



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 06, 2019

Council hosted an Open House on the proposed Roundabout at Dodson Road and SR 282 at 5:45 p.m. The State of Washington Department of Transportation was on hand to discuss the project.

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on February 06, 2019. 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, Sarah McDonnell, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

Staff Present: City Administrator Wes Crago, 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.

Public signed up to speak during the Public Hearing.

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

Presentations: None

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #89620, 89623 and 89624 in the amount of \$1,023.55
Claims #89627 through #89631 in the amount of \$4,370.09
Claims # 896921 and #89622 in the amount of \$6,269.77
Claims #89626 in the amount of \$14,443.19
VOIDED claims # 89523 and 89625 in the amount of (\$37,872.48)
Payroll #46120 through #46139 in the amount of \$32,624.05

Payroll Claims #89632 through #89651 in the amount of \$231,008.96
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$5,875.00
Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$179,256.91
Claims #89652 through #89735 in the amount of \$228,950.94
Minutes of the January 16, 2019 Council meeting

Public Hearing – Proposed Washington State Department of Transportation Roundabout at Dodson Road and SR-282: Mayor Reim opened public hearing at 7:01 p.m. This hearing is to take public input on Ephrata’s participation in the State’s proposed Roundabout at SR-282 and Dodson Road.

Representative from Washington State Department of Transportation gave a brief presentation. Roundabouts are safer than stop lights and the overall collision rates drop considerably. They expect to build out in April or May and will take approximately 4-5 days to complete. Traffic will be detoured during construction but Dodson Road will remain open for north bound traffic only and will only be able to turn right onto SR-282. Cost is estimated at \$120,000. Grant County has made a commitment to participate financially.

Mayor Reim opened the floor for public comments going down the list of individuals who signed up to speak. All who spoke were in favor of the roundabout. There were some concerns raised regarding the Empire Road entrance onto Dodson Road and provisions for a pedestrian crossing on SR-282.

There being no further public comments, Mayor Reim closed public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Ordinance 19-01 – Closing Fund 299 “GO Swimming Pool Redemption Fund”: The General Obligation Bond for the swimming pool has been paid off and this fund can now be closed.

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 19-01 Closing Fund 299 GO Swimming Pool Redemption Fund. (m/s Millard/Wanke) Motion carried.

Ordinance 19-02 – Amending EMC 3.35 “Fee Schedule and Charges for City Services”: There were two minor amendments to the Fee Schedule. One to correct a typo in the penalty section and the other to correct the non-resident fees.

Motion to approve and accept Ordinance 19-02 Amending EMC 3.35 “Fee Schedule and Charges for City Services”. (m/s Mora/Allstot) Motion carried.

Resolution 19-984 – Declaring an Emergency for the Division Street Sewer-IV Project: Crago gave a brief staff report and advised that we experienced another sewer line collapse on the Division Street sewer main on January 14, 2019. This failure presents an immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the City and creates an emergency condition for the citizens. This Resolution declares an emergency and waives the statutory competitive bidding requirements.

Motion to approve and accept Resolution 19-984 declaring the existence of an emergency and waiving and dispensing with the statutory competitive bidding requirements. (m/s Wanke/McDonnell) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

Participation with Grant County and Washington DOT for Roundabout at Dodson Road and SR-282: Crago gave a brief staff report reviewing the necessity of some form of traffic control at this intersection and discussed the safety, efficiency and cost effectiveness of roundabouts. The City staff have received 8 letters in support of the roundabout.

Motion to participate with the Washington State Department of Transportation in the Roundabout Project at Dodson Road and SR-282 and authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 from TBD Fund. (m/s Moore/Allstot) Council discussion ensued, motion carried.

Authorize Administration to issue Letter of Support – James Forrest request to bring property into Urban Growth Boundary: Crago advised that Mr. Forrest owns property on Grandview Heights which is not in the City's Urban Growth Area (UGA) but borders City limits. Mr. Forrest petitioned the County to bring his property into Ephrata's UGA and as part of that application a letter of support from the City is required. This does not annex the property into the City but is a necessary first step if Mr. Forrest should decide to annex in the future. Due to the timing of when the application was due, a temporary conditional letter of support was issued pending confirmation from Council.

Council discussion ensued.

Motion to authorize Administration to issue Letter of Support for James Forrest's application requesting property be brought into the City's Urban Growth Boundary. (m/s Moore/Mora) Motion carried.

Write Off of Uncollectible Debt: In keeping with City policy, staff has identified several accounts that are legally uncollectible due to tax foreclosure, bankruptcy and exceeding statute of limitations.

Motion to approve the write off of legally Uncollectible Debt as presented. (m/s Allstot/Moore) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Washington State Patrol (WSP) for Fire Mobilization Reimbursements: This Agreement allows the WSP, which oversees the State Fire Marshall, to reimburse City for fire mobilization on large wildfires.

Motion to authorize Administration to enter Agreement with Washington State Patrol for Fire Mobilization Reimbursements. (m/s Wanke/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Authorize Administration to Advertise for Bids on 8th Avenue NW Resurface Project: Crago advised we have received a Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) grant to resurface 8th Avenue NW from Basin Street to Frey Road. Staff is ready to advertise for competitive bids with Council approval. Proposed bid opening will be March 21, 2019.

Motion to authorize Administration to advertise for bids on 8th Avenue NW Resurface Project. (m/s Millard/Moore) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Final 2018 Budget Report: Revenues exceed expectations, expenses were 11% below budget, sales tax finished out at an all-time historic high and the ending fund cash balance in the General Fund increased significantly from last year.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk