

City Council Meeting - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic) (Tuesday, July 9, 2024)

Generated by Athen Reid on Tuesday, July 9, 2024

1. Opening Items.

Procedural: 1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the meeting to order at 7:03PM

Procedural: 1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor - Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Paul Jessup; Michael Cleveland; Tito Espinoza; Loren Peterson; Melodie Williams; Heather Schermann;

Staff- City Administrator, Michael Rizzitiello; Finance Director, Brian Carleton; City Clerk, Sherri St. Clair; Deputy City Clerk, Athen Reid

Also Present -

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Monica Boyle

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Procedural: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Public Comment - None

2. Consent Agenda.

Action (Consent): 2.01 AB 24161 - Approve Agenda for July 9, 2024

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.02 AB 24162 - Approve Council Meeting Minutes from June 25, 2024

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.03 AB 24163 - Approve Council Workshop Minutes from July 2, 2024.

Action (Consent): 2.04 AB 24164 - Approve April Financials

Action (Consent): 2.05 Excuse the Absence of Council Member Boyle

Action (Consent): 2.06 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 Jessup and the motion passed 6-0.

3. Presentations - None

4. Public Hearings - None

5. Action Items.

Action: 5.01 AB 24165 - Washington State Department of Transportation Railway-Highway Crossings Grant (NE Damson & NE Wallula) -

Mr. Rizzitiello explained the opportunity to apply for grant monies via the Washington State Department of Transportation for the railroad crossings at NE Damson and NE Wallula, which would improve crossings and add sidewalks.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution No. 24-050 authorizing and supporting City Administrator submitting grant application into the WSDOT Railway-Highway Crossings Grant Program for NE Damson & NE Wallula Crossings at Union Pacific Railroad operated by Columbia Rail. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.02 AB 24166 - Resolution of Support for State TIB Urban Arterial & Active Transportation Program - SE 12th & Larch Roundabout Project -

Mr. Rizzitiello explained the opportunity to apply for grant funding via the TIB Urban Arterial Transportation Program for enhancements to SE 12th Street and SE Larch Avenue. Including a roundabout intersection, pedestrian crossings, streetlamps, and rapid flashing beacons.

Discussion Ensued.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-051 which support's the City's SE 12th & Larch Roundabout Urban Arterial & Active Transportation Program Grant into the State Transportation Improvement Board. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.03 AB 24167 - Resolution of Support for State TIB Urban Arterial Grant Program - Commercial and Economic Development Band Whitman Drive Roundabout -

Mr. Rizzitiello explained the opportunity to apply for grant funding via the TIB Urban Arterial Transportation Program for a roundabout on Whitman Drive to encourage development south of Home Depot, including retail, restaurants, and lodging.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Espinoza made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-052 which supports the City's application into the State Transportation Improvement Board Urban Arterial Grant Program - Economic Development Band for Whitman Drive Roundabout adjacent to Home Depot. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.04 AB 24168 - Walla Walla 2050 Capital Requests for FY 2025 - Gardena Concept Engineering, Decant Facility Construction, and then River Gauge Installation -

Mr. Rizzitiello presented the three projects for capital consideration via the Walla Walla 2050 Committee, including river gauges, decant facility construction, and engineering analysis.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Williams made a Motion to recommend adoption of Resolution No. 24-053 authorizing and supporting City capital requests to Walla Walla 2050 for Gardena Concept Engineering (\$2 million), Decant Facility Construction (\$1 million),

and River Gauge Installation (\$125,520). Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.05 AB 24169 - Resolution of Support: Walla Walla County .09 Grant Lions Park Community Center Architectural Plans -

Mr. Rizzitiello updated the Council on headway in funding for the Lions Park Community Center project, including a new opportunity for funding via the County.09 Grant program.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Jessup made a motion to approve Resolution No. 24-054 supporting the City's grant application into the County.09 Grant Program for Lions Park Community Center Architectural Plans for \$200,000. Second by Member Espinoza and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.06 AB 24170 - Potential Water System Consolidation Feasibility Studies with State Department of Health Planning Grant Program -

Mr. Rizzitiello explained a history of interest of water system consolidation from TheVillages of Garrison Creek HOA. This grant will support brining the water system up to city code prior to consolidation.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Cleveland made a Motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-055 which directs City Administrator to pursue State of Washington Department of Health Water System Consolidation Planning Feasibility Study Grants for Villages of Garrison Creek HOA Water System and Irrigation District #14 System. Second by Member Jessup and the motion passed 6-0.

Action: 5.07 AB 24171 - Contract with Culton Consulting Services for Federal Lobbying -

Mr. Rizzitiello explained the historical success with Mr. Culton as the City's primary staff person working as our Federal Lobbying consultant with Desimone Consulting. Now that Mr. Culton has started his own firm, Mr. Rizzitiello expresses the City's best interest to continue partnership with Culton Consulting.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Cleveland made a Motion to approve Resolution # 24-056 which sends notice of termination to Desimone Consulting & authorizes City Administrator to sign contract for Federal Lobbying services to Culton Consulting Services. Second by Member Jessup and the motion passed 6-0.

6. Administrative Reports - None

7. Informational Reports - None

8. Executive Session -

Discussion:8.01 Executive Session - To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price 42.30.110 (b).

Mayor Hernández announced the Council would adjourn to a 10-minute Executive Session at 7:44 PM with the following people in attendance:

Mayor – Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Paul Jessup, Michael Cleveland, Tito Espinoza, Loren Peterson, Melodie Williams, Heather Schermann

City Attorney – Rea Culwell

Staff – Administrator, Mike Rizzitiello;
Finance Director, Brian Carleton
Deputy City Clerk, Athen Reid
City Clerk, Sherri St. Clair

At 7:54 PM Council reconvened to the public meeting. (slight delay for everyone to exit one meeting and re-join the open meeting.)

9. Closing Items.

Discussion, Information: 9.01 Good of the Order?

Council Member Williams inquired about the safety of our public works staff with the heatwave. Mr. McAndrews and Mayor Hernandez assured the Council that protocols and schedule adjustments were made to be proactive in the summer heat, including an earlier start time on outdoor projects.

Action: 9.02 Conclusion - Motion to Conclude the Meeting.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to conclude the meeting at 8:00 PM. Second by Council Member Cleveland and with no objection, the meeting concluded.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

Norma L. Hernandez

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Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Athen Reid

F7BC92BE662E4C4...
Athen Reid - Acting City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council meeting that occurred July 9, 2024. Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.