

City Council Meeting - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic) (Tuesday, November 12, 2024)

Generated by Maryelizabeth Garcia on Friday, November 8, 2024

1. Opening Items.

Procedural: 1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Procedural: 1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor - Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Paul Jessup; Michael Cleveland; Tito Espinoza; Loren Peterson; Melodie Williams; Heather Schermann; Monica Boyle - joined the meeting at 7:48PM as previously indicated

Staff- City Administrator, Michael Rizzitiello; Finance Director, Brian Carleton; City Attorney, Rea Culwell; Public Works Director, Robert McAndrews; City Clerk, Maryelizabeth E. Garcia; Deputy City Clerk, Athen Reid

Also Present - Mr. Royce Davis- Jacobs

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Procedural: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Public Comment - None.

2. Consent Agenda.

Action (Consent): 2.01 AB 24245 - Approve Agenda for November 12, 2024

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.02 AB 24246 - Approve Council Minutes from 10/22/2024

Action (Consent): 2.03 AB 24247 - September Financials

Action (Consent): 2.04 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.

Information: 3.01 AB 24248 - Small Business Saturday Proclamation - Mayor Hernández

Mayor Hernández proclaimed November 30th, 2024 to be Small Business Saturday and encouraged residents to support small businesses in College Place.

Information: 3.02 AB 24249 - Proposed Changes On Indigent Defense Caseload Standards - Ms. Culwell

Ms. Culwell informed the Council the City must provide Indigent Defense to people who incur misdemeanors and the Washington Supreme Court have identified that attorney caseloads are unconstitutional. Therefore, Indigent Defense Caseload Standards will be significantly reduced and the City will have to find a solution including reducing ticket quantities and budgeting for additional public defenders.

Discussion ensued.

4. Public Hearings.

Procedural: 4.01 Procedure for Public Testimony

Discussion, Procedural: 4.02 AB 24250 - Fiscal Year 2025 Property Tax Levy - Mr. Carleton

Mr. Carleton gave a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2025 Property Tax Levy.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Hernández opened the public hearing at 7:26 PM

Testimony: College Place resident Angie Peters wanted to understand why the City is raising the storm water tax instead of the property tax. Mr. Carleton clarified that the storm water utility tax generates more revenue for the Current Expense budget, which the City is in need of, and the City will benefit from bringing the storm water utility tax into uniformity with the other utility taxes.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:43 PM. Second by Council Member Schermann and the motion passed 6-0.

Discussion, Procedural: 4.03 AB 24251 - Fiscal Year 2025 Preliminary Budget Hearing - Mr. Carleton

Mr. Carleton gave a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2025 Preliminary Budget.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Hernández opened the public hearing at 7:56 PM

Testimony: None.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:58 PM. Second by Council Member Williams and the motion passed 7-0.

Clerk Note: Council Member Boyle arrived at 7:48 and participated in the Council Meeting from that time forth.

5. Action Items.

Action: 5.01 AB 24252 - Interagency Agreement for Community Court Prosecution Services - Ms. Culwell

Ms. Culwell informed the Council that the City has been working in tandem with Walla Walla District Court, which handles traffic and civil infraction for the City, and the City of Walla Walla's office to create an alternative community court program which will provide wraparound services and resources for certain infractions in an effort to reduce recidivism. Nationally, this program has been very successful and this region predicts it will be beneficial on par with the rest of the nation. Representatives of the community court have been working together for a year creating the program and writing a grant to launch and operate it. The grant has been awarded to the Walla Walla Community Court and the group is in the process of launching the program. Culwell will provide assistance to June Riley as needed.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Jessup made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-076 Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with Walla Walla City Attorney Office for the Community Court Prosecution Services and Authorizing Mayor to Execute. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.02 AB 24253 - Award Holiday Light Contract to Moreno & Castillo Construction - Ms. Reid & Mr. McAndrews

On behalf of Ms. Reid, Mr. McAndrews informed the Council historically, Public Works typically handles the holiday light decoration setup and take down every year. However, this year the Public Works Department is too busy with

projects to manage decorations as usual, and the City put out a Request For Bid. Two bids were received and Moreno & Castillo Construction have been awarded the contract.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Williams made a motion to approve the proposed Holiday Lights Contract with Moreno & Castillo Construction for the City for \$26, 628. Second by Member Cleveland and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.03 AB 24254 - Contract Amendment No 9 for WWTP Operations, Maintenance, and Management Services - Mr. McAndrews & Mr. Hintz

Mr. Davis, on behalf of Mr. Hintz, and Mr. McAndrews informed the Council the contract for maintenance and management of the Waste Water Treatment Plant is due for annual renewal with Jacobs/CH2M.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Schermann made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment No. 9 to the Agreement for Operations Maintenance and Management Services for CH2M to operate the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.04 AB 24255 - 2025 Revenue and Property Tax Levy Resolution No. 24-075 - Mr. Carleton

Mr. Carleton gave a presentation on the 2025 Revenue and Property Tax Levy before the Public Hearing. The City is recommending to not to take the one percent property tax increase for 2025.

