

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 11, 2017

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

STAFF: Chief Hastings, Chief Cooper, PWD Poole, Clerk Austin, Attorney Richardson.

AGENDA CHANGES: Add (1st Reading) to Item D under New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the November 27, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: Phil Cuevas - 1117 7th Street

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence spoke about requirements for public comments during regular council meetings. She explained that there are different requirements for public hearings. A list of rules for regular meetings are posted in the lobby and on the podium. A community meals flyer is also posted in the lobby. The Mayor attended a mini roundabout meeting that was very informative. The smaller roundabout doesn't take much more room than a regular street intersection. Mini roundabouts are in consideration for a couple of locations in the city. The Mayor also attended the Valley Vision meeting. On December 2nd, the Mayor was a judge for the Christmas Parade with Chief Cooper. Mayor Lawrence thanked Chief Hastings and PWD Poole in coordinating and monitoring the parade. LC Valley Chamber was thanked for sponsoring the parade. There was a big turnout. On December 20, 2017 at 4:45pm there will be a new Councilmember orientation at City Hall. Councilmembers will meet City Hall Staff and learn a little about the duties and functions of the employees. This will be helpful to newly elected Councilmembers. Mayor Lawrence met with Director Doug Mattoon of Valley Vision. He reported that Asotin County had the lowest rate of unemployment in the state of 3.3% for October. For the last two months Asotin County has had a low unemployment rate. The Mayor advised that she wanted to recognize the three employees at City Hall. Together, they have over 70 years working for the City. The City has a small crew, and these three get hardly any recognition. They are the first impression of the City, and do a great job representing the City. Each employee has distinct specialties. They City is lucky to have these three City Hall employees.

C. From Staff or Employees: PWD Poole spoke regarding the Avista conversion of street lights to LED. The cost of the project was \$183,000. This is providing a savings to the City, reducing the bill from \$20,000 to \$7,000 per month. Clerk Austin advised that the funds for the conversion were provided by a TIB grant from the State. PWD Poole advised that the City will also look at a grant to convert the Sixth Street corridor lights.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Councilmember Beadles reported the bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for the December 11, 2017 period of \$446,466.91. MOTION BY BEADLES/BLACKMON to approve the bills as read.

Public Safety: Councilmember Beadles reported that the committee met on December 5th. Chief Cooper reported that he is working on volunteer retention by utilizing a comprehensive survey. The survey will include current volunteers, former volunteers, and area fire departments. Thank you letters will be sent to volunteers - Recognition is important in any organization. Chief Cooper works very hard to stay within the Fire Department budget. The Red Wolf bridge maintenance closure is still being

addressed. There are two new hires at the Fire Department, they will start in January.

Chief Hastings reported that the Christmas Shop with a Cop program will be funded by Wal-Mart and coordinated by Officer Morbeck. Children are nominated by the school district to participate in this program. The committee discussed additional ways to expand funding of this program. The annual Christmas parade went very well this year. The Police Department will have performance reviews for staff members. The Officer of the Year program will be reinstated. There have been some Commercial burglaries that are being investigated.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported that the Stormwater project has been awarded to ML Albright who had provided the low bid. They will move ahead with all options. Public Works will also look into an option to demolish the former municipal pool and use it for construction fill at no cost to the city. Pierce commented that our insurance company will be thrilled. We have a grant from the Department of Commerce to update our comprehensive plan. The update costs \$4680 and \$2400 for a critical areas ordinance update. The grant is \$4500, we are waiting to receive confirmation of the award. 2800 yd² of sidewalk has been identified as being noncompliant with ADA standards. Home owners are responsible for the sidewalk on their property. They will receive a form letter letting them know their options. The agreement will allow us to create a large city-wide project and would reduce costs. Liens will be applied to the homes that are unable to pay at the time. Liens will only be for the actual costs of the repairs. The newly purchased Garbage truck title is in hand. The Beachview shelter has been demolished. We have a draft ordinance for unsafe/unfit structures. This allows the City the ability to enforce improvement or removal of unsafe/unfit structures. Combined with CBDG money, there are single family residences that could be significantly improved. There are also failing structures that can be removed. Estimates are being received on a satellite recycling program. Depending on those estimates, an RFP may be considered. It will include paper/magazine and cardboard, tin and aluminum and #1 and #2 plastics. We will also be able to accept glass to use as fill in city projects.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Murray advised that the committee did not meet.

Community Development: No meeting.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Murray attended the meeting of the Regional Stormwater Development Team. The team will be contacting the City about having a town hall meeting relating to Stormwater fee increases. Councilmember Kolstad reported on the PTBA meeting. He advised that over the past four years there has been an increase of 1200 riders per month average. Since 2017, an increase of 400 riders on average per month has been recorded. Mayor attended the Valley Vision meeting and discussed the unemployment rate in Asotin County.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2017-10 Salaries for Non-Represented Employees

Resolution read by title. MOTION BY BEADLES/BLACKMON to approve resolution. Vote was 6-1 in favor. Councilmember Campbell voted nay. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2017-11 Legislative Agenda

Resolution read by title. MOTION BY MURRAY/KOLSTAD to approve resolution. Mayor advised she emailed the agenda to the representatives last year, and received no reply. Councilmember Murray asked how the City would receive a reply. Councilmember Campbell advised that Council could attend the Legislative conference call at the Port at 7:30am. The Conference calls start in January or February. Mayor Lawrence advised that Wanda Keefer sends out a calendar of when the calls will be. Vote was 6-1 in favor. Councilmember Blackmon voted nay. Motion carried.

B. Ordinance 1589 – 2017 Budget Amendment #2 (1st Reading)

Ordinance read by title. Vote will be held at next meeting.

C. Ordinance 1590 – 2018 Budget (1st Reading)

Ordinance read by title. Vote will be held at next meeting.

D. Ordinance 1591 – Amend 2.76 Council Standing Committees (1st Reading)

Ordinance read by title. Vote will be held at next meeting.

E. Award Stormwater Improvement Bid Motion by CAMPBELL/PIERCE to approve bid award. Motion Carried.

F. Contracts for Service

1. City Attorney Retainer Motion by BEADLES/KOLSTAD to approve retainer. Councilmember Beadles pointed out a correction, there is a listing of Clerk Vickie Storey that needs to be changed to Steve Austin. Clerk Austin advised of an incorrect date of 2016. Motion Carried.

2. Indigent Defense Services Motion by PIERCE/KOLSTAD to approve Contract. Councilmember Campbell asked if this included an increase in pay. Clerk Austin advised it included a \$500 increase for the year. He also advised of an incorrect date of 2018. Motion Carried.

3. Professional Services Motion by CAMPBELL/KOLSTAD to approve Contract. Mayor Lawrence advised it has been years since the Wesley Group has asked for an increase, and this contract is the same retainer agreement and cost as previous years. Motion Carried

4. Victim Witness Advocacy Support Services Motion by BEADLES/CAMPBELL to approve contract. Motion Carried

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Beadles recognized the management staff for doing great job with lean staffing. He advised that Police and Fire do a lot of volunteer work and activities in the City during off duty hours, and sometimes the public isn't aware what they do for our City. Councilmember Blackmon commented on the mini roundabout discussion from earlier. He advised that 18th Avenue in Lewiston is a horrible street to drive, nothing but a nuisance. Councilmember Pierce commented he used to live on 18th Avenue, and traffic can get to 55mph. He also commented that the Wesley Group Contract had the mileage wrong. Councilmember Kolstad commented that he likes roundabouts, however, drivers should use turn signals. Councilmember Pierce recognized Asotin County Commissioner Shinn. Shinn wished the Council and the City Merry Christmas from the County. He also advised that 18th Avenue in Lewiston did not contain mini roundabouts. Kolstad advised they were traffic-calming devices. Councilmember Campbell asked for confirmation of the next council meeting. Mayor Lawrence advised it would be on Tuesday, December 26, however City Hall will be closed during business hours on Tuesday, December 26. City staff members are taking a vacation day.

PRESS QUESTIONS: Tribune reporter Sandaine asked why the Police Commander salary was listed as monthly, when the rest of the administration was annually. Chief Hastings advised it was because the Commander is paid hourly and can be compensated for overtime. Sandaine asked Pierce if there were plans to replace the skate park if the municipal pool is demolished. Pierce advised that they have spoken with developers to create another skate park in community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:48p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 11/27/17	Ck # 65186-65232	\$156,919.27
Payroll, 12/05/17	Ck # 65236-65270	\$289,547.64