

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 27, 2020

ROLL CALL: Skate Pierce, John Murray, Belinda Larsen, Russ Evans, Pat Holman, and Steven Ebert joined telephonically. Melyssa Andrews absent.

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

AGENDA CHANGES: None

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: None

B. From the Mayor: Mayor Lawrence advised that any public wanting to comment has the ability to send a message via the website or an email to Clerk Austin.

C. From Staff or Employees: PWD Poole advised that the 2020 Street Maintenance project was completed today. He advised that the White Diamond Concrete award under the consent agenda was at a rate of approximately \$8.00 per square foot which was lower than the projected amount of \$12.00 per square foot. He advised this was a good value for the residents of Clarkston to get the sidewalk repaired.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Did not meet. Total expenditures for the May – June End of Month Periods of \$201.30 and the total expenditures for the July 27, 2020 period of \$477,993.73. MOTION BY MURRAY/EVANS to approve the bills as read. Motion Carried

Public Safety: Mayor Lawrence advised that the Committee met on July 20, 2020. The minutes were included in the packet.

Public Works: Mayor Lawrence advised that the Committee met on July 21, 2020. The minutes were included in the packet.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Evans attended the SEWEDA meeting on July 14 and the Visit LC Valley meeting on July 15. The minutes were included in the packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance 1640, Critical Areas – 2nd Reading (Public Works) MOTION BY MURRAY/PIERCE to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Murray asked PWD Poole if the City was not subject to Growth Management Act, then what is the reason for this ordinance. PWD Poole advised that the City was required to have this language in the comprehensive plan in order to eligible for grant funding. Motion Carried

B. Ordinance 1641, Parks Advisory Committee – 2nd Reading (Public Works) MOTION BY MURRAY/EVANS to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Murray asked if anything in the ordinance or in the RCW that limited the age of the members of the committee. Mayor Lawrence advised that there was nothing in the ordinance because it had been discussed to allow High School students to be on the committee. Attorney Richardson advised that it would be illegal to have a maximum age and that he was not aware that there would be anything that set a minimum age. Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION BY LARSEN/PIERCE to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion Carried

A. Resolution 2020-06, Surplus Fire Equipment (Public Safety)

B. Award Letter - FEMA (Public Safety)

C. Local Agency Contract – White Diamond Concrete (Public Works)

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2020-07, EMS Levy Chief White presented the resolution for the 2021 EMS Levy to the Council. MOTION BY LARSEN/HOLMAN to adopt the resolution. Councilmember Murray asked how this levy would help balance the EMS budget. Chief White advised that the percentages of the budget allocated to the EMS service had increased from seventy percent to eighty percent to match the number match the calls coming into the department. This allows the EMS levy to fund the EMS services and the City to fund the remaining Fire costs. This 80/20 split has more fully funded the EMS services than previously. Murray asked if this still funded six employees. Chief White explained the new funding model did away with funding employees and funded by actual call volume putting more burden on the levy instead of the City. Motion Carried

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Larsen advised that she would like to discuss the current mandate from the Governor. She advised that she had been contacted by a City business owner that asked if the City could request this mandate to be handled at the County level instead of at the statewide level. Mayor Lawrence advised that it would only be at the statewide level only. Clerk Austin confirmed that the Governor will continue the current pause in reopening until sufficient evidence is received that the pandemic is not continuing to spread. Councilmember Murray asked if we were no longer in Phase 3, or if we are locked into Phase 3. Mayor Lawrence advised we were locked into Phase 3. Councilmember Pierce commented that the Phased approach had been tried on a county by county basis. However, the Tri-Cities, Yakima, Spokane all had increases in cases. He advised that he understood why the county by county approach was paused, it was tried, and it didn't work. Larsen advised that she supported wearing masks and social distancing but was concerned with businesses being closed. Mayor Lawrence asked Commissioner Brian Shinn to respond regarding pass through funds from SEWEDA to small businesses. Commissioner Shinn advised that there was \$370,000 spread between Whitman, Asotin and Garfield counties to be released through SEWEDA. The County is working on a subrecipient agreement with SEWEDA to distribute the County share. Councilmember Holman asked PWD Poole if he had any further guidance on the issue raised previously by the Seaport Striders regarding the overgrown weeds on Chestnut Beach hill. He also commented that the neighbors are reporting that cars are running the new stop signs at 8th/Elm/Diagonal and wondered if the City could paint "STOP" on roadway at the signs. PWD Poole advised that he will consider painting the roadway. He also clarified the area of the overgrown weeds on the Army Corps land. He advised he will try to contact the Corps to get the issue resolved.

PRESS QUESTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 7/27/20	Ck # 70895-70927	\$328,618.78
Total Fund Expenditures May-Jun EOM		\$201.30
Payroll 7/20/20	Ck # 70882-70894	\$149,374.95