

City Council Workshop - Hybrid (In-Person & Electronic) (Tuesday, February 7, 2023)

Generated by Sherri St Clair on Tuesday, February 7, 2023

1. Opening Items.

Procedural: 1.01 Call To Order

Mayor Hernández called the workshop to order at 5:31 PM.

Procedural: 1.02 Roll Call

PRESENT:

Mayor - Norma L. Hernández

Council Members – Paul Jessup, Michael Cleveland, Tito Espinoza Jr., Loren Peterson (arrived at 5:04 PM), Heather Schermann, and Monica Boyle (left at 5:55 PM)

Administrator, Mike Rizzitiello; Finance Director, Brian Carleton; City Attorney, Rea Culwell; Community Development Director, Jon Rickard; City Clerk, Sherri St. Clair

Staff -

Also Present

Bob Stowe, Stowe Development and Strategies
Meghan DeBolt, Walla Walla Valley Blue Zones Project
Katie DePonty, Walla Walla Valley Blue Zones Project
Melodie Williams

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Procedural: 1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Information: 1.04 Public Comment - None

2. Workshop Topics.

Discussion, Information: 2.01 Draft Tax Increment Financing Study (Stone Creek/Downtown) -

Mr. Rizzitiello provided an overview of Tax Increment Financing (TIF). Mr. Stowe presented the City of College Place TIF project analysis to Council.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.02 Walla Walla Valley Blue Zones Presentation -

Ms. DeBolt presented the Walla Walla Valley Blue Zones Project (WWVBZP) update outlining the 2021 Well Being survey results, the 2023 real age test campaign, community impacts, the ADA transition plan, Vision Zero Policy, Davis Elementary Safe Routes to School, participating Blue Zones organizations, and upcoming events.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.03 City Hall Addition -

Mr. Rickard informed the Council that the City is working with Meier Architecture and Engineering on the renovation of the council chambers, council chambers AV, as well as a design plan for phase two of the renovation. Mr. Rickard presented the design plans and outlined the major components of phase two including the conversion of the Sally Port into the Mayor's office, conference room, and City

Administrator's office. In addition, this phase includes the conversion of the jail cells to office space, and approximately 2,600 sq. ft. of new office space.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.04 Broadband Action Team -

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the federal government is offering a Broadband Equality Access and Deployment (BEAD) grant and interested counties must develop a Broadband Action Team (BAT). The BAT will identify areas that are not served or underserved and develop a plan of action to serve those areas. Walla Walla County is forming a BAT and will have their first meeting this Friday February 10, 2023 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am at the Walla Walla Regional Airport conference room.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.05 FY 2023 Economic Development Fliers -

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that each year the City updates the data within the Economic Development fliers. These fliers are categories by available sites, businesses, downtown, Myra Road, Meadowbrook, and residential. Upon approval, these fliers will be utilized for economic development locally and at the Las Vegas International Council of Shopping Centers in May. Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission recommended approval of the FY 2023 Economic Development fliers at their last meeting.

Discussion, Information: 2.06 District Court Services -

Ms. Culwell informed the Council that in 2013 the City of College Place contracted Walla Walla District Court to handle criminal cases. Ms. Culwell noted that since becoming employed with the City in 2018 she has observed many cases in which there is lack of penalty enforcement for crimes committed within the City of College Place. Ms. Culwell informed the Council that the City is under contract with Walla Walla District Court for four more years and if no improvement is seen, consideration may be given to hire a judge to handle the City's criminal cases when the contract expires.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.07 FY 2023 Legislative Session - Bills to Monitor which tie to Legislative Agenda -

Mr. Rizzitiello outlined current bills that are impactful to the City and surrounding areas including reinstating police pursuit language, urban growth areas, missing middle housing, and Highway 12 Phase 8.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion, Information: 2.08 Transfer of Pocketinet Franchise to Lightspeed Internet LLC -

Mr. Rizzitiello informed the Council that the City has received notification of a franchise transfer from Pocketinet to Lightspeed Internet LLC. If approved by the Federal Communications Commission, Pocketinet will become a subsidiary of Lightspeed Internet LLC.

Discussion ensued.

3. Closing Items.

Discussion, Information: 3.01 Good of the Order

Procedural: 3.02 Conclusion

Mayor Hernández concluded the workshop at 8:07 PM.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

Norma L. Hernandez

Norma L. Hernández – Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Sherri St. Clair

Sherri St. Clair – City Clerk

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the City Council Workshop that occurred February 7, 2023. Further detail may be obtained by reviewing the actual audio recording made during this session.