



## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES February 05, 2020

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on February 5, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim

**Members Present:** Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Mark Wanke, Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Sarah McDonnell, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Mike Warren, City Attorney Anna Franz, Community Development Director Daniel Leavitt, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Community Relations Director Traci Bennett, Interim Police Chief Erik Koch, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak. This meeting is not being recorded.

**Agenda:** There were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

**Presentations:**

- Mayor Reim gave the Oath of Office to incoming City Administrator, Mike Warren.
- Mayor Reim gave the Oath of Office to the Interim Police Chief, Erik Koch.
- Interim Chief Erik Koch gave Oath of Office to the newest Police Officer, Zachary Smith.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion was made to approve consent agenda. (m/s Allstot/Moore)  
Motion carried.

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #91358 through #91420 in the amount of \$241,517.35

Claims #91324 through #91330 and #91356, 91357 in the amount of \$49,628.47

VOIDED Claim #90222 in the amount of (\$1,216.03)

Payroll Check #46587 through #46605 in the amount of \$33,379.37

Payroll Claims #91190 through #91209 in the amount of \$236,700.62

Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$6,000.00

Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$179,757.95  
Claims #91351 through #91355 in the amount of \$5,432.33  
Minutes of the January 15, 2020 Council meeting

Approval of Special Event Application:

- Gran Fondo 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. March 15, 2020
- Beezley Burn 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. April 4, 2020
- Columbia Ridge Bike Rodeo 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. April 16 & 17, 2020

Approval of 2019 Converted Property – Confiscated Property Converted to City use.

**Resolution 20-005 – Authorized Bank Signers:** This Resolution assigns those authorized officials to make deposits and withdrawals from the City’s accounts. This is required due to the recent change in personnel.

Motion to approve and accept Resolution 20-005 Authorizing Officials to make Deposits and Withdrawals from the City’s account. (m/s Millard/McDonnell) Motion carried.

**WSDOT Roundabout at SR282 and Nat Washington Way:** The Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has begun the process of analyzing the need for a roundabout or other intersection improvement at the intersection of Nat Washington Way and SR 282. They are looking for a letter of support from Council.

Ethan Rhoades, Engineer and David Kieninger, Traffic Engineer for WSDOT, addressed Council advising that the State’s collision analysis system has identified this particular intersection as qualifying for some type of intersection improvement due to a high number of traffic accidents. He explained that roundabouts are the preferred alternative to traffic signals due to costs. At present, the project has to be presented to the State Safety Panel who will then put it on a State Priority Listing for future funding. To help the project get a better rating from the State Safety Panel, one thing they look for is if there is support from the local community.

Council discussion ensued:

- This roundabout would be larger than the one at Dodson Road due to the higher speed of traffic in this area. It would have the same type of configuration as Quincy’s but without the slip lanes which create another conflict point within the roundabout.
- Estimated time for construction is 55 days. Design, right of way and construction is estimated at \$2.4M due to the size required for this intersection.
- Timeline for construction is 4-6 years out. Project still has to pass the Safety Panel before it can get in line for a funding source. WSDOT is pursuing a funding source where DOT would fund the entire project.
- Letter of support would be beneficial in moving this project forward. The Safety Panel meets the first week in March and will be reviewing this project then. The positive feedback on the Dodson Road Roundabout would be an important item to include in the letter.

Motion to authorize Administration to send a letter of support for a roundabout at the intersection of Nat Washington Way and SR282. (m/s Mora/Moore) Motion carried.

**Citizen Concern – Limit Vehicle Idling:** Gerald Singleton was not present.

**Status of New Recycling Center:** Warren reported that the new recycling center is scheduled to open to the public on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Consolidated will move all the receptacles on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup>. Security cameras, fencing and signage installations have been completed.

Council discussion ensued.

**Write-Off of Uncollectible Debt:** Staff has identified twenty-two accounts for write-off; four utility accounts and eighteen judgements. All avenues of collection have been exhausted and these accounts are legally uncollectible due to statute of limitations and bankruptcy.

Motion to authorize staff to write-off twenty-two legally uncollectible debt accounts. (m/s Allstot/McDonnell) Motion carried.

**Surplus of Equipment – Expired Ballistic Vests:** The Police Department is requesting the surplus and subsequent destruction by incineration outdated and expired ballistic vests and carriers. Council discussion ensued – vests are rated and only certified for 5 years.

Motion to surplus expired ballistic vests. (m/s Wanke/Millard) Motion carried.

**City Administrator Report:**

Final 2019 Budget Report: Revenues were 4% and expenses 9% below budget. The General Fund cash balance continues to remain above our projected baseline. Sales tax revenue for 2019 saw an increase of 5% over 2018. Overall 2019 was a good year.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk