



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 7, 2018

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on November 7, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim and adjourned to executive session to discuss planning or adopting strategy for negotiations (RCW 42.30.140(4)b) and litigation or potential litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)i) for one hour. Executive session adjourned, no decisions were made or action taken. Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Agenda: Agenda was amended adding second item under City Administrators Report.

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 #89193 through #89201 in the amount of \$5,272.33
Claims #89222 in the amount of \$1,000.00
Claims #89223 through #89299 in the amount of \$316,677.37
VOIDED Payroll #45923 in the amount of \$(658.04)
Re-Issued Payroll #46056 in the amount of \$658.04
Payroll #46055 in the amount of \$173.39
Payroll #46057 through #46075 in the amount of \$31,858.04

Payroll Claims #89101 and 89102 in the amount of \$31.50
Payroll Claims #89203 through 89221 in the amount of \$218,819.24
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$6,000.00
Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$168,318.22
Minutes of the October 17, 2018 Council meeting
Set Public Hearings for Ordinance 18-22 on the 2019 Budget for November 21, 2018 and December 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Fall Leaf Pickup 2018: Crago reported that the 2018 Fall Leaf Pickup will get underway the week of November 12th. Crews from Consolidated Disposal will make passes through each section of town during that week. The City Shop will be open, during business hours, until the 21st of November for City residents to drop off bagged leaves as well.

Ephrata Civil Service Commission Opening: Jeff Mackey submitted his resignation as a Civil Service Commissioner. Mr. Mackey stated he is moving from the area for health reasons. City will be accepting letters of interest to fill this vacancy.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 18-21 Ad Valorem Taxes: Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Crago gave a brief staff report and advised that by initiative, the maximum amount the City can request is an addition of 1% which is approximately \$12,300 of additional property tax revenue. Property taxes comprise roughly 7% of our total budget and is used to support several funds.

There being no public comment, Mayor closed public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Ordinance 18-21 Ad Valorem Taxes: Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-21 fixing the amount of revenues for the 2019 Budget to be raised by Ad Valorem Taxes. (m/s Allstot/Mora) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

Ordinance 18-23 Establishing Transportation Benefit District Fund 111: This ordinance creates a separate fund for revenues collected by the voter-approved sales tax for the Transportation Benefit District. Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 18-23 establishing Fund 111, Ephrata Transportation Benefit District Fund. (m/s Millard/Moore) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Teamsters Local 760: Crago reported on union negotiations with the Police Officers which went very well with few substantive changes. Highlights of the new contract are:

- Clarifies language related to membership, training days, and State-mandated fees
- Removes language allowing the City to contract out operations with 30-days notice
- Changes language allowing take-home vehicles within a greater radius of Ephrata
- Provides an opener for an alternative pension plan (at no cost to City)
- Provides a 3% cost-of-living raise each year of the 5 year contract – 2019-2023
- Increases pay gap from Senior Officer to Sergeant over time

- Provides an additional \$2/month incentive for longevity

Motion to authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Teamsters Local 760. (m/s Wanke/Moore) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Farallon Consulting: The on-going remediation of the County Landfill requires the City employ an Environmental-Engineering Consulting Firm. Our previous consultant with EM Solutions passed away last September. Four firms were interviewed with our legal team and tentatively engaged Farallon Consulting of Seattle WA. All the fees incurred by the consulting firm are reimbursed by our old insurance carrier. Terms of their engagement are similar to our previous consultant.

Motion to authorize Administration to execute Agreement with Farallon Consulting Firm. (m/s Kooy/Moore) Motion carried.

November 21, 2018 Council Meeting: This meeting falls on the day before Thanksgiving and staff needs to either insure that there will be a quorum or re-schedule for Monday or Tuesday. Two Council members indicated they would not be here, there will be a quorum.

Authorize Agreement with AIM School & Athletics for Gymnastic Recreation Programs: This our standard Agreement for Recreational Services. Motion to authorize Administration to execute Agreement with AIM School & Athletics for gymnastic recreational programs. (m/s Allstot/Wanke) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

2019 Budget Draft Overview: Crago gave a brief overview of the draft 2019 Budget. Without the 2018 project costs, the 2019 budget projections reflect an approximate 1% increase. However, this could all change as we continue refining and working toward balancing expenses with projected revenues.

Justin Kooy announced that he is moving out of City limits at the end of the year. This will require he step down from City Council.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk