board meeting and there are a number of capital projects in the works. They are also planning for a facility re-do in Olds Station to accommodate the expansion of busses. They have also started the search process for a new General Manager. He also provided a copy of a memo he prepared regarding a salary commission and is hopeful that the Council could discuss at a future study session.


- Councilmember Travis Hornby reported that he attended the Rivercom board meeting. Rivercom is searching for a new director and working on plans for a new building. The Mayor stated that they can pledge sales tax to finance a building and it would affect credit ratings.
  - Councilmember Keith Huffaker reported that he attended the Chamber board meeting. The Port reported that they are still struggling – the ios system failed in November and has been repaired, however, it has not been certified by the FAA. The new system is still not online and they are struggling to find an additional airline to service the area. Increased interest rates are affecting home sales.
  - Councilmember Top Rojanasthien reported that he attended the Community Action Council meeting and they are close to reaching their capital campaign goal for a new facility.
- b. Mayor’s Report. The Mayor reported on the following:
1. He received a message from Sasha Sleiman about the point in time count today and that the city’s GIS team has done an amazing job with assisting.
  2. He testified in Olympia on January 13 on Senator Hawkins’ aquatics center bill.
  3. He attended the Multi-Cultural Festival at the Museum and presented the Uplift Awards.
  4. He attended a meeting with staff on the pallet shelter program.
  5. He attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at Weidner’s new development on Easy Street.
  6. He and staff met with Thom Nees/Common Ground about their housing equity program. They have requested funding of \$20,000 for three years.
  7. He attended a follow up meet with staff for Confluence Parkway and NEPA.
  8. He attended the Rivercom board meeting yesterday to learn about the financing for a new building.
  9. He attended a Regional Water meeting this week. There will be a revised agreement with Crown Columbia coming to Council.
  10. The Mayor announced he will not be seeking a fourth term. This is his final year as Mayor. He has served for 12 years and felt it was time to step aside and have someone else lead. There is still a lot of work to be done this year.

**7. Announcements. None.**

8. Close of Meeting. With no further business, the meeting ended at 6:57 p.m.

  
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Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Tammy L. Stanger, City Clerk