



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 15, 2016

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on June 15, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim and adjourned to executive session to discuss litigation or potential litigation (42.30.110.(1)i) for approximately thirty minutes. Executive session adjourned, no decisions were made or action taken. Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Stephanie Knitter, and Tony Mora.

Staff Present: City Administrator Wes Crago, City Attorney Anna Franz, Community Development Director Ron Sell, Recreation Director Ray Towry, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Police Chief Mike Warren, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns, and City Clerk Leslie Trachsler.

This meeting is being recorded.

Motion to excuse Council members Allstot and Wanke. (m/s Mora/Moore) Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance was said. No public signed up to speak.

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

Presentations: Chief's Coin was presented to Amber Cobb and DK's Restaurant Owner Helen Snow for going above and beyond in reporting suspicious activity which resulted in the arrest of a murder suspect. Officer Canady gave a brief report of the incident and expressed his gratitude to these two individuals and recommended they be recognized. Chief Warren explained that it is important to have a good working relationship with the citizens and that it is his privilege to present the Chief's Coin to Amber Cobb and Helen Snow.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Payroll #44459 through #44491 in the amount of \$34,370.20
Payroll Claims #85028 through #85045 in the amount of \$217,476.95
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$6,125.00
Payroll Direct Deposits in the amount of \$159,555.39
Claims #85098 through #85102 in the amount of \$424.88
Manual Claims #86062016, 87062016, 88062016 & 89062016 in the amount of \$2,002.62
Claims #85103 through #85171 in the amount of \$177,191.32
Minutes of the June 1, 2016 Council meeting
Approval of Fireworks Stand Permit:

- TNT Fireworks at Walmart Parking Lot

Special Event Applications:

- Relay for Life Fun Run, June 17, 2016 at 11:00 p.m., EHS/Grant School Neighborhood

Public Hearing – Ordinance 16-06 Vacation of Easement Parkside Estates Lot 9:

Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:05 p.m. Director Sell gave a brief staff report. This is a request to extinguish an existing property line easement and replace with a new easement along the new lot line location. The proposed area is at 30 Parkside Loop SE on Lot 9 of the Parkside Estates Phase 1A Major Plat. No comments were received from those agencies which could potentially have services located within the existing easement.

There being no public comment and no Council comment, Mayor Reim closed the hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Ordinance 16-06 Vacation of Easement Parkside Estates Lot 9: Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 16-06 Vacating a Portion of a Public Utility Easement. (m/s Millard/Moore) Motion carried.

July 06, 2016 Council Meeting: Crago advised that this meeting has traditionally been cancelled due to vacation schedules through the holiday and staff has made preparations if Council decides to cancel this meeting. Motion to cancel the July 6, 2016 Council meeting. (m/s Moore/Millard) Motion carried.

Training Closure June 30, 2016 from 11:00 – 1:00: The bi-annual all-hands training and staff awards and lunch is scheduled for June 30, 2016 from 11:00 – 1:00. All city operations will be closed during this time.

Columbia Basin Youth Baseball Request for matching funds: Motion to table. (m/s Millard/Moore) Motion Carried. Mayor Reim gave a brief explanation of why this is being tabled at this time citing it is a good project but needed more time to coordinate all the parties involved. It will be discussed again at a later date.

General Engineering Firm Request for Qualifications: Crago advised that periodically we advertise for general engineering services. This is a good business practice and is also required for many State grants and loans. With the upcoming 2017 projects, now is an opportune time to advertise for Request for Qualifications. Staff will evaluate the applicants and make recommendation to the Mayor for Council approval.

Request to Amend EMC 10.80 to allow for Golf-Cart style vehicles: A local business owner, Tom and Kamela Farmer, have requested Council consider the inclusion of golf-cart style vehicles in the Alternative Vehicles Code (EMC 10.80). Crago reported staff is seeking Council direction before researching this issue. State law would require council to take action to designate specific areas where they are allowed and also requires addition signing.

Kamela Farmer addressed Council stating that there are other communities in the area which allow golf carts and that it would benefit them economically.

Council discussion ensued regarding signage, licensing, and pros and cons. With the Alternative Vehicle Code, Chief Warren advised that there have not been any complaints or incidences reported. Counsel advised there would be the issue of informing the public of allowed areas and identification of signage if there is an accident.

Motion to direct staff to draft an ordinance. (m/s Moore/Knitter) Motion carried.

Fireworks Safety: Crago advised that Fireworks Safety Ads will be coming out in the paper reminding the public there is a zero tolerance on illegal fireworks.

City Administrator Report:

2016 Budget Report: General Fund cash reserves are up slightly; expenses and revenues are both 9.7% below projection.

Splashzone Paint Report: The resurfacing of Splashzone has been completed and looks terrific. Staff is happy with the contract and work performed. Product has a 15 year warranty. This resolved the cloudy water conditions we experienced in the past.

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

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk