



## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **January 04, 2017**

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on January 04, 2017. 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 Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Stephanie Knitter, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Wes Crago, City Attorney Katherine Kenison, Community Development Director Ron Sell, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Police Chief Mike Warren, Building Official Bill Cox and City Clerk Leslie Trachsler.

Motion to excuse Council member Wanke. (m/s Moore/Millard) Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak.

**Agenda:** Agenda was amended adding Item 2 to Section VI

**Presentations:** None at this time

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #86047 and 86048 in the amount of \$1,019.43  
Claims #86068 through #86103 in the amount of \$39,737.50  
Payroll #44855 through #44877 in the amount of \$39,282.04  
Payroll Claims #86049 through #86067 in the amount of \$242,092.76  
Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$202,649.71  
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$5,875.00  
Claims #86104 through #86113 in the amount of \$35,977.01  
Minutes of the December 21, 2016 Council meeting

**Public Hearing on Basin Street Waterline Project:** Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:01 p.m. Crago advised that the City will be replacing the 12” primary water mainline for Ephrata that runs along Basin Street. The project will be from Oasis Park on South Basin Street to DK’s on the North end of Basin Street. This waterline is approximately 60 years old. This public hearing is to gather questions and concerns from the public so that they may be addressed with the contractor as we move forward. It is anticipated this project will go to bid the end of January. This is an open ended hearing to gather comments and concerns from the public.

No public comment. Council discussion ensued. The Washington State Department of Transportation will be overlaying Basin in 2018. Public hearing closed at 7:08 p.m.

**Public Hearing on Resolution 17-959 – 2017 Update of the Six Year Street Plan:** Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:08 p.m. Crago advised that the City will be updating the Six-Year Street Plan every January. It is required for grant eligibility for nearly all funding agencies. This hearing is to gather public input regarding new additions to the Plan which will be integrated into the 2017 update. City will hold a final public hearing on February 1, 2017 to finalize the Plan.

There was public comment regarding the short side streets not being on the plan. Staff advised that they are not eligible for grant/loan funding sources but that the City is looking into a different program to fund this type of work.

No Council comments, public hearing closed at 7:10 p.m.

**Public Hearing on Resolution 17-960 – 2017 Update of Six Year Capital Facilities Plan:** Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:10 p.m. Crago advised that the City will be updating the Six-Year Capital Facilities Plan every January. It is required for many granting agencies as well as for the use of Real Estate Excise Tax funds. This hearing is to gather input regarding any additions to the Plan. City will hold a final public hearing on February 1, 2017 to finalize the Plan.

There were no public comments or council comments, public hearing closed at 7:12 p.m.

**Ordinance 17-01 – Amending EMC 14.08 “Cemetery Restrictions”:** Crago reported that occasionally, burials are held late in the afternoon which result in significant overtime expenses for the City. Additionally, during the winter months darkness becomes a safety factor. This ordinance change would encourage burials to take place before 3:00 p.m. and recover some of our overtime costs. This way the City will not restrict a family’s choice, but will responsibly recover some of our expenses.

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 17-01 amending EMC 14.08 entitled “Restrictions”. (m/s Allstot/Moore) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

**Resolution 17-961 Declaring Telco a Sole Source Provider:** Crago advised that the City has had a long standing professional services agreement with Telco for phone

services since 2003. The server for the existing phone system is overdue for replacement and upgrade that is compatible with the current service to avoid dramatic cost increases. Telco can provide this professional service under existing security and confidentiality clearances.

Motion to approve and accept Resolution 17-961 Declaring Telco a Sole Source Provider. (m/s Moore/Coe) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

**Development Permits in the Flood Plain:** New regulations are coming down from the National level regarding any development in the flood plain. This may include building permits, grading permits, remodels, etc. This is only an initial presentation to hear the broadest summary of this new impact.

Building Official, Bill Cox, gave a brief presentation on the upcoming regulation changes. Staff is developing a permit to determine if substantial work is being done on homes in the flood plain. FEMA will be raising the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) rates substantially in the near future. Non-compliance with the Community Rating System (CRS) program could result in the loss of the ability to get NFIP insurance and limit the ability to obtain federal financing. Mayor Reim expressed his appreciation for Cox's dedication to this endeavor.

Council discussion ensued.

**Authorize Administration to re-enter Lease Agreement with Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR):** The City has a long-standing lease agreement with DNR for recreational use of 240 acres on Beezley Hill. The cost has historically been \$1000/year. DNR will now have the option of raising that fee every five years, by CIP or percentage of the value of the property. The City will have the ability to review the costs and approve or terminate the agreement if need be. Ephrata has a large recreational hiking and cycling community that utilize the Beezley Hill trails.

Motion to authorize administration to re-enter Lease Agreement with Washington Department of Natural Resources. (m/s Mora/Knitter) Council discussion, motion carried.

**Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Telco Wiring and Repair for upgraded Phone System:** Our phone system is currently on an old outdated server and is running outdated Avaya software. Telco, who is our current provider, was asked to submit a quote to refresh the Avaya IP Office Voice Servers with current hardware and licensing.

Motion to authorize administration to amend Agreement with Telco Wiring and Repair to upgrade City phone system. (m/s Allstot/Moore) Motion carried.

**City Administrator Report:**

Interviews for the Director of Community Services are scheduled for Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a lunch provided for the candidates, Council and Parks Commission at noon. An Open House will be held at 3:00 p.m. for staff and public.

Crappie at Sewer Plant: Crago reported that the Crappie fingerlings that were introduced to the pond at the wastewater treatment facility are multiplying. There have been several hundred re-located to Ping Pond.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk