

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 12, 2018

ROLL CALL: Pat Holman, Russ Evans, Joel Profitt, Skate Pierce, Belinda Campbell, Brian Kolstad, John Murray.

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

AGENDA CHANGES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the February 26, 2018 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: None

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence advised she would be on Opinion Please with Commissioner Brian Shinn this coming Wednesday. They will be talking about the City sidewalk project.

C. From Staff or Employees: Clerk Austin introduced employee changes at City Hall. Marcie Bayless has been promoted to Deputy Clerk/Treasurer in charge of Utilities, replacing Gerri Kesler, who retired after working over 26 years for the City. Erica Fisher was hired as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer in charge of payroll. She replaced Darlene Gentry, who is retiring after 34 years of service. Rachel Heckler has been hired to replace Marcie as the Finance Clerical Assistant. Chief Cooper updated council on the GEMT application. He also advised that Captain Dan Sokoloski would be retiring as of March 31, 2018. PWD Poole advised that he and Jason Ewing would be traveling to Leavenworth, attending a conference for building officials March 14-16.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Admin: Councilmember Murray reported that the Committee discussed the upcoming Firefighting Union Contract, and participation in the Taxi Taskforce requested by the Port. The bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for the March 12, 2018 period of \$464, 646.18, January End of Month of \$434.00, and February End of Month of \$93.10. MOTION BY MURRAY/KOLSTAD to approve the bills as read.

Public Safety: Councilmember Campbell reported that Chief Hastings began with a discussion regarding the current jail. During a town hall meeting with the County Commissioners, the Chief joined a committee to determine what can be done in regards to finding funding to build a new jail. With the current overcrowding, offenders are arrested and a judge makes the determination based on the offense, which defendant goes right back out on the street. Some prisoners are being kept at the Nez Perce County jail while others are just being required to answer to a parole officer. Where a parole officer would normally have a case load of possibly 20 parolees, the officer now has maybe a hundred or more. There are no deterrents in place to keep offenders from re-offending. Nez Perce County was able to pay off the bond on its jail early with money earned from other cities' and counties' inmate rent. School violence is finding its way to all of our local schools. Just last week, an 18 year old was arrested for making threats at Clarkston High School. Last month, a man was arrested at Walla Walla Community College for the same offense. Thanks to students at both schools, both men were arrested before they could commit any action on their threats. Our schools are very vulnerable. Staff training on ALICE has been implemented but we need to correct this with long term solutions. Be it security guards, metal detectors, streamlining or funneling the entry and exits into the schools or a perimeter fence. We can't get complacent. When you think it can't happen here, it can.

Chief Cooper reviewed the possibility of an ambulance rate increase for 2018, not 2019 as previously stated in our minutes. We will have a discussion regarding a rate increase during our next meeting. GEMT (ground emergency medical transport) is ready to be submitted by the end of March. Our consultants have determined that during the first full year, we could possibly receive close to \$140,000 in revenue before costs. After costs, we are still looking at \$116,000.

The Chief also covered the standard operating procedures used during special hazard prompts and activation of emergency operations. Special hazards planning of natural events include wind storms, flash flooding, landslides, wildland fire, earthquakes and dam failure to name a few. The Chief gave us the “event”, the predicted location and the actions that would be possibly taken during the emergency. **Public Works:** Councilmember Pierce reported that we’re updating the wording of our building permits. We’re doing this largely to prevent people from getting permits as homeowners and then reselling or renting the property in violation of city ordinance or state RCW. We are organizing our penalties for building permit and code violations to get all penalties in line across all of our ordinances. RCW 18.27.090 (12) requires that all landlords use licensed contractors, or are licensed contractors themselves, to perform any work in their properties outside of painting and flooring. Western States Alliance is a group of retired waste water plant employees. The group is helping municipalities manage Fats, Oils and Grease operations. They maintain a database of establishments with grease traps and maintenance. Membership in the group is \$100 a year. We will also be organizing and updating our citizen complaint form. The new method will keep track of the complaint and the follow up response by the city and any property owner in violation of code. The Department of Natural Resources inspected the clarifier to see if we could put the Bluegill in them. We are waiting on their report.

Project updates

- Stormwater project on Maple and Poplar and the 7th and 8th St is on schedule.
- Relight Washington grant for 6th St will go out for bid soon
- 2018 Sidewalk repair project letters to property owners will be sent out soon. Final list of properties is complete.
- Grantham Safe Routes to School is entirely shovel ready. All planning and design is complete, we just need to locate funding to finish it.

FLAP Grant will be submitted by Monday

Waiting on a response from WCIA for the pool demo.

Hiring seasonal help for Parks and Sanitation. \$14/hr manual labor.

Working on a grant for glass recycling with the County. Recycled glass will be crushed and sold for various projects as fill.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Kolstad advised that the PTBA meets Thursday. Councilmember Evans advised that the cruise boat transportation committee met. All boats will bus customers from the 14th Street dock to the Quality Inn. Councilmember Murray advised Stormwater postponed meeting until April 9. The Mayor advised that they are contemplating a rate increase to \$5.00 for Stormwater fees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sanitary Sewer Easement – 450 Bridge Street (Public Works) PWD Poole explained that the sewer line was rerouted with the building of the Taco Bell building. This grants easement to City to maintain the sewer line. Motion by KOLSTAD/CAMPBELL. Motion Carried.

B. Agreement for Professional Services – Traffic Impact Analysis - Walmart (Public Works) PWD Poole explained that there will be third party analysis for Walmart’s request for easement onto Fair Street. Keller & Associates was chosen from the Small Works Roster to provide the analysis. Motion by KOLSTAD/CAMPBELL. Motion Carried.

C. Hach Service Partnership Agreement (Public Works) PWD Poole explained the agreement that will allow for Hach to service and train WWTP employees on the maintenance and calibration of UV system. Motion by PIERCE/CAMPBELL. Motion Carried.

D. ZC-2018-01 Findings of Fact & Conclusion of Law (Public Works) PWD Poole explained that PZ hearing 801 Elm St (Smitty’s Barrel) change from R-2 to Neighborhood Commercial. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the request. Poole explanation of Neighborhood Commercial zoning rules versus Service Commercial. Motion by CAMPBELL/PIERCE. Motion Carried.

E. Ordinance 1593 – Zone Map Change 801 Elm Street, 1st Reading (Public Works)
Vote will be next council.

F. Lodging Tax Committee Information. Councilmember Campbell advised that the Committee met, and there was only one proposal presented for funding at this meeting. The Port of Clarkston is requesting funding to make improvements on the 14th Street dock. The request to the City is for \$15,000. The Lodging Tax Committee approved the request to submit to City. The funding will be used to support tourism activities by providing a shelter, benches, artwork and other upgrades. The Port would also like to request funding from Asotin County, but the County Lodging Tax Committee only meets once a year, and they are unable to determine if there will be a meeting scheduled for that request. Councilmember Murray asked if the fixtures would be permanent. Campbell advised that they were designed locally and will be a permanent movable fixture. Motion by KOLSTAD/EVANS. Motion Carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Evans advised that Michelle Peters was going to give an update on the Cruise Boat Welcoming Committee. They have ordered vests for staff and volunteers, as well as signs and maps to hand out. They will also be advertising for volunteers. Councilmember Campbell shared more information about the docks, cruise boats, and grumblings over years, including the City of Lewiston possibly wanting to have boats dock there. This is about keeping tourists coming into Clarkston and the Valley. Mayor Lawrence distributed a publication from MRSC regarding Facebook public records. Councilmember Kolstad praised Officer Sparks. He showed up quickly at a recent hit and run accident involving Kolstad’s car that was parked on the City street, and resolved the issue. It was much appreciated.

PRESS QUESTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:43p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 03/12/18	Ck # 65856-65933	\$141,427.57
Payroll 03/5/18	Ck# 65821-65853	\$323,218.43
January 2018 EOM Expenditures		\$434.00
February 2018 EOM Expenditures		\$93.10