

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
February 11, 2019

ROLL CALL: Russ Evans, Pat Holman, Belinda Larsen, Skate Pierce, and John Murray. Joel Profitt absent and Melyssa Andrews arrived late. Murray (1/28) & Profitt (2/11) excused on motion by PIERCE/EVANS.

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

AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 28, 2018 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. **From the Public:** None
- B. **From Mayor:** Mayor Lawrence advised Council that the City has approximately 70 open building permits since May 2018 that will need to be addressed. These permits are primarily for gas work.
- C. **From Staff or Employees:** PWD Poole advised that the radar speed sign has been installed at the south entrance to the City. It is effective in slowing traffic coming into the City of Clarkston. He also advised that Walmart Environmental Health and Safety is going to convert part of the stormwater collection basin on the property to a butterfly pollinator garden habitat.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Councilmember Murray reported that the Committee discussed the award items B & C on the consent agenda and approved the bills for payment. Total expenditures for the February 11, 2019 period of \$432,286.99. MOTION BY EVANS/HOLMAN to approve the bills as read. Motion Carried

Public Safety: Councilmember Larsen reported on the February 6th meeting. Alice White of the Asotin County Republican Committee presented a resolution in support of the 2nd amendment sanctuary city. Before presenting to Council, this amendment has been handed off to City Attorney Todd Richardson. Chief Cooper presented a request for a mutual aid agreement with Wheatland Fire District. At this time, there is no reason not to pursue this agreement and possibly approach the City of Asotin Fire Department with the same agreement. The City currently has mutual aid agreements with the City of Lewiston, the Asotin County Fire District #1 and others. These agreements are very beneficial to all involved. Chief Cooper also presented the Fire Department policy direction and assignments for 2019. Some of the assignments include updating certifications, on-line training, station and apparatus maintenance, business inspections, and inspection and maintenance of fire and ambulance equipment. Chief Cooper also informed us of changing of ranks within the department including the promotion of Jeff Bugbee to Captain. Congratulations to all who have been promoted.

Chief Hastings presented a quote for a new patrol vehicle. (Agenda item) Every year the department replaces one aging vehicle with a new one. Chief Hastings budgets for this vehicle every year. There was a discussion on the fireworks ordinance. Chief Hastings presented to us a variety of ordinances from other cities that included a ban on just aerial displays, a complete ban on all fireworks and an ordinance that limited fireworks to just the 4th of July and within a designated time frame. The Committee would like to hold a town hall meeting during the Council meeting on the 25th of February. At that time, we will take comments from the citizens of Clarkston.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported on the February 5th meeting. Danielle Evans presented a plan to have the farmers market at Beachview Park summer of 2019. The City may need to add access to power for EBT/Debit/Credit machines. Most vendors will be set up on the grass to the East of the parking lot. This should be a much better location with more space for vendors and off of the hot asphalt of the previous site with a significant improvement in the parking situation. The Farmers Market will be Saturdays from 8:00am-Noon, April through September. There are a couple intersections in town that are problematic and may need a traffic revision in the name of safety. Of the two, 13th/Highland and 8th/Elm/Diagonal, the 8th/Elm/Diagonal intersection, according to the data, is far more hazardous with several injury accidents. A plan that deals with the issue will need to be found. Attorney Todd Richardson brought to our attention some concerns he has with the future project at Bridge /Diagonal/2nd Street. The concern is that upon completion, the project changes access to several properties around that intersection. The City will reach out to all potentially affected property owners and let them know that there is a design forthcoming and their input is requested. There has been an inquiry about placing a cannabis growing operation in the port. The potential property exists in a restricted area, as it is within 1000 feet of a school/daycare/recreation facility(arcade)/park or playground that allows minors. The City will be providing all commercial dumpsters used in Clarkston. This ensures uniformity, and emphasizes safety for our sanitation workers.

Outside Organizations: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Fireworks Code (Public Safety) Councilmember Larsen presented the Council with information that was discussed at Public Safety. The Committee advised that there should be some further restrictions, and would like community/citizen inclusion in the decision making process. Chief Hastings presented the examples of what other communities in the state are doing. These include a total ban on all fireworks, a ban on aerals, and restricted times of use. Councilmember Murray asked if there was a benefit in forming a subcommittee with stakeholders to help with the process. Larsen advised that the Committee would like to have a public forum to find out opinions from the community. She advised the possibility of having a public hearing after the ordinance is written so that there is a good amount of information for the community to make an informed decision. Councilmember Evans advised that he supported a ban on aerals and reduced usage times. Councilmember Pierce mentioned that the City should coordinate with Asotin County to stay on same page, and asked Commissioner Shinn if that would be possible. Commissioner Shinn advised Council on the current status with the county. He advised that he could not speak for the County at this time, but he invited Chief Hastings and Councilmember Larsen to appear on his radio show to discuss the options. There might be interest to form a joint committee going forward. Councilmember Holman commented that if Lewiston had the rules enforced that they have now, they probably wouldn't have had the fire like they did. Mayor Lawrence advised that the property lots are bigger in the County and there is a difference in demographics that make having the fireworks in the City problematic. Evans agreed that there is an influx of people from the surrounding areas that come to Clarkston to celebrate. There was a consensus of the Council to have a public centered discussion on February 25, 2019 at 7:00pm with the regular council meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Authorization to purchase police vehicle (Public Safety)**
- B. Bid Awards for Public Works equipment & purchase of WWTP vehicle (Finance/Admin)**
- C. Bid Award for Website Redesign (Finance/Admin)**

MOTION BY HOLMAN/MURRAY to accept the consent agenda. Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL COMMENTS: None

PRESS QUESTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Lawrence advised that Negotiations and Litigation would be discussed. There will be no decisions made. The session is expected to last 15 minutes. The session began at 7:30p.m. An extension of 10 minutes was requested at 7:45p.m. Another 5 minute extension was requested at 7:55pm. Additional 5 minute extensions were requested at 8:00p.m., 8:05p.m, 8:10p.m., and 8:15p.m. The session ended at 8:20p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 2/11/19	Ck #67850-67942	\$116,524.02
Payroll 2/5/19	Ck #67816-67848	\$315,762.97