Council Member Boyle made a motion to approve the 2025 Property Tax Levy Resolution No. 24-075. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.05 AB 24256 - Fiscal Year 2025 State Legislative Agenda - Mr. Rizzitiello

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council of the state of the State of Washington as it relates to the City of College Place.

Council Member Jessup made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution #24-077 which adopts 2025 State Legislative Priorities for the City of College Place. Second by Member Schermann and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.06 AB 24257 - Fiscal Year 2025 Federal Legislative Agenda - Mr. Rizzitiello

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council of the proposed Federal Legislative Agenda as it relates to the City of College Place.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution #24-078 which adopts 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities for the City of College Place. Second by Member Williams and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.07 AB 24258 - Accept 2024 City Safety Program Grant Funding for SW Davis & Whitman Drive Improvements - Mr. Rizzitiello

Mr. Rizzitiello described to Council the improvements projected to be addressed with the City Safety Program which covers 100% of project costs.

Discussion ensued.

Council Member Espinoza made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution #24-079 which permits City Administrator to sign funding agreement from Washington State Department of Transportation for 2024 City Safety Program Improvements: SW Davis and Whitman. Second by Member Williams and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.08 AB 24259 - Accept State Department of Health Contracts DWL 29312 and DWL 30985 for Well 8 Construction - Mr. Rizzitiello

Mr. Rizzitiello presented to the Council of two Department of Health contracts as they relate to the City.

Council Member Cleveland made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution #24-080 which permits City Administrator to sign funding agreements #DWL29312 and #DWL30985 to finish up Well 8 Construction. Second by Member Boyle and the motion passed 7-0.

Action: 5.09 AB - 24260 - Accept State Department of Health Contract DWL 29313 for Reservoir 4 Construction - Mr. Rizzitiello

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council of the funding agreement for water tower 4 which will be funded by grants and a partly-forgivable loan.

Council Member Williams made a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution #24-081 which permits City Administrator to sign funding agreements #DWL29313 to construct Drinking Water Reservoir #4. Second by Member Peterson and the motion passed 7-0.

6. Administrative Reports.

Information, Reports: 6.01 AB 24261 - 2025 LTAC Funding Recommendations for Council - Ms. Boyle & Ms. Garcia
Ms. Boyle presented the Lodging Tax Advisory Commission funding recommendations outlining the publication of requests for proposals, the proposals received, the estimated Fund 130 Hotel/Motel Tax balance, and the recommendation to fund all nine applications as indicated by the Lodging Tax Advisory Commission.

Discussion ensued.

7. Informational Reports.

Information: 7.01 Community Development Department Monthly Report
Information: 7.02 FY 2025 to 2030 Capital Facility Plan (Updated)
Information: 7.03 FY 2025 to 2030 Equipment Replacement Plan
Discussion, Information: 7.04 FY 2025 Information Technology Plan

8. Executive Session.

Discussion, Information: 8.01 AB 24262 - Adjourn to Executive Session
The Council adjourned to Executive Session.

Mayor Hernández opened the Executive Session at 8:51 PM

The Council considered the selection and acquisition of real estate by the City pursuant to RCW 42.320.110(b)

Mayor Hernández called the Regular Meeting back to order at 9:12 PM

9. Closing Items.

Discussion, Information: 9.01 Good of the Order?

Mayor Hernández read an email from College Place resident Mike McKiernan in support of City Administrator Mike Rizzitiello's many talents and contributions to the City.

Action: 9.02 Conclusion - Motion to Conclude the Meeting.

Council Member Williams made a motion to conclude the meeting at 9:18 PM. Second by Member Boyle and with no objection, the meeting concluded.

Approved:

Signed by:

Norma L. Hernández

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Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

Signed by:

Maryelizabeth Garcia

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Maryelizabeth E. Garcia – City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council meeting that occurred November 12, 2024.
Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.