

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
February 13, 2017

ROLL CALL: Skate Pierce, Terry Beadles, Brian Kolstad, Monika Beauchamp, Kelly Blackmon, John Murray, Belinda Campbell.

STAFF: Chief Cooper, Chief Hastings, PWD Martin, Clerk Austin, City Attorney Richardson

AGENDA CHANGES: Add approval of minutes of the February 10, 2017, Special Council Meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 23, 2017, Regular Meeting and February 10, 2017, Special Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public:

Janet Marugg, 2618 Sunset Court
Penny Elliott, 0149 Meador Street, Asotin
Irene Appleton, 1303 4th Street, Asotin
Alice White, 742 13th Street
Lori Wilponen, 1583 Poplar Street
Richard Eggleston, 3495 Clemans Road
Beverly Miles, 1302 13th Street
Russ Evans, 404 8th Street
Kit Wickencamp 2132 Schaefer Drive
Cambria Sullivan, 935 4th Street
Richard Hayward, 1480 Terrace Drive
Joe Appleton, 1303 4th Street, Asotin
Ian Pecoff, 1371 Fair Street
George Elliott, 0149 Meador Street, Asotin
Val Mundell, 1438 Greco Drive
Karen Jewel, 2240 6th Ave
Tammy McKeen, 1361 Maple Street, Asotin
Jackson Vance, 908 10th Street
Erica Wilponen, 1583 Poplar Street
Duane Akkerman, 1335 9th Street
Llewellyn Jewel, 2240 6th Ave
Rick Tousley, 3214 Meadowlark Drive, Lewiston
Tanner Brammell, 721 8th Street

B. From Mayor:

Mayor Lawrence advised she has asked the Chief of Police to make a few comments regarding Sanctuary Cities and the process regarding Law Enforcement in Clarkston. She also mentioned receiving a thank-you note from Valley Vision.

C. From Staff:

Chief Hastings advised that the local police enforce state and local laws, not federal laws. They do cooperate with federal agencies. Some instances require Law Enforcement to identify status of individuals in order to maintain safety for the community. The goals are to keep the community safe regardless of who you are.

City Attorney Richardson mentioned there had been a hearing this afternoon regarding Krause vs. City – involving a car versus a motorcycle accident – alleging that the City had negligently designed the intersection at 5th Street and Fair Street. The case was dismissed because the law had not been followed to establish the lawsuit. If it had proceeded the Council has reviewed the intersection and it is correct also.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Councilmember Beadles reported the bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for the January 31, 2017 EOM period of \$561.33, for February 13, 2017 period of \$492,166.31. MOTION BY BEADLES/KOLSTAD to approve the bills as read. Motion carried.

Public Safety: Councilmember Beadles reported on the February 7 meeting. He advised that a Traffic Safety Grant approval has been received that will cover 50% purchase of a new radar unit for a patrol vehicle. It was discussed that the Asotin County Democrats may address the council about immigration issues. The town hall meeting discussing options for the City concerning Fire and EMS services will be February 22, 2017 at the Asotin County Fire District #1 new station. Replacing old fire hydrants was discussed. PUD provided a list of locations where repairs are scheduled. (Agenda item) A draft of standards of cover for the Fire Department and Ambulance revenue was presented by Chief Cooper. There was discussion of the SAFER Grant application, and pagers were loaned out for council and Mayor to monitor Fire/EMS calls of the valley.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported on the February 7 meeting. A Curbside Recycling Program request for proposal is being prepared. Single Stream recycling is the only option being considered. The proposals will be due around the time that PWD Martin's replacement will begin working. This will allow PWD Martin to assist, with the majority of the project to be overseen by the new Public Works Director. The DOT will resurface Bridge Street, including installation of new curbs and ADA compliant ramps. In addition, a new, lighted crosswalk will be installed for Grantham Elementary students crossing Bridge Street. There has been no further development on the Rotary Shelter at Beachview Park. The MPO is reviewing the possibility of funding a Transportation Benefit District Plan. This would include open houses for public input. There will need to be a reevaluation of using Lodging Tax money for Vernon Park. It will need to be investigated to provide the right question to MRSC.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Blackmon reported on this evening's meeting. Ordinance 1579 was discussed regarding references to CMC 2.44 that had previously been repealed. (Agenda Item) Elaine Goodner and several members of the rental property owners association were present regarding discussion of business licenses for rental property owners.

Community Development: Councilmember Beauchamp reported on the February 2 meeting. Janet Marugg and Richard Hayward discussed concerns with President Trump's Muslim ban and other actions that would endanger the safety of Clarkston residents. There was discussion of a resolution that Janet found from several WA cities addressing their stance on discrimination. Also discussed was the possibility of a religious registry and ramifications if established. There was discussion regarding the hardware for pole banners for Bicycle Month in May. MPO funds will probably be available to pay for banners, but we need to research the time and costs will be needed for the City to hang them. There needs to be consistency with Lewiston, so the next step will be to discuss with Lewiston Public Works to find out what hardware they use.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Schedule Town Hall Meeting for discussion of Fire Department Options:

Mayor Lawrence advised that the Town Hall Meeting would be held on February 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm. The location will be the ACFD #1 building at 2377 Appleside Blvd. The expectations for meeting, and need for a moderator were discussed.

Councilmember Murray asked what format would be used.

Councilmember Pierce said there was a stage there, and the council could probably face the audience so they could address any question directly. He stated that a moderator would be good for time limits. He also suggested that the council may want to have questions written down so that if there is no answer, they could respond at a later time. He suggested that there would be separate times for residents of Clarkston, Asotin County, and Lewiston to speak. The moderator would be able to keep the discussion flowing. The fire chiefs should also be there with council to answer the bulk of the questions.

Mayor Lawrence said she has a name of a moderator that the City had used previously.

Councilmember Campbell asked if there would be a time limit for the meeting. She suggested that maybe those with questions sign could sign in so that they could estimate how long it would take.

Councilmember Beauchamp asked if there had been a set time limit for how long the meeting would last.

Councilmember Pierce suggested to have time after to meet with constituents.

Councilmember Murray asked if the City would need to provide refreshments.

Councilmember Beadles advised that maybe Commissioner Shinn could provide some pointers since Asotin County had a few town hall meetings.

Commissioner Shinn stated that the City Council seems to be covering most issues. He advised that everyone needs a chance to talk, and they had the questions written down when they had their meetings.

Councilmember Beauchamp suggested that there be a "back & forth" dialogue, instead of separate comment times by the council and public.

Councilmember Pierce advised that it should be with Fire Chiefs.

Councilmember Blackmon said it should be a discussion.

Councilmember Pierce suggested a time limit of 3 minutes for questions and 3 minutes for answers.

Commissioner Shinn advised the council to be careful of passionate debate that takes away time and focus.

Mayor Lawrence suggested giving everyone time to speak before any were allowed a second speaking opportunity.

Chief Cooper advised that the fire chiefs may not be able to answer in 3 minutes.

Councilmember Blackmon said they should have more at the discretion of the moderator.

Chief Cooper suggested an order could be an overview by chiefs that would allow council to ask questions, or make statements, followed by questions from the community.

City Attorney Richardson advised not to make statements or opinions of where the council is leaning toward in their decision.

Chief Cooper suggested having 2 lines with mics on each side in the aisles. People could line up to speak in turn. There may need to be someone with a mic that would take it to those that weren't able to come to the line due to a disability.

Councilmember Campbell asked about sound system and was advised that it was very adequate.

Mayor Lawrence advised that any other suggestions can be emailed to her and that everyone is welcome to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Replacement of older fire hydrants. Request for budget amendment. (Public Safety)

Chief Cooper commented on the water line project from PUD. This will allow for installation or replacement of fire hydrants during the PUD work. There is a proposal to install 3 new hydrants, and replace 3 older hydrants. The total cost is \$16,950.00 to install and replace the 6 hydrants.

Councilmember Blackmon asked for clarification on the location of the hydrants. A motion to approve the budget and replace/install the hydrants was made by Councilmember Blackmon and seconded by Councilmember Beauchamp. Motion carried

B. Ordinance No. 1579 Amending CMC 2.76, 1st Reading

C. Ordinance No. 1580 Amending CMC 15.40 – Building Permit Fees, 1st Reading

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Beadles recognized his granddaughter in the audience. He asked that instead of focusing on Clarkston as a sanctuary city, if you need a drum to beat, the community should build a new high school.

Councilmember Murray had a question for the public works committee regarding there being no new development on Rotary shelter. PWD Martin advised that we are waiting to hear back from Rotary on where they are with the plan. We are also waiting for a response from Avista because of the materials they would provide to build the shelter.

Councilmember Murray thanked Chief Hastings on providing the procedures for checking immigrant status by officers.

Councilmember Blackmon thanked everyone for coming. He said he was always pleased when the community takes interest. He stated that although it was a bad rumor, hopefully we will have same interest in the Fire Department town hall meeting.

Councilmember Pierce also thanked everyone for coming. He said the council takes an oath to abide by WA State constitution, and the US constitution. He said he lives here because he made a choice to live here based on the compassion of the City and compassion of the State. He said he was not sure if any action that could be taken would not be redundant. He said there is no interest in being a sanctuary city. Councilmember Pierce asked Chief Hastings when the status is checked at the jail if it is the first step or the only time for checking the immigration status. Chief Hastings said that when they come to jail, the jail does a background check. The jail commander tells me that in the last 2 years there has only been one arrest in the jail that ICE had interest in.

Councilmember Beauchamp gave kudos to the City Clerk for keeping the minutes of the meeting. She stated that her personal experience from when Janet Marugg brought up a woman at Community Development meeting that would be affected by action that Trump has taken. The woman had been brought here as a young child, not by her own choice. She is now a nurse. She was able to attend school on the Dream Act. This woman cares about her community. Councilmember Beauchamp said that the term “Illegals” as description of immigrants is not always correct. Laws are both good and bad. The council is the legislative branch, we make the laws, and it is our job to protect our town. If this woman was deported (she has 2 kids), she would be torn from her family. The fact that people came out from a rumor is alarming. She said she didn’t know where the rumor came from, or how it started. She reiterated what Councilmember Beadles said, get the drum beating for a new high school. Tonight the discussions were how people are not discriminated against. It is inappropriate to come here talking about what we are not doing. When you talk of safe place, it means that you recognize some in our community are treated differently. We need to reaffirm state constitution and protect the community. Councilmember Beauchamp related her experience in Spokane with illegal immigrants brought from Russia to be sex workers that were afraid to contact police.

Councilmember Kolstad commented on there being only one incident where ICE involved in one issue, over the past 2 years. He also suggested that everyone read “The Culture of Fear” a book by Barry Glassner. A lot of what both sides discussed is unnecessary fear. The media does a good job of making us afraid. We need to work more as a community to be less afraid.

Councilmember Campbell state that Janet [Marugg] is doing a good job of stirring the pot. She advised that she respects her opinion. She stated that she applauds everyone who spoke tonight. It is hard to get up and speak before such a diverse crowd. Thanks for coming and speaking your mind.

Councilmember Pierce commented on business licenses being required for rental property owners. He said he sides with PWD that the issue comes with a lot of work. He said he thinks we should let it die and move on.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, Jan 17 EOM	Ck # 63308 & EFT	\$561.33
Total Fund Expenditures, 2/13/17	Ck # 63357 - 63459	\$191, 163.08
Payroll, 1/31/17	Ck # 63309 - 63350	\$300, 946.23