

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 13, 2018

ROLL CALL: Russ Evans, Pat Holman Joel Profitt, Belinda Larsen, John Murray. Skate Pierce excused on a motion by HOLMAN/EVANS.

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

AGENDA CHANGES: Add Executive Session: Litigation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the July 30, 2018 Special Meeting were approved as corrected.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: Alice White, 742 13th Street
Kelly Blackmon, no address given

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence requested a moment of silence at the beginning of the meeting in honor of previous Mayor Kathleen Warren who was found deceased this last week. Mayor Lawrence reported that the CHS graduation class of 2019 had sent solicitation regarding safe and sober graduation party donations. She also reported that the Health department grants for the outdoor fitness area and EMS defibrillators were not successful.

C. From Staff or Employees: Clerk Austin updated Council on the new policies and procedures regarding LEOFF 1 retiree reimbursements. PWD Poole advised that Asotin County will be doing a traffic study in the neighborhoods where speeding was reported at the last meeting by citizens in the 8th & Libby areas.

D. Valley Vision Presentation: Karl Dye was introduced by Mayor Lawrence. Dye spoke of his history growing up in the valley and his sales and marketing career. Valley Vision is planning to partner with employers to develop a skilled workforce. Economic Development is also a priority. Valley Vision plans to expand programs at LCSC, partnering with welding companies, metal manufacturing and electronics, and utilizing online courses. There are plans to expand programs to encompass healthcare and natural resources employers. Valley Vision is working with the local school districts to implement programs. Dye advised that the regional airport is also a priority and Valley Vision is working on with the airport authority to expand the airlines that service the area. There will be an effort to recruit technology companies to come into the area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Councilmember Murray reported that the Committee reviewed the contract for School Resource Officer, and reviewed and approved the bills for payment. Total expenditures for the August 13, 2018 period of \$569,654.24. MOTION BY PROFITT/MURRAY to approve the bills as read. Motion Carried

Public Safety: Councilmember Larsen reported that Chief Hastings stated that he had talked to one of the women who attended our last council meeting in reference to traffic and speeding on her street. Since his meeting with the resident, a radar reader board has been put in place. A speed/traffic survey is set to begin to determine the amount of traffic in that specific area. Also, in the agenda packet, you will find information regarding the possible purchase of a drone. The Chief would like all Council members to have the opportunity to review the possibilities.

The Mayor and Chief Cooper discussed a request from the Clarkston Fire Department volunteers. The Volunteer force is comprised of 16 individuals. Some are more active than others. Eight maintain EMS certification; 1 as a Paramedic, 2 as Advanced EMTs and 5 as EMTs. The current compensation these volunteers receive is \$10 a point for their emergency responses, medical standby responses and training. If we were to increase compensation by \$1.00 per point, the total annual cost increase would be \$3,078.25. \$1590.55 of which would be charged to the fire department and \$1487.70 would be charged to ambulance services. This will be up for discussion during our budget meetings.

Chief Cooper discussed our ambulance options. We are in desperate need to replace or rebuild our 2002 ambulance. Chief Cooper has done much research on this subject. There has been much discussion about rebuilding or replacing the chassis. Chief Cooper recommends purchase of a demo unit. He would like to find a unit that is built to specifications that would meet our needs now and in the future. One that would possibly be more compatible with other fire departments that have purchased newer units. These units can run anywhere from \$130,000 to \$200,000. Fortunately, Chief Cooper has set aside money for this purpose. The Chief will remain in touch and we will be having more conversations.

