

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 22, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Warren, 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beadles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nash
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baumberger
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blackmon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manchester	

STAFF:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Hastings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PWD Martin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clerk Storey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Attorney Grow	

AGENDA CHANGES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION BY BEADLES/NASH to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2012, Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public

Kristen Kemak, Chamber of Commerce, announced that the City has an ex-officio position on the Chamber Board. Kemak feels that Chief Cooper would be a good fit and has worked on many Chamber projects. She said there is one meeting per month of about 1- 1 ½ hours per meeting. Chief Cooper is willing to serve. Mayor Warren will send a letter of appointment.

B. From the Mayor

Drew Dickinson, Asotin County, referred to the town hall meeting that was held last week by the county commissioners. He said as a citizen of Asotin County, he finds it appalling that the mayor of Clarkston would stand up in a public meeting and bold-faced lie to the citizens of Asotin County. He said she stated the only reason the council opted in for the .3% sales tax was to ensure that it was used for its intended purpose, the Aquatic Center. In 2010 the funding took a huge hit and at the same time, the city started an ambulance service that, in his opinion, is under staffed and underfunded and under managed. He said the City was told that the ambulance would not support itself. Now the City contributes nothing to the Aquatic Center. The City got a new city hall and updated the public safety building. Mayor Warren responded that what she said was the reason she voted in favor of opting in to the sales tax was because the City intended to give a large portion to the Aquatic Center.

C. From Staff

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

Councilmember Provost reported all bills have been audited and approved. MOTION BY PROVOST/BEADLES to authorize payment of the bills, total expenditures for October 22, 2012 of \$175,577.39. Motion carried.

Provost said committee met with Kerry Cox to discuss a change in phone service. The proposal would change the city's main phone service from XO Communications to Clearly Communications. Cox explained that the phone service is voice over internet, but Clearly provides a dedicated T-1 line. MOTION BY PROVOST/NASH to change the service. Beadles expressed concerns with internet reliability. Councilmember Blackmon said that this service uses a dedicated land circuit and the only traffic on that line would be the city's service. Provost added that there is the capability to reroute calls if the lines were down so that service would not be interrupted. Motion carried.

Provost said committee discussed with the city attorney a proposal to change his status from a contract position to a part time employee status. Provost said that there are some questions that

committee would like to have staff address. Discussion will continue during the budget process.

Public Safety: Councilmember Beadles reported that Chief Cooper presented a recap of mutual aid in the valley. Lewiston is planning to make a proposal for ambulance services.

Chief Hastings presented the application for the annual STOP grant for victim services. Committee recommendation is to authorize the application. Chief Hastings will be budgeting for video equipment for two patrol cars from the Drug Enforcement account. Chief Hastings presented a grant application for equipment through the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. Committee recommendation is to authorize the application.

Public Works Committee: Councilmember Nash reported that committee recommends surplus two tar pots from the street department that are no longer of use to the city. Arrow Equipment has offered \$400 for each in cash or trade for merchandise. There is no market for this equipment, so this seems to be a good option.

The WWTP upgrade project is underway.

The Storm water budget will be presented under new business.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Manchester said committee discussed an EMS Field Internship Agreement where EMS students from LCSC would work with our department for training purposes. Committee recommendation is to authorize the agreement.

Community Development: No meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS

A. Stormwater Budget Discussion, Cheryl Sonnen

PWD Martin explained that the Stormwater Management Team has been meeting to prepare a budget for 2013. Adjustment of the ERU rate has been discussed. The management team has proposed that two maintenance positions be created and filled and the ERU rate be reduced to \$4.00. Cheryl presented the proposed Stormwater budget for 2013. Cheryl explained that the management team has representation from all three entities. Cheryl said the team compared the 2012 budget and the proposed 2013 budget. They also reviewed several "what if" scenarios to see what effect a rate change would have on the fund. Reducing the ERU rate to \$4.00 reduces revenue by \$158,000, but the budget was also reduced by \$100,000. Anticipated carryover is about \$595,000, made possible partially by grants that covered a lot of the operating expense. The current grant will be expended by the end of the year. There has been no information on whether future grants will be available. Grant revenues were not considered when the original \$5.00 ERU was determined, so that helped build the reserves. Cheryl explained that there has always been one position in the budget for operations, but it has not been filled. So the team is only looking to add one position in reality. Cheryl explained that if there are revenue shortages, the capital reserve contribution would be reduced.

Councilmember Provost commented that this budget covers all three participating entities.

The proposal would fund the capital reserve at the current rate until \$1 million has been accumulated and then the capital reserve contribution will be reviewed. That should happen by 2015. Using these projections, a rate adjustment would probably be needed by 2018. But the projections will be reviewed annually and recommendations made as necessary. The capital reserves would be used for projects or as matching funds for projects.

PWD Martin said that with the addition of O & M staff, the majority of the maintenance work would be shifted from the entities to the program. This would allow the work to be scheduled on a regular basis instead of when time is available. Having a schedule will make it possible for residents to know when to move their cars so sweeping is more effective. Councilmember Beadles commented that street sweepers are expensive. Martin commented that he had planned to request a new sweeper in the

2013 budget, but this will allow the City to extend the life of our sweeper since it will be used only for extra sweeping and emergency situations. The cost of the O & M would be covered by the \$4 ERU. The City would still be reimbursed for billing expense and management expenses.

Cheryl explained that changes would need to be made to the Interlocal Agreement. It would cover the change in the ERU rate and requires a six-year capital plan from each entity.

Martin said he feels the City should increase the ERU rate that we bill to \$4.00 so that the Current Expense fund would not have to subsidize the service.

B. Resolution No. 2012-10, Surplus Tarpots

PWD Martin said that since the city purchased new equipment for crack sealing, the tarpots are no longer needed. Resolution No. 2012-10 was read by title. MOTION BY NASH/BEADLES to approve Resolution No. 2012-10. Motion carried.

C. Authorize STOP Grant Application

Chief Hastings explained that this grant provides for an advocate to work with domestic violence victims. The grant covers about 200 hours of work. MOTION BY BEADLES/BLACKMON to authorize application of the STOP grant. Motion carried.

D. Authorize Police Equipment Grant Application

Chief Hastings said this grant has been received for several years. This year he would use the grant for two in-vehicle cameras. Total cost of the units and software is about \$14,000. Hastings proposed using funding from the Drug Fund to cover the difference in the equipment cost between grant funding and the total cost.

Councilmember Provost asked Hasting to explain the advantage of having arrests on camera. Hastings said that with the video recording, cases seldom end up going to trial, and also offer better accountability. MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to approve the grant application. Motion carried.

E. EMS Field Internship Agreement with LCSC

Chief Cooper explained that this agreement is with LCSC and would provide training for EMS students, who would ride with Clarkston's ambulance crew. The agreement has been reviewed by counsel and by WCIA. MOTION BY PROVOST/NASH to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement once the indemnification language recommended by WCIA has been added. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Nash said he will no longer be able to participate on the Admin Committee due to his work schedule. Councilmember Provost said either another council member could serve or the committee could change the meeting time. Committee will change the meeting to a time that works with Nash's schedule.

Councilmember Beadles said he had a conversation with Mayor Poole of Lewiston regarding some comments he made earlier and feels better about the situation.

Beadles said this comment expresses his personal feelings. It is in regard to a letter the City sent to the Asotin County Fire District asking to meet with them to discuss mutual aid. Beadles said it is the City's intent to be a good neighbor and cooperate in times of emergency. Beadles said that the letter the City received in response was an insult. He said it felt to him like a slap in the face to the city and the fire department. He said the City has no ax to grind. He said the city and the fire district both have a responsibility to the citizens regardless of where they reside.

Councilmember Provost commented on the AWC regional meeting held in Pullman last week that several attended. He said that AWC discussed their goals in the next legislative session. One goal is to attempt to recover liquor tax revenue that the state took this year. Provost said that the state is also facing continuing budget problems, so the chances of success may be slim.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

Kerri Sandaine of the Tribune asked when the next Public Safety meeting would be held. It will be on November 6 at 4:00.

Veronica Miracle from KLEW asked when the city will reply to the City of Lewiston's letter regarding ambulance service. Beadles said they have asked for a response by November 15.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Vickie Storey, City Clerk

Kathleen A. Warren, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 10/22/12	CK# 52121-22, 52148-223	\$53,276.90
Total Payroll, 10/15/12	CK # 52123-52146	\$122,300.49