



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES September 19, 2018

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on September 19, 2018. 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, 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 Chief Mike Warren, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak. This meeting is being recorded.

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

Presentations: Grant PUD General Manager, Kevin Nordt addressed Council. He reviewed the PUD's growth plan and power system; their focus is on controlling costs while investing in the infrastructure; implementing a stable and predictable rate structure by having small rate increases annually; have seen 4% per year growth over the last 10 years; and implementation of an advanced metering program.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #89012 through #89075 in the amount of \$288,857.06
Electronic Fund Transfer in the amount of \$27,085.05
Manual Checks #86092018, 87092018, 88092018 and 89092018 in the amount of \$3,079.49
Minutes of the September 5, 2018 Council meeting.

Reschedule Public Hearing for 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update to October 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Reschedule Public Hearing for 2018 Development Code Update to October 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Special Event Permits:

- Walk 2 School, October 4, 2018 – Columbia Ridge, Middle School and Grant neighborhoods

Ordinance 18-14 – Ratigan Property Annexation: Crago advised Council that this is the last step in the annexation process. This ordinance annexes 10.9 acres of the Ratigan Property into the City limits with its full geographic boundaries as proposed; will be zoned as Commercial-2; and will assume all indebtedness and begin paying City taxes.

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-14 Ratigan Property Annexation. (m/s Kooy/Wanke) Motion carried.

Ordinance 18-18 – Amending EMC 5.03 “Business Licenses”: Crago advised that this ordinance makes three changes to the current City Business License Code:

1. Revises definition of “engaging in business” as required by new State Law
2. Clarified the \$5000 no-fee-for-license threshold
3. Clarifies the appeal procedure if the City denies or revokes a business license

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-18 Amending EMC 5.03 entitled “Business Licenses”. (m/s Allstot/Kooy) Motion carried.

McCreary Property Annexation Request: Staff received a request from John and Sonya McCreary to annex a 20.3 acre lot that is adjacent to SR-28 and is located generally North of DK’s. Council should direct staff to hold a public hearing to consider the following:

- Accept, reject or modify the boundaries of the proposed annexation
- Require the adoption of Commercial-2 zoning
- Require the property assume all City taxes and other indebtedness

Motion to set Public Hearing on the McCreary Annexation Request for October 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. (m/s Wanke/Millard) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Construction Update:

- Basin Street Water Main - Week 24 of 28. Still a lot of hook ups yet to be completed; fire hydrants are installed; cement work is progressing; and paving is ongoing. Crews will be moving to a 6 day work week.

Final Splash Zone Report: Attendance was lower than average. Overall expenses were higher than average which is due in part to the increased minimum wage which will

continue to increase. Swim lessons were a big success this year. Rates will need to be increased to help offset the increased expenses.

2018 Budget Report: Overall expenses are 18% below budget with revenues 16% below budget. Cash reserves are up slightly and are looking pretty good. Sales tax for August was once again at an all-time high.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk