City Council Meeting - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic) (Tuesday, December 12, 2023)
Generated by Sherri St Clair on Tuesday, December 12, 2023

1. Opening Items.

Procedural: 1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Procedural: 1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor -	Norma L. Hernández
Council Members –	Michael Cleveland; Loren Peterson; Melodie Williams; Heather Schermann; Monica Boyle
Staff-	City Administrator, Michael Rizzitiello; Finance Director, Brian Carleton; City Attorney, Rea Culwell; Community Development Director, Jon Rickard; City Clerk, Sherri St. Clair
Also Present -	Tito Espinoza Jr.
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Paul Jessup

Procedural: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Public Comment - None

2. Consent Agenda.

Action (Consent): 2.01 AB 23289 - Approve Agenda for December 12, 2023
Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.02 AB 23290 - Approve Council Minutes from November 28, 2023
Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.03 AB 23291 - Approve Council Workshop Minutes from December 5, 2023
Action (Consent): 2.04 AB 23292 - Cancellation of the December 26, 2023 Council Meeting
Action (Consent): 2.05 AB 23293 - Cancellation of the January 2, 2024 Council Workshop
Action (Consent): 2.06 AB 23294 - May 2023 Check Register/Financial Reports
Action (Consent): 2.07 AB 23295 - Southwest Sewer Project/Lift Station 7 Assessment
Action (Consent): 2.08 AB 23296 - 2024 Administrative Fees Resolution Update
Action (Consent): 2.09 Excuse the Absence of Council Members Espinoza
Action (Consent): 2.10 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Council by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either during the budget process, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Council Members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Council Member.

Council Member Schermann made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 5-0.

3. Presentations.
Procedural: 3.01 AB 23297 - Swearing in Ceremony for Officer Anton Bushkovskiy -
Chief Tomaras introduced Officer Anton Bushkovskiy and carried out the swearing in ceremony.

4. Public Hearings.
Procedural: 4.01 Procedure for Public Testimony

Procedural: 4.02 AB 23299 - Fiscal Year 2024 Final Budget Hearing -
Mr. Carleton outlined the changes since the last presentation at the December 5, 2023 Council Workshop. Mr. Carleton presented the Fiscal Year 2024 Final Budget.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Hernández opened the public hearing at 7:20 PM

Testimony: None.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:22 PM. Second by Council Member Peterson and the motion passed 5-0.

5. Action Items.
Action: 5.01 AB 23300 - Fiscal Year 2024 Budget -
The Fiscal Year 2024 Budget was presented in agenda item 4.02. Mr. Carleton noted that the beginning fund balance, on slide three of the presentation, is about 2.6 million dollars higher than the previous year due to the carryover of capital spending for REET 1 and REET 2 projects, which includes the Lions Park renovation.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-017 for the FY 2024 Budget. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.02 AB 23301 - 2024 - 2026 International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local #4203 Bargaining Agreement -
Ms. Doering presented the 2024 - 2026 International Association of Firefighters Local #4203 Bargaining Agreement outlining the notable changes.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to approve the 2024 - 2026 International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local #4203 Bargaining Agreement as presented. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.03 AB 23302 - Resolution Encouraging Tobacco Retail Locations To Adhere to Best Practices -
Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the Walla Walla Valley Blue Zones is recommending the adoption of a resolution encouraging tobacco retail locations to follow tobacco advertising best practices.

Council Member Schermann made a motion to adopt Resolution #23-074 encouraging all tobacco retail locations to adhere to best practices. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.04 AB 23303 - Meier Addendum 3 to Phase 2 City Hall Expansion -
Mr. Rickard informed the Council that the City is working with Meier to design the City Hall Expansion Project and the project design is currently at 60 percent. Mr. Rickard outlined the additional items that will need design work and the cost increases and totals.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Boyle made a motion to approve Addendum 3 to Agreement for Services for the City Hall Expansion Project for a total not to exceed $299,200. Second by Member Williams and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.05 AB 32304 - Preapproved Housing Plans -
Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council preapproved housing plans will assist in the affordable housing crisis by shortening the development process and decreases the costs of housing plans. The City is recommending working with Liberty House Plans. The City's plan is to have the Planning and Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commissions make recommendations of design plans to Council. The final design plans would be approved by Council.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-075 approving Preapproved Housing Plan partnership with Liberty House Plans. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.06 AB 23305 - COALLA Creative District -
Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that amendments have been made to the boundaries of the Creative District focusing on Valley Transit lines, downtown College Place, Downtown Walla Walla, and the Little Theatre. In addition, ArtWalla will act as the administrator and resubmit the letter of interest and application to Arts Wa.

Council Member Boyle made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-076 permitting participation in regional application into Arts WA for (Co)alla Creative District with the amended boundaries shown in the map. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.07 AB 23306 - Memorandum of Understanding between Walla Walla University, Common Roots Housing Land Trust, and City of College Place -
Ms. Culwell informed the Council that the memorandum of understanding (MOU) is necessary for involved parties to pursue grant funding for potential housing development on a five acre property the Walla Walla University is interested in selling. The City is requesting a resolution that allows the mayor to sign the MOU.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-077 which permits Mayor to sign Memorandum of Understanding between the City, Walla Walla University, and the Common Roots Housing Land Trust. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.08 AB 23307 - Resolution Declaring Certain Events as Official Community Events -

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the Municipal Research and Services Center of Walla Walla (MRSC) recommends adopting a resolution listing the City's official events. Furthermore, Mr. Rizzitiello listed all of the City's events.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-078 which certifies community events for Fiscal Year 2024. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 5-0.

Discussion ensued.

Action: 5.09 AB 23308 - Accept Transportation Improvement Board UAP Grant: SW Mojonnier Rd (College to Bluvue) -
Mr. Rizzitiello provided an overview of related grants that the City received. Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that this grant would go towards the SW Mojonnier Rd. project from College to Bluvue. Mr. Rizzitiello also provided an overview of the funding for the Mojonnier Rd. project.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Schermann made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-079 which authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement with TIB for SW Mojonnier Rd Improvements (28.3817% Grant - $1,922,008). Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.10 AB 23309 - Accept Transportation Improvement Board ATP Grant: SE 8th (Birch to Larch) -
Mr. Rizzitiello provided an overview of the City's work to improve 8th Street. In addition, Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that this grant would fund the sidewalk on SE 8th between Birch and Larch and a rapid flashing beacon and crosswalk at the Larch and 8th intersection.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Williams made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-080 which authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement with TIB for SE 8th Street (Birch to Larch) Improvements (90% Grant - $657,900, Match 10% - $73,100). Second by Member Cleveland and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.11 AB 23310 - Final Budget Amendment for 2023 -
Mr. Carleton informed the Council that the City is required to amend the Budget if there is a significant difference between actual budgeted funds. Mr. Carleton outlined the budget amendments noting that the difference was largely due to projects that have been delayed.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to approve the 2023 Amended Budget Ordinance No. 23-018 for changes in revenue and expenditures. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.12 AB 23311 - Resolution Requesting US Army Corps of Engineers Technical Assistance for Floodplain Mapping/Management Services of Military Springs, Garrison Creek, and Stone Creek Corridors -

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the City is able to submit a letter of request to receive free technical assistance for floodplain mapping, modeling, and management. In addition, the City would become eligible for more grant opportunities.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-081 permitting City Administrator to send a Letter of Request to the US Army Corps of Engineers for Floodplain Mapping/Management Services Technical Assistance for Military Springs, Garrison Creek, and Stone Creek. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 5-0.

Action: 5.13 AB 23312 - Resolution Requesting Participation in US Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Section 206 of WRDA) pertaining to Stone Creek 454 Christensen Lane College Holdings Property -
Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the City can submit a a letter of request on behalf of a property owner to cost share in the engineering and construction to renovate stream areas. Lakeside College Holdings would like to participate in the program.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-082 permitting City Administrator to send a Letter of Request to participate in US Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Section 206 of WRDA) pertaining to Stone Creek - 454 Christensen Lane College Holdings Property. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 5-0.

6. Administrative Reports - None

7. Informational Reports - None

8. Executive Session - None

9. Closing Items.
Discussion, Information: 9.01 Good of the Order?
Council Members commented on the 2023 Winterfest noting it as wonderful event and thanking the staff for their participation.

Discussion ensued.

Action: 9.02 Conclusion - Motion to Conclude the Meeting.

Council Member Williams made a motion to conclude the meeting at 8:13 PM. Second by Member Boyle and with no objection, the meeting concluded.

Approved:

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Norma L Hernández
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Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Sherri St.Clair

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Sherri St. Clair – City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council meeting that occurred December 12, 2023. Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.