

**CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON
REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED
MAYOR STEVEN C. LACY, PRESIDING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

Councilmember's Present: Councilmember McCourt, Councilmember Barnhart, Councilmember Hendricks, Councilmember Raab, Councilmember Bremmer, and Mayor Lacy.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Barnhart, second by Councilmember Bremmer, to excuse Councilmember Johnson from this meeting. The motion carried, 5-0.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Raab, second by Councilmember Barnhart, to excuse Councilmember Buckner from this meeting. The motion carried, 5-0.

Staff Present: Lori Barnett, Devin Poulson, Brandon Mauseh, Nick Gerde, and Catalina Garibay.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Street Department

Street Superintendent, Brandon Mauseh, gave an update of the Canyon A Flood Control Project stating that Strider Construction will complete the project by Friday. He added that during the project the Contractor encountered a great deal more rock than anticipated through the easement areas and he is working with RH2 Engineering and Strider Construction on a change order for the additional rock quantities during the excavation work. Mr. Mauseh said Community Development Director, Lori Barnett, along with RH2 Engineering, Randy Asplund, submitted a grant application to the Department of Ecology (DOE) for the debris cage that goes on the head of the culvert on the east side of Eastmont Avenue. They requested \$47,000 and received \$25,000 towards the project.

Mr. Mauseh said the Street Department received the rented crack sealing machine and the crew has been focusing their efforts on crack sealing Grant Road and other streets needing repair during the month of September.

Finance Department

City Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, reviewed the financial report for August 2009.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lacy said the City received an invoice from Douglas County relative to the payments on the Public Works Trust Fund Loan PWTFLL that were not made by the City because we had not been invoiced. The invoice indicates that the County will not claim any back interest for the three years since they failed to pass those invoices on to the City, as long as the City pays the invoice within 60 days. He added he had discussed at the last Council meeting waiting to pay the invoice until he could meet with the County to discuss other aspects of the annexation agreement, specifically the City's desire to have some deeds transferred on some of the properties that were incurred during the annexation. He said at this time

he would recommend payment of the invoice and treat these as separate issues. If there are no objections he will submit this invoice for payment. There were no objections from Council.

Mayor Lacy said the area in question involves the Park and Ride property located on the southeast corner of 3rd Street SE and Rock Island Road which should have been transferred to the City during its annexation in 2006. Several small parcels of county owned property were discovered after the annexation, and were subsequently transferred to the city. However, the 3rd Street property has not been transferred. He said the annexation agreement provides for the transfer and ownership to go with the jurisdiction in which the boundaries exist. He added the City had sent a letter to Douglass County approximately a year ago indicating we wanted the issue resolved, and, if need be, the matter would go to mediation. We did not receive a positive response from the County. Therefore, he recommended the City pursue mediation, as the contract requires issues to be resolved in this format. He added in order for us to mediate, the City and County would both need to appoint an elected official along with a mutual mediator that both parties would participate in selecting. Mayor Lacy said he would serve as the City's official if there were no objections. No objections were heard from Council.

Mayor Lacy said the City owned house located adjacent to City Hall could possibly solve some of the City's space needs. He said the house has had two tenants up to this point, and we are having some difficulty showing the home because it is outdated and in need of several repairs as well as painting. He said he took a walk through of the house with Street Superintendent, Brandon Mauseth, and felt it would be advisable for the council to weigh in from a policy stand point of what to do with the property. He said they could continue renting the home, remodel the home for City office space, or remodel the home for library space. He said in order to give the Council a better vision he would like them to do a walk through of the home if there is time after executive session this evening. He added he has not spoken to the Regional Library about the space as he would like to receive input from Council in order to discuss the possibilities prior to making any decisions.

Mayor Lacy said a letter was drafted after consultation with Commissioner Ken Stanton, who represents that this letter is product of discussion among the County Commissioners to be signed jointly with the City of East Wenatchee. It is a letter to the Secretary of Transportation, Paula Hammond, related to the Apple Capital Loop Trail system regarding the More than a Trail process.

Mayor Lacy read the letter into the record.

Dear Ms. Hammond:

We have very much appreciated your support of the Apple Capital Loop Trail system in our community. As part of this surplus process for Department of Transportation right-of-way which encompasses the loop trail on the Douglas County side of the river, the City of East Wenatchee and Douglas County have embarked on a public visioning process to determine the future of this non-motorized transportation corridor.

Through our consultant, Project Groundworks, we were able to get a very clear response from the community that the trail is a very viable and well utilized component that must be preserved.

This is only the beginning of the public process that the City and the County intend to undertake. A master plan in the future will help to solidify how the trail continues to be incorporated into any future development.

It is with this in mind that we would request that the Department of Transportation give us time to work through this process and not “prioritize” this right-of-way for immediate surplus. It is the intent of both the city and the county to enhance access to the river, preserve critical habitat areas and allow for appropriate development that meets current zoning.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Mary Hunt, Chair
Mayor Steve Lacy

Mayor Lacy said since receiving this letter he has been informed by County Commissioner Ken Stanton, that Senator, Linda Evans Parlette, would like the City and County to delay delivery of the letter until she has given them the go ahead. He said without objection from Council he will sign the letter and hold until further notice.

Mayor Lacy said Douglas County is acting as lead agency for an application for significant funding as a grant to fund the Cascade Interchange Project at the Odabashian bridge area that is contemplated as part of the overall revamping of the roads. It would connect the new Eastmont extension and facilitate the development that is planned by the County and the Washington State Department of Transportation in the area of the Odabashian bridge. Mayor Lacy said if there is no objection he will have the Community Development Director, Lori Barnett, draft a letter of support for his signature. No objections were heard from Council.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes – Regular Session, August 25, 2009
2. Consideration of Bills

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bremmer, second by Councilmember Raab, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried, 4-0. (Barnhart)

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded in a listing, which has been made available to Council.

2009 Payables

As of this date, September 8, 2009, Council does approve warrant numbers 22057 through 22088 in the total amount of \$152, 656.81. No warrants were voided.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:10 p.m. Mayor Lacy called a 40 minute executive session regarding Collective Bargaining Session – RCW 42.30.140 (4).

At 7:50 p.m. Mayor Lacy extended the executive session for an additional 20 minutes.

At 8:10 p.m. Mayor Lacy extended the executive session for an additional 30 minutes.

At 8:40 p.m. Mayor Lacy extended the executive session for an additional 20 minutes.

Council reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember McCourt submitted minutes from the Housing Authority of Chelan County & the City of Wenatchee meeting, held on July 23, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 p.m.

Dana Barnard
City Clerk