



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 7, 2016

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on December 7, 2016. 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, Stephanie Knitter, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was said. This meeting is being recorded.

No public signed up to speak.

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

Presentations - Swearing in of Ephrata Patrol Officer Elizabeth Kallstrom: Chief Warren gave a brief speech recounting the journey to get to this point and the support of the citizens with the passage of the .1% sales tax. This tax was to provide for a Captains position, which was filled 2 years ago, and the placement of a detective on the INET drug task force team. With the hiring of Elizabeth Kallstrom, our patrol force is now fully staffed. Once she has completed her field training, which should be the first of March, Officer Wentworth will begin his assignment with INET.

Chief Warren introduced Elizabeth Kallstrom to Council. She is a native of Ephrata and has strong family ties to the area. Chief Warren gave the Oath of Office to Kallstrom and her brother pinned her badge.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #85906, 85926 and 85927 in the amount of \$2,359.80

EFT payment in the amount of \$22,870.09
VOIDED Check #85848 in the amount of (\$93.02)
Payroll Check #44832 through #44854 for \$32,286.33
Payroll Claims #85907 through #85925 for \$219,266.55
Payroll Direct Debit for \$6,000
Payroll Direct Deposits in the amount of \$167,520.44
Claims #85928 through #85995 in the amount of \$491,419.37
Minutes of the November 16, 2016 Council meeting
Set Public Hearing on Community Priorities Team Plan, Phase III Options for
December 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Approve Special Event Applications:

- Miracle on Main Street December 10, 2016, Downtown area 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Staff Report – Bio-Selector Construction: PW Director gave a brief report on the construction of the bio-selector. At present, it is about 50% complete. They are waiting on equipment which will not be shipped until the end of January, 2017. Contractor will be shutting down for a couple of weeks beginning next week.

Council discussion ensued regarding the function of the bio-selector. Sangster advised the treatment process will work better because of the bio-selector and will save on bio-solid removal. It will make the process better by reducing amount of chemicals being used and will cut down on overtime from call-outs.

Public Hearing – Policy 10010 City of Ephrata Snow Removal Policy: Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:15 p.m. Crago reviewed the City's Snow Removal Policy. This policy was developed in the early 1990's to address downtown business and citizen concerns. Priorities for plowing are as follows:

- Open up hills and primary streets for emergency services and schools
- Remove snow on Basin Street per WSDOT agreement
- Neighborhood residential streets, depending on depth
- Sand as needed after event is over

Crago reviewed the manpower and equipment cost which is approximately \$10,000 per snow event.

There were no public comments.

Council commended the crew for doing a nice job. Discussion ensued regarding the recent snow event which resulted in Division Street being blockaded. Crago advised that when the officer deems the streets to be unsafe, they will barricade it. Concern was expressed regarding the priority level of the Grandview area. Crago advised that it is at a higher priority than other residential areas, but not above the hospital and schools.

Mayor closed public hearing at 7:27 p.m.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 16-19 - 2017 City of Ephrata Budget: Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:27 p.m. Crago gave a brief staff report reviewing goals and objectives. In terms of comparable dollars, the 2017 budget is 0.2% higher than 2016. However, adding the grants and loans for major construction projects raised the total figure to 13% above 2016. This budget is still over 8% lower than it was in 2002. The total budget for 2017 is \$18,637,030 and includes the Basin Street Waterline replacement project and a partial resurfacing of Nat Washington Way.

There being no public comment or council comments, Mayor Reim closed public hearing at 7:31 p.m.

Ordinance 16-19 – 2017 City of Ephrata Budget: Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 16-19 adopting the final Budget for the City of Ephrata for the year ending December 31, 2017. (m/s Allstot/Moore) Motion carried.

City Hall Closure for Training & Staff Luncheon: Crago advised that City operations will be shut down from noon to 1:30 on Thursday, December 15th for our annual training, awards and staff luncheon.

Surplus of City Property: Ephrata Police has 11 ballistic vests that have expired. Staff would like to donate these vests to the Grant County Sherriff's explorer program so that cadets can better learn to move and act wearing a vest. Motion to surplus 11 ballistic vests. (m/s Mora/Millard) Motion carried.

Amend Policy 3800 – Social Media Policy: This policy needs a slight update changing references to Public Relations Director to Recreation Director. Motion to approve and accept amended Policy 3800 – Social Media Policy. (m/s Moore/Knitter) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Vision IT for Email Archiving: The current email archiving program, McAfee, is no longer going to provide this service. Our current IT provider, Vision IT, is able to provide the same service. This agreement provides for the migration of current archived emails onto the new system and archive all future emails. Motion to authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Vision IT for email archiving. (m/s Moore/Allstot) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter Hold Harmless Agreement with McDevitt Family: Crago reported that the Sportsman Association is negotiating with the McDevitt family to purchase property they own immediately North of the gun range. As a condition of the sale, the McDevitt's are asking for an acknowledgement and release that some shot from the trap and skeet range has landed on the McDevitt property. This agreement states the acknowledgement and releases the McDevitt's from responsibility for shot deposited there since 1990. Motion to authorize Administration to enter Hold Harmless Agreement with McDevitt Family. (m/s Allstot/Wanke) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

Accept Donated Property: Crago advised that a former resident, Victor Bell, has donated a 7.54 acre parcel of property to the City located southwest of Parkway Elementary and is bisected by the canal. This property has little to no value except as part of the proposed trail along the canal. The right-of-way of the future Beezly Hill Trail would cross Mr. Bell's property. Motion to accept donated property from Victor Bell. (m/s Wanke/Mora) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report: None

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk