

**CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**November 13, 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 22, 2012, Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**A. From the Public**

Bernard McCabe, 1330 10<sup>th</sup> Street, commended the work being done on Highland. He said it seems the needs of the public are being considered. He also commended Todd Richardson for his handling of a case involving McCabe.

**B. From the Mayor**

**C. From Staff**

Chief Cooper thanked the residents of Clarkston for their support of the EMS levy which was approved by more than 72% of the votes. Chief Cooper gave some information about the City's ambulance service and the qualifications of the staff and statistics regarding the services provided.

**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 November 13, 2012 of \$740,342.28. Motion carried.

**Public Safety:** Councilmember Beadles reported Chief Cooper met with neighboring departments about radio channel assignments. The annual Fire Prevention safety program has been completed.

Committee Beadles said committee discussed a letter received from Mayor Poole of Lewiston regarding Lewiston providing ambulance service for Clarkston. MOTION BY BEADLES/BAUMBERGER to send a reply to Lewiston saying that Clarkston is satisfied with the service we are providing to our residents at this time.

Chief Hastings reported the annual 6<sup>th</sup> Street Trick or Treat event was well attended. The Christmas parade will be on December 1. A radio repeater is being installed at the WalMart location to help with better communication coverage.

**Public Works Committee:** Councilmember Nash said the committee had two topics, both of which are on the agenda.

**Admin Committee:** Councilmember Manchester said there was no meeting, but a new meeting

time needs to be set.

**Community Development:** Councilmember Beadles said that the committee discussed three inquiries the City received – one about additional handicap accessible fishing ramps; one about providing a home for unwed mothers; and one about developing a dog park. Beadles suggested that a copy of the committee meetings be sent to each person. MOTION BY BEADLES.SMITH to send a copy of the minutes to each individual. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

#### **Public Hearing on Revenue Sources for 2013 Budget & Consideration of Property Tax Increase**

Mayor Warren opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. Clerk Storey reviewed the 2013 anticipated General Fund revenues compared to the 2012 estimates. She said that while it appears that 2013 will generate about \$100,000 in additional revenue, it is due to the new FEMA grant which is being used to hire two additional firefighters. Most other revenue sources are being planned flat with a decrease in state entitlements due to the liquor revenue the state has taken away. Storey said that the preliminary budget includes a 1% increase in property tax, which council will need to decide to impose or not.

Bernie McCabe, 1330 10<sup>th</sup> St, asked about the property tax increase. Storey replied that each taxing entity can make a decision on whether to take an increase. The City currently splits property tax between General Fund and Street Fund, 60/40.

Mayor Warren closed the hearing at 7:25 p.m.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Budget Request – Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau, Michelle Peters**

Michelle Peters requested funding for the HCVB. She is requesting \$75,000, the same as this year. Peters said her office has been relocated to 847 Port Way. Signs have been put up to direct visitors to the office. Peters provided a packet of information to council last week. Peters said the state no longer has a tourism department. Asotin County has 716 jobs in the Leisure and Hospitality sector in 2011. Peters said that website visits are up 40% over the previous year.

Councilmember Nash thanked Peters for working within the budget allowed by the city. Councilmember Provost asked where the web visits are from. Peters said they do have stats and the majority of inquiries are from the Spokane area.

#### **B. Budget Request – Chamber of Commerce, Kristen Kemak**

Kristen Kemak requested funding on behalf of the Chamber. She thanked the council for past support. The Chamber has reduced their original funding request to \$14,000. The Chamber plays a supporting role in the tourism arena. The Chamber would use funding for a visitor center and to provide response to inquiries. The Chamber partners with HCVB to promote tourism in the valley.

Councilmember Nash asked how much the Lodging Tax generates. Clerk Storey said this year we anticipate \$78,000 and the same is planned for next year.

#### **C. Recommendation on Property Tax Levy for 2013**

Clerk Storey gave a recap of the property tax rates and asked council for direction.

Councilmember Provost commented that in the past the city has forgone the 1% allowable increase for several years. That seems good on the surface, but in the long run it puts the city behind in their ability to maintain services. Councilmember Beadles agreed that the city should opt in for the 1% increase. Councilmember Nash said he wants to be careful with the citizens needs also because everyone's budgets are strained.

MOTION BY BEADLES/BLACKMON to prepare a resolution to adopt the property tax levy with a 1% increase for the next meeting. Motion carried; 6-1, Smith opposed.

**D. Contract for Punch List Items on Public Safety Building, S & S Contractors**

PWD Martin explained that the city is trying to get the public safety building finished so the project can be closed out. The city received a quote for the remaining two items on the punch list from S&S Contractors for \$2,257.50. MOTION BY BEADLES/NASH to approve the agreement. Nash asked where the money would come from. Storey said we are still holding funds and would prepare a deductive change order for the cost. Motion carried.

**E. Discussion of Stormwater Program**

PWD Martin said he supplied information previously regarding the proposed stormwater budget and the hiring of staff to perform maintenance. The proposal is to reduce the ERU rate from \$5.00 to \$4.00, which will run the program and still allow for the funding of the capital reserve fund. He asked council for direction to prepare a resolution to move forward with the proposed changes. Beadles said he would like to see the city move forward with the agreement. Nash said he has had some citizens complain about leaves covering the storm drains and hopes this plan will help.

Cheryl Sonnen said that Asotin County is having a public hearing next week on changing the fees. They hope to have all the resolutions in place by the 26<sup>th</sup>. City of Asotin has already approved the changes.

MOTION BY PROVOST/BEADLES to bring a resolution adopting the revised Interlocal and increasing the city’s stormwater forward at the next meeting. Motion carried; 5-1-1; Smith opposed, Baumberger abstained.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Beadles commented that he is on the County Lodging Tax Committee. He said he is impressed with the information Michelle has provided and the visitor booklet.

Councilmember Nash asked for clarification of the Lodging Tax. Storey said our revenue is about \$78,000 and funding requests are \$90,000. The difference comes from interest earnings and the capital from the sale of the convention center.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Litigation and Personnel

Council adjourned to executive session at 7:52 p.m. Session is expected to last about 20 minutes with no decisions as a result of the session. The first five minutes will be devoted to litigation and 15 minutes will be allowed for Bernie McCabe to bring a personnel related complaint. Council came out of executive session at 8:22 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

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Vickie Storey, City Clerk

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Kathleen A. Warren, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 11/13/12	CK#52285-52383	\$477,162.86
Total Payroll, 10/31/12	CK #52227-52284	\$263,179.42