Public Works Mayor Lawrence advised that the meeting was cancelled.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Evans advised that he attended the PTBA meeting on August 8, 2018. Evans advised that PTBA is operating in the black, and is a great service to community. He reported an increase in riders since first of year. He advised that the local PTBA has the lowest accident reports in state. Evans also reported on the cruise ship transportation committee. He advised that Michelle Peters is sending out a brochure with free ads to the cruise companies. Mayor Lawrence advised that the 14th Street dock is much improved. Councilmember Murray met socially with the MPO director and was advised that MPO will have a booth at the Nez Perce County Fair and would be willing to distribute the survey that the City had sent out for planning purposes with the utility bills. Mayor Lawrence advised that she attended the annual UPWP (Unified Planning and Work Program) meeting on July 24th with the Federal and State Department of Transportation. Everyone was very complimentary of MPO director Shannon Grow. Grow received a performance evaluation from MPO on August 4th and received high marks also.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance 1604 – Amending 15.04 Building Permit Fees (Finance/Admin) 2nd Reading. MOTION BY MURRAY/PROFITT to approve the ordinance. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Unmanned Aerial System Draft Policy (Public Safety) Councilmember Larsen advised that Chief Hastings has been reviewing policies of Pullman and other surrounding agencies. Chief Hastings presented council with a draft policy regarding the Clarkston Police Department usage of drones. Hastings explained that due to the ability to record private citizens, he wanted to inform Council and receive input on the policy. Councilmember Murray asked if drones would be flying over property that was not part of the mission utilizing the drone. Chief Hastings advised that the operator would try not to record anything that was not part of mission, and would have to delete those parts of the video. Councilmember Profitt asked if the drone would be recording all of the time or just while at the target. Chief Hastings advised that the Police would primarily use the drone in searches for lost children, dementia cases, to get a better perspective and would only record when needed for evidence. Profitt asked if the Chief had looked at Pullman and other cities that are currently using drones. Chief Hastings advised that he has met with Pullman because they had been using drones for a longer time, utilizing the technical department at WSU. Hastings also reviewed the Washington State Patrol policy. Mayor Lawrence asked if the drones would be used over private properties or mainly over the public streets. Hastings advised that it would be over public streets as there are limits of 400 feet high, or how close to private property the drone could operate. Murray asked if this was state law that required limits. Hastings advised there was case law, so the Police would get search warrant for private property or barricaded subjects if required. Councilmember Larsen advised that there will be a program coordinator appointed by the Chief to be in charge of project. Hastings advised that there will be a coordinator, who is also a drone operator. He advised that the operator can only fly with approval of a supervisor, the commander or Chief. Murray asked if a search warrant would be needed to access a property. Hastings advised that search warrants would be needed in some cases. Chief Hastings advised that if Council was comfortable with the policy, the department would continue with the process. Larsen recommended that the Chief proceed. Murray inquired what the cost would be. Hastings advised that the drone program could get underway for about \$1500. Councilmember Holman commended the Chief for not being too hasty in the decision. Holman advised that the Chief had researched the project to determine the best process to implement the program. Profitt asked what size the drone would be. Hasting advised that it is not very big, and he has the specs for review if

needed. Larsen asked if it was capable of night vision. Hastings advised it was capable of night vision but not being weaponized. Council directed Chief to proceed with the policy.

B. 2018-2019 School Resource Officer Contract (Finance) Chief Hastings presented the SRO Contract to the Council and explained changes to the dates and the costs that the school district is going to pay. MOTION BY LARSEN/HOLMAN to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Motion Carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Larsen asked about National Night Out. Chief Hastings advised that the attendance was down over previous years, but it went well. Chief Cooper advised that the attendees benefited by being able to visit more with the agencies represented. Councilmember Holman thanked Treasurer Austin for the work on the LEOFF 1 guidelines. Holman also thanked Chief Hastings and PWD Poole for meeting with the citizens that had commented to Council about speeding, and taking quick action. Evans agreed with Holman. Profitt advised that he noticed officers in the area a few times since the last meeting.

PRESS QUESTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The session began at 7:45pm. The Mayor advised that no action would be taken and it was expected to last 20 minutes. Council reconvened at 8:05pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 08/13/18	Ck # 66761-66837	\$ 275,497.02
Payroll 08/05/18	Ck # 66727-66759	\$ 294,157.22