

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 10, 2017

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

STAFF: Chief Hastings, Chief Cooper, PWD Poole, Clerk Austin

AGENDA CHANGES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the June 26, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

2017 GOVERNOR’S SMART COMMUNITIES JUDGES’ MERIT AWARD PRESENTATION

City of Clarkston, Town of Starbuck, Asotin County, Columbia County, and Garfield County

Will Simpson with the Department of Commerce presented awards to communities involved with the Southeast Washington Coalition Shoreline Master Plan. The Department of Ecology approved the plan without a single change and in accordance with the budget. Awards were accepted by: Kim Lyonais representing Columbia County; Merle Jackson with Columbia County; Karst Riggers, Asotin County Planner; Jim Jeffords, Asotin County; Grant Morgan, Garfield County; Merle Jackson for City of Starbuck, Don Brigham with Brigham and Associates that helped with the coordination and development. Kim Lyonais from Columbia County explained the process of joining together to complete the state process required on the shoreline master plan. He spoke on the risk involved in creating a regional plan, and thanked the elected officials for support of this plan. Asotin County Commissioner Brian Shinn recognized Don Brigham for undertaking the majority of the project, explaining that the elected said “Yes,” but Brigham’s team did the actual coordination of the plan.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: None

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence thanked waste water treatment employees for receiving an award for outstanding quality clear water standards for the third year and in a row. PWD Poole was asked to explain the difference in upkeep versus replacements on streets and sidewalks. PWD Poole advised that for a mile of street and sidewalk, it is \$35,000 to upkeep, and about \$2 million to replace. The Mayor announced that Jim Ahlers is retiring after 28 years with the City. There will be cake and a presentation at City Hall, Wednesday at 2pm. The Mayor corrected some misinformation that has shown up in a couple of letters to editor of the Lewiston Tribune, stating that the City of Clarkston has a vehicle tab fee of \$30. This is incorrect. The Mayor gave the history of the Transportation Benefit District regarding collection of fees. The City had a \$20 vehicle tab fee before it was repealed by a vote of the citizens of Clarkston in April 2016 by margin of 61% and replaced with a 2/10% sales & use tax fee.

C. From Staff or Employees: Chief Cooper shared that there were no fires in the City during the July 4th period, even though many fireworks were set off. PWD Poole reported that the 2017 advertisement for the road maintenance plan would be advertised tomorrow. The plan includes seal-coating for 15 streets, and 12,000 yards of scrub coat. The project should be going on in August. Councilmember Kolstad asked if the street maintenance was going to be undertaken so that it doesn’t disrupt in coordination with other construction projects. PWD Poole advised that was part of the plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Councilmember Beadles reported the bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for the July 10, 2017 period of \$252,313.75. MOTION BY BEADLES/KOLSTAD to approve the bills as read. Motion carried.

Public Safety: Councilmember Beadles reported on the July 6 meeting: Chief Cooper discussed the ambulance budget for 2018. The Chief would like to present information at the July 24th Council meeting. The Chief feels that the GMT supplemental payment for Medicaid charges is still a possibility. Our ambulance billing system through System Design is working great. Replacement options for an ambulance include: remount box on a new chassis, used ambulance, purchase a demo unit, or purchase new. Future budget considerations include: replacement SCBA units and new defib units. The 2018 budget will include the maximum 2.5% CPI and premiums for the 250 health plan.

Chief Hastings stated that he is pleased with the number of calls and problems that were reported involving fireworks. The police department will assist with the upcoming July 29th Rockin' on the River event. The found property that the police department takes in will be listed on Twitter for citizen review.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported on the June 20 Meeting. We discussed a needed amendment to the Transportation Benefit District wording. Transportation Improvement Board grant is due in August of 2018. It is intended for roads, pavement preservation and sidewalks on Arterial Roads. Bids for seal coating going out on 7/8. Bids open 7/24 We had 22 street cut permits out. We will have 20 of them repaired by the contractor responsible. The remaining two will be repaired by the city. All will be completed by the end of the month. We received a letter from the Department of Ecology commending the city and our Wastewater Treatment Facility and crew for outstanding wastewater treatment. We were one of roughly 100 municipalities in the state that achieved 100% compliance. We discussed the Federal Lands Access Program grant (FLAP). Anywhere the city can access federal lands, we are qualified to get grant money to improve the city's access to those federal lands. Examples are the hill to Chestnut Beach, the sidewalk down to the levy path at the end of the Interstate Bridge, the empty parcel of land at the end of Highland Ave.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Blackmon Discussed the letters to editor that were read by Mayor. Clerk Austin discussed information on business licenses.

Community Development: Did not meet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

A. Ordinance 1581 – Amending Transportation Benefit District (2nd Reading)
COUNCILMEMBER PIERCE/BLACKMON THEN BLACKMON/PIERCE. Motion carried as amended.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Blackmon thanked the citizens of Clarkston for not causing any fires over the July 4 holiday, but noted that the streets on the commute on July 5 was littered with garbage. Councilmember Beadles commented that he observed, later in the morning, people picking up litter. Councilmember Pierce mentioned that the Beachview and Parkway restrooms were closed, and asked if the City would like to have those open or other options for next year. Councilmember Campbell

heard that the first mutual aid call went very well. Chief Cooper advised that the area firefighters are excellent. They have responded to a few automatic aid calls in the community, with cooperation of the local agencies that is really rewarding. One of the fires were at Vista Outdoors. Councilmember Beadles, commended everyone involved in shoreline study. Councilmember Blackmon enquired about the fire engine that had mechanical issues. Chief Cooper advised that it is at Kenworth in Lewiston getting warranty work done.

PRESS QUESTIONS: No questions from the press.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:41p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 7/10/17	Ck # 64349-64406	\$172,858.19
Payroll, 7/5/17	Ck # 64311-64346	\$318,589.06