



## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **February 15, 2017**

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on February 15, 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 Mark Wanke, Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Wes Crago, City Attorney Katherine Kenison, Community Development Director Ron Sell, Police Chief Mike Warren, Director of Community Services Traci Bennett and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

**Agenda:** There were no additions or correction to the agenda.

**Presentations:** Sadie Armijo, Assistant Director of Local Audit with the Washington State Auditor's Office presented the State Auditors Stewardship Award to the City of Ephrata. This special award recognizes entities who go above and beyond in their transparency with the public and the stewardship of public funds. Specifically, they recognized Ephrata for City Administrator Crago's leadership that has consistently promoted a culture of accountability and commitment to effective government and Finance Director Trachsler's development of a detailed cost allocation process. They also commended the City's financial statement review process which involves the Mayor, Council and staff which in turn helps those officials perform their respective duties more effectively.

Administrator Crago introduced Traci Bennett as the new Director of Community Services/Recreation Director for the City of Ephrata. She comes with over 25 years' experience in parks and recreation. We are happy to have her on board.

Traci addressed Council commenting that she is thrilled to be here and has found the community to be very welcoming and friendly.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claim #86237 in the amount of \$62.25  
Manual Claims #86022017, 87022017, 88022017, 89022017 in the amount of \$2,068.99  
Electronic Fund Transfer in the amount of \$17,641.94  
Claims #86274 through #86345 in the amount of \$133,608.32  
Minutes of the February 1, 2017 Council meeting

**2016 Ephrata Police Department Annual Report:** Chief Warren reviewed the 2016 Ephrata Police Department Annual Report and acknowledged Office Manager Jennifer Hansen for putting the report together. Highlights include:

- Completed department Accreditation which involved meeting standards set by WASPC (Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs)
- Passage of a 1/10 percent sales tax for public safety which provided the Captains position and funded the INET officer
- Five Year Strategic Plan 2017-2022 to include several Goals:
  - Enhance quality of life for citizens, reduce criminal activity and conditions that foster crime and fear of crime
  - Improve community trust, interaction, involvement and accountability
  - Enhance agency efficiency and effectiveness
  - Provide work environment that attracts and retains quality personnel, rewards excellence, enhances skills of and opportunities for all personnel
- Several awards were presented to those citizens who have assisted officers in the line of duty
- Community Events to include yearly Bike Rodeo at Grant and Columbia Ridge Schools; Annual Chief for A Day; Child and Babysitting Safety Course; Touch a Truck; and Shop with a Cop
- Hired three new Police Officers in 2016
- Continued annual training of all EPD officers to include Use of Force, Firearms and TASER

Chief Warren briefly reviewed the statistics and commented that it's an honor to work with the members of this police department.

Council discussion/comments ensued. They appreciate the way the department approaches the public and hear lots of good comments about the officers from the community.

**Surplus City Property:** The police recently seized a 1999 Chevy K2 2500 Pickup. This pickup is not suited for the City's use and staff recommends to surplus it.

Motion to surplus seized 1999 Chevy K2 2500 pickup. (m/s Mora/Wanke) Motion carried.

**Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with SpyGlass Group for Communications Evaluation:** SpyGlass is a consulting firm focused on auditing telecommunications service billing in an effort to identify billing inconsistencies or to uncover dormant services that continue to be charged. If they do not find anything or if the City chooses not to implement their recommendations, there is no charge. If they uncover a cost recovery situation (overbilling) their fee would be 50% of the refund; in the event there is a savings by eliminating a service, their fee would be 12 times that services monthly fee.

Motion to authorize Administration to enter Agreement with SpyGlass Group for communications evaluation. (m/s Moore/Millard) Motion carried.

**City Administrator Report**

2017 Budget Report: General fund reserve up slightly. Revenues are 2.8% below budget and expenditures are 4% below budget.

Council comments regarding the snow plowing and the budget.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

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Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk