

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 28, 2015

COUNCIL:

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|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beadles | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nash |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provost | <input type="checkbox"/> Manchester, excused |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kolstad | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blackmon |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White | |

Motion by Beadles/Provost to excuse Manchester. Motion carried.

STAFF:

- Chief Hastings Chief Cooper Clerk Storey City Attorney Grow PWD Martin

AGENDA CHANGES: Motion By Beadles/Provost to limit public comment to 15 minutes. Motion carried; 4-2, Kolstad and Nash opposed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION BY BEADLES/BLACKMON to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2015, Regular Meeting. Nash corrected Sandy Fromdahl's address. It should be 1759. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public:

Tom Martin, 421 11th, thanked PWD Martin for contacting the state. He said the access to the crossing lights have been corrected by the state so they are handicap accessible. Martin asked why Admin Committee minutes are not with the agenda. Mayor Warren said they will be included in the next agenda packet. Martin addressed a comment he attributed to Councilmember Beadles that votes of the public do not count. He again asked for the resignation of all councilmembers except for Kolstad, saying they have violated Article 15 of the Constitution. He said he will be contacting the ACLU to take action.

Colleen Squires, 1216 20th Ave, asked how someone who lives in the community can have a conversation with any of the council.

Ty Aiken, 1135 11th Street, asked the status of a traffic light at 13th & Highland that has been discussed. He was concerned that there is not enough room to stack traffic if a light were installed. He suggested marking the stop signs at the four-way stop to inform people who should have the right-of-way at the intersection. Provost asked who governs traffic signals. PWD Martin said the City only owns own traffic signal, but they are supposed to be communicating with each other. Martin said if a signal was installed at 13th & Highland, it would belong to the city.

B. From the Mayor:

Mayor Warren stated that the City's website has contact information for each councilmember. There is also a list of contact numbers available at City Hall.

Mayor Warren announced that Councilmember Manchester has submitted his resignation, effective September 30. She suggested that since it is so close to election, it would make sense to leave the position vacant and appoint whomever is elected to that position.

Mayor Warren reminded council that the AWC regional meeting will be held in Pullman on October 8. If any councilmembers are interested in attending they should get registered as soon as possible.

The City's health insurance provider is conducting a health screening event on October 15. Council is eligible to participate.

There is a candidate's forum on October 7 at 7:00.

From Staff:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Councilmember Provost reported that committee has reviewed the bills. MOTION BY PROVOST/BLACKMON to approve the September 28, 2015 invoices for \$278,027.44. Motion carried.

Public Safety: Councilmember Beadles reported on the Sep. 15 meeting. Chief Cooper will request a grant increase for the brush truck. He said the request has been approved. The fire department is preparing for an upcoming fire rating review. Chief Hastings discussed the STOP grant. It is on the agenda for approval. There is also a Washington Traffic Safety grant application of the agenda. Street bumps were discussed as a means of traffic calming. Chief Hastings will discuss locking the public restrooms on the green belt trails with the Corps.

Public Works: Councilmember Nash reported on the September 16 meeting. Quality Behavioral has requested to have a parking space designated a loading zone. The City's share of the Southway Bridge Overlay Study will be \$12,500. Engineering firm interviews will be on October 21. Asotin County landfill is increasing the tipping fee rate and going to a 10 year flat rate. It could mean an increase of \$1.50 to \$2.00 per month to our customers. Continued discussion on rental business licenses. Community Garden would like to teach bee keeping at their location. However, bee keeping is against city code. Discussed designating the alley behind the post office as a one way alley. Discussed traffic calming ideas for Riverview. There was a request for curbside recycling. Discussion of needed sidewalk repairs.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Nash said committee discussed a personnel item which will be reported on in executive session.

Community Development: Councilmember Beadles reported on the September 15 meeting. The mayor and several council members received a request to petition the State for a mandate requiring 10% solar power by the year 2025. Committee was split on the issue. DAR requested a proclamation, which is on the agenda. Committee will recommend the appointment of Danielle Conklin of the Quality Inn for the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. Discussed Ordinance 1545, Council Meeting Procedures. Committee feels that an abstention should be viewed as a non-vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance No. 1543, Code of Ethics, 2nd Reading for Action

Ordinance No. 1543 was read by title. MOTION BY PROVOST/BEADLES to approve Ordinance No. 1543. Councilmember Blackmon asked if the concerns expressed had been resolved. City Attorney Grow said he believes the revised ordinance addresses those concerns. Councilmember Kolstad said he raised some of those concerns and is satisfied with this ordinance. Motion carried.

B. Ordinance No. 1546, Budget Amendment, 2nd Reading for Action

Ordinance No. 1546 was read by title. MOTION BY NASH/BEADLES to approve Ordinance No. 1546. Kolstad asked if the expenditures have already been made. Clerk Storey said some have, however the budget is adopted by fund and the fund allotments have not been exceeded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Dept of Ecology Award to Wastewater Treatment Plant

Kim Prisock, DOE, was present to present an award to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and staff for 2014 performance. She commented that the plant is in operation 24 hours a day and people often don't think about it as long as it works properly, and the people who operate the plant don't get a lot of recognition. She said the recently completed upgrades have made the plant very efficient. The wastewater is treated with ultraviolet light and uses very few chemicals. She elaborated on the improvements that were made and urged the council to tour the plant and see how it operates. This award is the result of perfect compliance for an entire year, reports are completed on time, test results are within acceptable range and the plant is operated safely and properly. Clarkston is one of 127 plants who have won the award and it is the 3rd time Clarkston has won the award.

Kim recognized the WWTP staff and presented a plaque to the City. Wes Ison thanked the council for the support they give to the staff.

B. Ordinance No. 1547 Zoning Map Change, 1st Reading

Ordinance No. 1547 was read by title.

C. Ordinance No. 1545, Council Rules of Procedure, 1st Reading

Ordinance No. 1545 was read by title.

D. Proclamation, Constitution Week

The proclamation was read. MOTION BY BEADLES/NASH to authorize the mayor to sign the proclamation. Beadles explained that it is past the date of the Constitution Week because of the committee process that it went through. Motion carried.

E. Appoint Danielle Conklin to Lodging Tax Advisory

MOTION BY BEADLES/KOLSTAD to appoint Danielle Conklin to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

F. Washington Traffic Safety Commission Grant

Chief Hastings explained that this is a similar grant to previous years'. The purpose is to emphasize certain traffic issues such as DUI, seatbelts and distracted driving. MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to authorize the grant application. Motion carried.

G. STOP Grant Application

Chief Hastings said the STOP grant is a collaborative effort with the YWCA and the prosecutor's office. It serves mostly as an advocate for domestic violence victims. MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to authorize the grant application. Motion carried.

H. Authorization for City Share of Southway Bridge Overlay Study

PWD Martin advised that the Southway Bridge is in need of resurfacing. The four entities that are responsible for maintenance are in the process of choosing an engineering firm to perform a study on the improvement needs. The City's share of the cost of the study is \$12,500. Martin asked the council to approve the expenditure and authorize payment from Current Expense Reserve. MOTION BY NASH/BEADLES to authorize the expenditure from CE Reserve. Councilmember White commented that the City is in an agreement for maintenance of the bridge and there is no choice except to honor the agreement. Beadles asked if there will be grant funding available for the actual repairs. Martin said that funding is part of the study. Motion carried; 5-1, Kolstad opposed.

I. Discussion of Court Services

Councilmember Beadles said committee has met twice with City of Asotin, who had proposed operating a court and having the City of Clarkston participate. Asotin had approached Asotin County about renting courtroom space and was not successful. City of Asotin needs a response so they can proceed with their plans. Beadles said he was concerned that Asotin would not be able to operate a court for the suggested cost. He said he would like to see the City continue an agreement with Asotin County for court services. Provost said the direction has changed over the course of discussions. He said sometimes it seems that a conflict between the city and the judge is driving the proposal. He would recommend that the City remain with the County for court services and if the City wants to study a change, go through that process in the future. Beadles asked City Attorney Grow if he has an opinion. Grow said he does not have an opinion and feels court is working pretty well at this time. Mayor Warren confirmed with Commissioner Shinn (in the audience) that the County needs a response by October 29. Shinn said the October date is a result of a requirement to give a one year notice and that notice was given last October. Beadles said Todd Richardson is reviewing the proposed agreement the City received from Asotin County. MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to decline the City of Asotin's proposal to join with them in a court endeavor.

Kolstad commented that this whole issue started because of finances and asked if that has been resolved. Grow said there are many cost issues that are unanswered in City of Asotin’s proposal. Kolstad said he thought the County had proposed to raise the rates to a level that the council found unacceptable. Grow said the rates are not far out of line with what other jurisdictions charge. Beadles said that Richardson is working on some issues in the agreement that Asotin County proposed. Kolstad asked if the rates proposed by Asotin County have been agreed upon. Grow said he doesn’t feel comfortable with the rates. Kolstad clarified that if we turn down City of Asotin, then we are saying that we plan to work out an agreement with the County. Grow said his concern is that the proposed \$130 per criminal citation is such an increase from the \$40 currently being paid. Commissioner Shinn reminded council that there was a lot of discussion about rates and the tiered approach was settled on. Shinn said he thought council was on board with those fees after the last discussion. Beadles asked Mayor Warren to thank Asotin for the work they have done on their proposal. Kolstad asked when the deadline is to reach agreement with Asotin County. Shinn reminded council that they have been discussing this for three years and now it seems that the city wants to start negotiating again. Shinn said even with the current proposed rates the county would still be subsidizing court costs by \$48,000 annually. MOTION BY WHITE/PROVOST TO CALL THE QUESTION. Motion carried. Motion to send City of Asotin a letter declining court carried.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Blackmon commented that he would like to see one of the committees present an ordinance to allow bee keeping and possibly also chickens and rabbits. White said one of the comments during discussion was liability. The proposed location for the bee keeping is adjacent to a daycare. Beadles said Community Development committee is meeting with a representative from the organization that proposed the change.

Councilmember Kolstad said he thinks having bees at the Community Garden would be a good thing.

Kolstad commented that the recent news that juveniles could be charged with a felony for possession of marijuana concerned him. He said he spoke with Chief Hastings and was happy to see that the prosecutor was able to make changes. He felt it was too severe to impact young lives with felony charges for possession of marijuana. Beadles commented that the law was passed by the state legislature.

Councilmember White said she was asked if maintenance for the brush truck is included in the cost and where it will be housed. Chief Cooper said maintenance is included in the annual budget and this year’s budget will include a request to construct a shelter for the vehicle.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council went to Executive Session at 8:16 to discuss personnel. Anticipated length of session is 25 minutes and action may be taken as a result of the session. Council returned to open session at 8:43 p.m.

Motion by Provost/Beadles to give a 5% increase in response to the reclassification request for the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer and Secretary positions based on budget constraints and change the Secretary job title to Finance Clerical Assistant. Kolstad said he feels like a bigger adjustment is warranted. Motion carried; 5-1, Kolstad opposed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Vickie Storey, City Clerk

Kathleen A. Warren, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 9/28/15	59990, 60013-79, 9058996	\$149,416.22
Payroll, 9/15/15	59991-60012	\$128,611.22