

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 27, 2020

ROLL CALL: Skate Pierce, Pat Holman, Steven Ebert, Melyssa Andrews, Russ Evans, and John Murray. Belinda Larsen excused on MOTION BY ANDREWS/HOLMAN
STAFF: Chief Hastings, Chief Baskett, PWD Poole, Clerk Austin.

AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 13, 2020 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: Bill Cook, 834 13th Street

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence advised that the City had received 11 applications for Fire Chief so far. The committee will interview the top applicants next week. The State Audit exit interview will be on February 14 at 10am. Councilmembers are invited to attend. If more than three attend, we will have to advertise as an open meeting. Mayor Lawrence advised that she received a nice thank you card from Wreaths Across America for attendance at the event in December. She reminded Council that the memorial placing the “Don’t Drink & Drive” sign at 6th and Chestnut would take place tomorrow January 28 at 1:30pm. There will be family members, students and the press attending.

C. From Staff or Employees: Clerk Austin advised that the City of Asotin will host an open government training March 21 in Asotin. Councilmembers can attend for free, and it will count as the continuing training that is needed for elected officials. Chief Baskett gave an update on HB 2462. He traveled to Olympia to meet with the Committee. Lewiston Fire Chief Myklebust also attended. The hearing went well, and all indications are that it will be approved by a nonpartisan vote to send to the full house. Chief Baskett thanked the Civil Service Board for the interviews that were conducted for the open position. PWD Poole presented Council with a draft letter regarding commercial dumpsters that he would like to send to businesses giving the option of renting from the City or another vendor. He advised he was working with Attorney Richardson on the language and has identified at least 20 businesses that will need the dumpsters repaired or replaced.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Councilmember Murray reported that the Committee discussed the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and reviewed and approved the bills for payment. Total expenditures for the December 2019 Open Period of \$691,333.95 and January 27, 2020 period of \$198,125.26. MOTION BY ANDREWS/MURRAY to approve the bills as read. Motion Carried

Public Safety: Mayor Lawrence advised there was no meeting.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported on the January 21st meeting. The committee received an update on the Bridge/Diagonal/2nd Street Intersection design project. There was a meeting to go over the stakeholder’s input. A chart was presented that gives each of the stakeholders preferred plans. The City will receive a list of the three best options in the future. The channeled roundabout appears to be the preferred model for the stakeholders. The committee received an update on the 8th/Elm/Diagonal Street Project. Alternatives were presented for this intersection. Currently the intersection operates at an adequate level of service, but there are quite a few injury accidents at this intersection. There was an update on the Ecology Storm Water grant applications. It does not appear that the City will receive any

grant money for the projects. The WWTP outfall easement from the DNR was discussed. The City needs to take a sample of the effluent going out into the river. We do not foresee a problem with our application based on this. The static billboard is out for advertisement. The bids will be scored at the public works committee meeting after the February 3 deadline. The City Hall HVAC maintenance contract is out for quotes. A contract is required by the state. The Committee received an update on the Highway Safety Plan. Consultant costs are projected to be between \$12-14,000. We're eligible for federal matching programs to improve safety along Diagonal and at the 13th and Highland intersection. For \$14,000 we could possibly receive \$1.36 million in matched funds. PWD Pool advised that there was a new hire in the sanitation department. The new hire can fill a lot of our needs. The City had an insurance claim on an accident on 6th and Chestnut. McCall's Classic Construction is billing the insurance company to replace the handrail that was destroyed. PWD reminded the committee that the Don't Drink and Drive sign dedication is on January 28 at 1:30pm at the intersection of 6th and Chestnut.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Pierce reported that the Board of Health met earlier today. They discussed the financial numbers, noting that the Board finished the year \$41,000 to the good. They kept a tight budget. The Board discussed "Pop-up pantries" that have appeared in Asotin and behind the Clarkston Post Office. Our health dept and food inspection officials have problems with how they are operated. The Doctor of Public Health gave an update on the Corona Virus outbreak. The CDC is monitoring and has determined that it is not as virulent as the MRS Strain and SARS strain. Councilmember Ebert reported on the SEWEDA meeting. They discussed charging stations for electric vehicles and the 2020 Census. Councilmember Evans reported on the Visit LC Valley Meeting on January 15. He advised expenditures were slightly over budget, due to a 5% reduction in lodging tax revenue. The Director would like to present an update to Council at the last meeting in February. Mayor Lawrence gave an update on Census committee. She advised that the City would lose \$2000-\$2200 for each person not counted. This year citizens can reply to the Census questionnaire online. She also advised that City staff will wear Census t-shirts every Friday.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement – PUD (Finance) MOTION BY MURRAY/HOLMAN to authorize Mayor to sign agreement. Motion Carried

B. Presentation of Asotin County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Northwest Management Mayor Lawrence introduced Asotin County Emergency Management Director Mark Janowski. Janowski advised that this was a three county, regional plan. The last plan expired in 2016. He advised that he looked at all of the plans for his department and this was oldest and took priority because it was expired. The City agreed to developing the plan in 2017 with a letter of participation. A grant was awarded in 2018 to complete the plan, and a contract for development was signed in 2019. There was a 25% match required and will be satisfied by in-kind participation. Currently PWD Poole and Chief Baskett have been participating in the development of the plan. He introduced Adam Herrenbruck with Northwest Management, the firm selected from the RFQs submitted for the plan. Herrenbruck explained mitigation planning was required by FEMA before a disaster occurs. It will help Asotin County and Adopting Jurisdictions to secure mitigation funding. The plan includes hazard and risk assessment. Each participation community has a list of projects that will be addressed. Mayor Lawrence confirmed that there will be public meetings as the plans is developed. Chief Baskett asked when the five-year time period would begin with the new plan. Herrenbruck advised that it would begin when it is adopted by resolution. Councilmember Evans advised the plan was a good idea. Janowski advised that the

plan would be posted on the county website. Councilmember Murray asked if it would include an evacuation plan. Herrenbruck advised that it would be on the comprehensive plan, as this was focused on mitigation before hazardous events.

C. Presentation on Bridge/2nd/Diagonal Intersection – Keller Associates

PWD Poole introduced Scott Linja from Keller Associates. Linja gave a history of the project. He advised that in a meeting with the surrounding property owner stakeholders that the channelized roundabout received overwhelming support. Columbia Bank was the only stakeholder that voiced opposition over the loss of a portion of the parking lot. Linja advised that three options were considered. One was to leave the intersection as it is currently, a second was a signalized intersection that allowed only a right turn from 2nd Street, and the third was for a channelized roundabout. The roundabout option rose to the top for safety, volume and performance measures. Linja advised that the project is now in the public comment portion. After the comments are received, the project will be presented to the City and WSDOT for final design.

Councilmember Murray asked if there was any signalization in the roundabout. Linja advised there was none. Mayor Lawrence asked if there would be savings by going with the roundabout. PWD Poole advised that WSDOT would have monetary savings. The City would see a reduction of accidents and needed police and fire response. Councilmember Andrews commented that the area looks similar to 21st Street in Lewiston. PWD Poole advised it would be similar by having to restrict one road to make the signalization option work. He advised that traffic counts show that there are 20,000 cars daily that travel into Clarkston over the Interstate bridge. Andrews asked about the impact on Bridge Street. He advised it would be the same framework except the entrance and exit. Murray asked about the cost of Right of Way purchase. Linja advised that would be negotiated with the property stakeholders. Councilmember Pierce commented that the cost for a roundabout would be similar with the signalized option. He said it will be at a level of service for up to 20 years minimum. Murray asked how much parking the businesses would lose. Linja advised that it would depend on the surveys completed later in the project. Councilmember Holman asked about impact to property entrances. Linja advised that the Taco Time entry on the corner of Bridge and 2nd will have to go, but Happy Day Corporation is aware of this. Evans advised we would have to pay now or later for the improvements and it is currently about 2 million dollars total. Murray asked if there would need to be any sewer or water lines moved for the project. PWD Poole advised that it was not anticipated. Councilmember Ebert commented that this might be difficult for the elderly. Linja advised that the other roundabouts show that the drivers get used to the design. Ebert asked about truck traffic. Linja advised that the the channelized roundabout helps with knowing which lane and where to go. PWD Poole advised that the roundabout was designed for pedestrian safety. Andrews confirmed that it would be ADA accessible.

D. Presentation on Diagonal/8th/Elm Intersection – Keller Associates. Linja continued with the four options for this intersection. There is a do-nothing, an all-way stop, signalized and a mini roundabout. He advised that it does not meet the requirements for a signalized intersection. The all-way stop is cheapest, and a true full or mini roundabout cannot be designed with the intersection constraints, so a “peanut” shape was designed. He advised that there have been 19 accidents at this intersection in the last few years. Murray asked for the cost difference between the stop signs and the peanut configuration. Linja advised that the roundabout would be around \$711,000 average and the stop signs would be no more than \$120,000 if resurfacing of the roadway was included. Evans asked if the roundabout would allow for truck traffic. PWD Poole advised it was designed for a WB50 truck. He advised safety was the primary reason for the design. Currently, a lot of people are running the stop signs. The peanut design makes them think their way through the intersection. Murray advised that many of the stop signs are not seen. Chief Hastings advised that there was poor sight distance. Pierce commented he was almost hit today because the six-way stop makes it hard to determine who is next in turn. PWD Poole advised that a safety plan could be developed to secure funding for Diagonal from 2nd to this intersection. Clerk Austin confirmed that the City would be responsible for the cost without a safety plan. Ebert posed a rhetorical question on why Diagonal was not removed 50 years ago.

E. Lewis Clark Valley MPO Update – Mayor Lawrence introduced Shannon Grow from the MPO. Grow gave a history of the MPO dating back to 2000 when the Lewiston UBA was formed when population reached 50,0000 in the valley. Clarkston joined later. The MPO allows for receiving Federal funds for transportation with about 10% local match. She advised that there are about 400 MPOs in the nation, with very few bi-state MPOs. The Cities of Asotin Clarkston, Lewiston, and the counties of Nez Perce and Asotin are members. The MPO was awarded STP funds for the Bridge/2nd/Diagonal Intersection. The Local transportation plan in 2019 included Elm/8th/Diagonal Intersection project. The MPO provides technical assistance and strategy. It does not own any facilities and does not construct or design. The MPO cannot lobby but can only educate because of Federal Fund requirements. She said that the MPO did not create Stormwater regulations, it was the UBA. In addition to transportation projects, the MPO completed a bike master plan, an airport circulation study, and is managing the Southway Bridge overlay project. Grow gave an update of the long-range plan that runs from 2018-2040. She spoke about a traffic demand model looking at the effects of growth and industry on traffic. The MPO is doing a Regional Bridge Study. Murray asked if the MPO is involved with airport. Grow advised that the MPO is an ex officio member. The Airport study focused only on the area outside of the airport.

F. Authorization of Support Letter to Habitat for Humanity. MOTION BY EVANS/ANDREWS to authorize Mayor Lawrence to sign support letter. Motion Carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Andrews welcomed Councilmember Ebert. Councilmember Pierce advised that he would stay after for any press questions.

PRESS QUESTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Total Fund Expenditures 1/27/20 | Ck # 69882-69937 | \$53,110.34 |
| December 2019 Open Period | Ck # 69787-69866 | \$691,333.95 |
| Payroll 1/17/20 | Ck # 69867-69877 | \$145,014.92 |