



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 17, 2018

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on October 17, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem William Coe and adjourned to executive session to discuss Adopting Strategy for Negotiations (RCW 42.30.140(4)b) and Potential Litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)i) for approximately one hour. Executive session adjourned at 6:55 p.m., no decisions were made or action taken. Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: 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, Recreation Supervisor Brian DuBois, Police Captain Erik Koch, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns and Administrative Assistant Carrie Lnenicka.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

No public signed up to speak.

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

Presentations: Kari Chornuk was introduced as the Utility Billing Clerk to the City Council. She was the finalist of 156 applicants.

Just Kooy abstained himself from voting on the consent agenda as he is the lead fireworks contractor for the special events permit.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #89143 through #89192 in the amount of \$824,595.60
Manual Claims #86102018, 87102018, 88102018 and 89102018 in the amount of \$2,620.32

EFT in the amount of \$19,779.69
Minutes of the October 3, 2017 Council meeting
Special Events Application:

- EHS Homecoming Fireworks/Bonfire – EHS Area, October 19, 2015;
8:30 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.

Ephrata Community Garden Location – Information only. Currently the City is using half of the block C Street and 4th Avenue SW for the Ephrata Community Garden. The unused half of that block will be developed by the land owner and he has stated that he would like to exercise termination clause if the development is successful. This is a potential change within the next 5-10 years.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 18-13 Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining: Mayor Pro-tem opened public hearing at 7:04 p.m. Crago gave a brief review. There were two people signed up to speak in favor of the moratorium on cryptocurrency mining.

Gary and Donna Huesties of 237 Nob Hill Drive addressed Council. They live just above the hill from one of the mines located on A Street NE. They stated that the fans are so loud and constant that they can't enjoy their outdoor pool or coffee on their deck.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Pro-tem Coe closed the hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Ordinance 18-13 Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining: Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-13 Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining: (m/s Allstot/Millard) Discussion ensued. Motion carried.

Ord 18-17: Amending EMC 1.22 Civil Code Enforcement: This update will allow staff to change the verbiage from “conduct” to “schedule”, thus giving both parties 45 days to conduct the hearing.

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-17 Amending EMC 1.22 Civil Code Enforcement. (m/s Moore/Kooy). Motion carried.

Ordinance 18-19: McCreary Property Annexation: Crago advised Council that this is the final step of the annexation process. This ordinance annexes 20.3 acres of the McCreary 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 18-19 McCreary Property Annexation. (m/s Moore/Wanke) Motion carried.

Accept 1st Avenue Sidewalk Replacement Project as Substantially Complete: Tommer Construction has reached substantial completion of this project. There are

several items left to be completed but Council can declare the project as substantially complete.

Motion to accept 1st Avenue Sidewalk Project as Substantially Complete. (m/s Moore/Millard) Motion carried.

Confirm Mayor's appointment of Tyler Carlson to Ephrata Parks Commission: The Parks Commission had a vacancy and advertised for applicants. Two applications were received and forwarded to the Mayor. Mayor Reim has appointed Tyler Carlson to the Commission, just need Council confirmation.

Motion to Confirm and Appoint Tyler Carlson to the Ephrata Parks Commission. (m/s Kooy/Moore) Motion carried.

Authorize Agreement with TIB for 8th Avenue Overlay Engineering: Staff applied and received a grant from TIB for an arterial paving project. The first phase of the project is the engineering and design work for which the City will receive \$20,500. The total estimated cost of the entire project is \$257,000.00.

Motion to authorize Administration to Enter Agreement with Transportation Improvement Board for 8th Avenue NW Overlay Grant. (m/s Millard/Allstot) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

2018 budget: Expenses are below budget 21% and revenues are below budget 19%. Sales tax received September for July was \$155,600 which is a record for the month of July. Local economy is measured by taxable sales and ours appears very strong. Cash reserves in General Fund are up and are closing in on our goal. Slow steady growth is the key. Will hit target within a few years.

2019 budget: Working on contracts that will have implications on the budget. Nothing has changed from last draft. Making trims where they can.

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

William Coe, Mayor Pro-tem

ATTEST:

Carrie Lnenicka, Administrative Assistant