



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 07, 2020

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

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28, this meeting is being conducted remotely using the ZOOM video conferencing.

Members Present: Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Sarah McDonnell, and Kathleen Allstot

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

Motion to excuse Council member Wanke. (m/s Allstot/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak. This meeting is being recorded. Meeting recording begins at time stamp 8:50.

Agenda: Agenda was amended adding items to Consent Agenda, Item 3, Approval of Special Event Applications. Addition of Halloween Drive Thru on October 31st and Ephrata Worship Night on October 17th.

Presentation: Grant County Economic Development Council. No report.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #92432 through #92489 in the amount of \$237,708.35

Claims #92408 through #92411 in the amount of \$475.17

Claims #92430 and #92431 in the amount of \$806.31
Payroll #46740 through #46754 in the amount of \$30,982.39
Payroll Claims #92412 through #92429 in the amount of \$229,988.59
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$5,875.00
Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$174,138.47
Minutes of the September 16, 2020 Council meeting
Special Event Applications:
a) Halloween Drive Thru – Chamber of Commerce, October 31st from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. around the Grant and Ephrata High Schools.
b) Ephrata Worship Night – October 17th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., Community Church of Ephrata at Moore parking lot.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 20-04 Annexing certain lands into the City of Ephrata:
Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Director Leavitt gave a brief staff report. Petition for Annexation from James Forrest and George Waltho was received for approximately 26.87 acres located at the west end of Maringo Road within the City’s Urban Growth Area. The proposed zone for this property is Suburban-Residential which would have a minimum lots size of 1 acre. There is no immediate impact to the City’s budget or utilities.

Council discussion ensued regarding sufficient access to water and sewer from the end of Maringo; concerns regarding traffic and fire services; and how access would be obtained from connecting streets. Director Leavitt advised that these issues would be addressed during the platting process.

Public comments: Owner and developer, Jim Forrest, addressed Council. He reviewed the history of development in this area and his future plans for the proposed property. He advised there would only be 5 lots on this parcel.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Reim closed public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Ordinance 20-04 – Annexing certain lands into the City of Ephrata: Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 20-04 Annexing Certain Lands into the City of Ephrata. (m/s Coe/Moore) Motion carried.

CARES Act Advisory Committee Recommendations: Director Bennet reported that the CARES Act Advisory Committee met on September 16th to review application for the Small Business Relief Program. Committee had good conversations about criteria as well as a lot of unanswered questions. There were 15 applications submitted for consideration. The committee is recommending funding as follows:

- Mandolin’s Salon \$3,500.00
- PLJ Co, LLC (Pita Pit) \$5,000.00
- Bellissimo Salon \$3,500.00
- D&D Rental & Sales \$5,000.00
- Cherabella’s Salon \$3,500.00

- Fraternal Order of Eagles \$2,104.50
- Grant County Journal \$5,000.00
- Ephrata Senior Center &
 Thrift Store \$5,000.00
- Misty Fairchild dba Lee
 Theater \$5,000.00
- Uggie Boo's \$5,000.00
- Grace Point Church \$2,104.50
- Big Daddy's \$5,000.00
- Sophia's Nails & Spa \$3,500.00
- DK's Drive In \$5,000.00
- The Taqueria \$5,000.00

Total award amount is \$63,209.00, the full balance of available funds.

Motion to approve and accept the CARES Act Advisory Committee recommendations for funding from the Small Business Relief Program as presented pending meeting eligibility criteria and subject to legal review and approval. (m/s Millard/Allstot) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to execute Amendment for increased CARES Award.

The State has increased the Coronavirus Relief Fund award to the City of Ephrata by \$122,700.00 and extended the contract deadline to November 30, 2020. All eligible reimbursement expenses must be submitted by December 15, 2020 to the Department of Commerce. In order to receive these additional funds, Council must first authorize the contract amendment.

Staff would like to use these additional funds for equipment to facilitate on-line training and meeting requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on gatherings. There are a number of continuing education requirements staff has to adhere to in order to maintain certifications for certain functions of their jobs.

Motion to authorize Administration to execute Amended Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds in the amount of \$122,700.00. (m/s Moore/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Accept Donation from First Interstate Bank for Bold Programs: Donation was received from First Interstate Bank to support the City's BOLD Program in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Motion to accept donation from First Interstate Bank for Bold Program. (m/s Allstot/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Surplus Vehicles: There are two vehicles which are surplus to the needs of the City, a 1988 Chevy Pickup and a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria. Normal procedure is for Council to surplus and authorize they be sent to auction.

Motion to surplus a 1988 Chevy Pickup and 2009 Crown Victoria and authorize the execution of Agreement with Booker Auction for the sale. (m/s Moore/Allstot) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter contract with Public Safety Testing for background investigation: Administrator Warren reported that for the background investigation on the new Police Chief, he would like to utilize Public Safety Testing. They require a Specialized Services Agreement. Counsel has reviewed the Service Agreement and has approved.

Motion to authorize Administration to enter Specialized Services Agreement with Public Safety Testing for background investigation. (m/s Moore/Coe) Council discussion, motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Police Chief Update: Administrator Warren advised Council that Kurt Adkinson was selected by the interview committee as Ephrata's next Police Chief, pending background investigation and psychological evaluation.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk