



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 22, 2018

Council conducted a Study Session on the 2019 Budget at 6:30 p.m. Administrator Crago reviewed the roles and responsibilities of Council, Mayor and staff; discussed importance of good decision making processes and potential budget impacts for the next year. At present revenues are projected to be slightly higher but with the CPI expenses will increase as well.

Goals & Objectives were reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding the Transportation Benefit District and including “improvement to infrastructure” to the 2019 Goals & Objectives.

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on August 22, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim.

Members Present: Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Mark Wanke, Matt Moore, Justin Kooy, 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, Community Relations Director Traci Bennett, Police Captain Erik Koch, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak.

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

Presentations: None

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #88890 through #88967 in the amount of \$499,460.94
Electronic Fund Transfer in the amount of \$23,137.62
Manual Claims #86082018, 87082018, 88082018 and 89082018 in the amount of \$3,455.75
Claims #88883 through #88889 in the amount of \$2,295.92
Minutes of the August 1, 2018 Council meeting
Set Public Hearing on the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update for September 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Set Public Hearing on the 2018 Development Code Update for September 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Special Event Applications:

- Benefit Run for Ape – August 4, 2018 Basin Street/1st Avenue
- Veterans Day Parade – November 11, 2018 11:00 a.m. Basin Street/C Street

Councilman Wanke – Trail Project Update: Council member Wanke updated Council on the progress of the Ephrata Community Trails Committee. They have been waiting for consent from the Bureau of Reclamation. At present the Letter of Approval giving the City consent for use is being processed up the chain of command at BOR. Councilman Wanke explained that this has been a long process to get to this point. Once this letter is received, then the project can begin moving forward.

Public Hearing – General Allocations for 2019 0.2% Sales Tax Transportation Improvements: Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:06 p.m. Administrator Crago gave a brief staff report and advised Council that the TBD tax becomes effective 1-1-2019 and the City will receive the first payment in March. Each month, the City can expect between \$18,000 and \$22,000 in TBD revenues. Because the City operates on a cash basis, this first year emphasis will be on building up a cash reserve. Staff proposes the following allocation for 2019 with an estimated budget of \$200,000:

- 7.5% - Preventative Maintenance = aprox. \$15,000
- 5% - Reactive Maintenance = aprox. \$10,000
- 87.5% - Savings = aprox. \$175,000

Preventative maintenance would consist of Crack Sealing in the SW, NW and Swanson areas. Reactive maintenance would address pothole and sinkhole repairs as needed. Staff is seeking Council consensus for formation of the 2019 Budget.

Public comment regarding interest rates on the savings. Council discussion ensued. Glad to see some dollars for maintenance, Mayor closed public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Surplus City Property: We have surplus to the City's needs a set of old bookshelves, a 300 gallon brush rig water tank (owned by the Volunteer Association) and a non-functional fire hydrant.

Motion to surplus set of bookshelves, 300 gallon brush rig water tank and a fire hydrant. (m/s Wanke/Moore) Motion carried.

Accept \$200 Donation for Recreation Scholarships: City received a \$200 donation from an anonymous donor to be used for recreation scholarships.

Motion to accept donation of \$200 for Recreation Scholarships. (m/s Kooy/Moore) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Construction Update:

- Basin Street Water Main – Construction began at the North end of Basin; installing water main, hydrants and side-services from 3rd Avenue NW to 5th Avenue NW.
- 1st Avenue NW Sidewalk – Crews are wrapping up and paving.

Splash Zone Report: It's been good summer, about average for attendance. Lifeguards are doing well. Smoke has had an effect on attendance.

2018 Budget Update: Revenue is 13% below budget and expenses are 16% below budget. Cash reserves are up slightly and are slowly building back up. Sales Tax hit another record high.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk