

**CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON
REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED
MAYOR STEVEN C. LACY, PRESIDING
OCTOBER 27, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

Councilmember's Present: Councilmember Raab, Councilmember Bremmer, Councilmember Barnhart, Councilmember Hendricks, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember McCourt, and Councilmember Buckner. Mayor Lacy arrived at 6:45 p.m.

Staff Present: Dana Barnard, Catalina Garibay, Devin Poulson, Brandon Mauseh, Dawn Collings, Randy Harrison, Joan Sims, and Nick Gerde.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DEPARTMENT REPORT

East Wenatchee Events Board – Event Updates

East Wenatchee Events Board Director (EWEB), Dawn Collings, reported that there were 201 registered cars, and 72 registered motorcycles in the Wings and Wheels festival this year. She said the event was well attended. She submitted the design for the 2010 Wings & Wheels festival merchandise.

Ms. Collings said this past weekend was “Make a Difference Day” in which the EWEB had three projects they worked along with Mayor Lacy, Brandon Mauseh, Street Department employees, Councilmember Bremmer and several volunteers. The projects included: the Japanese Garden; the 19th Street detention pond; and the east side of SR 28 from Grant Road to 5th Street NE.

Ms. Collings said the E3 (Escape, Explore, Enjoy) North Central Washington (NCW), the tourism group that the City supports will be sponsoring the Wenatchee Wild Game Friday, October 30th. She said this sponsorship is part of the variety of initiatives designed to increase the promotion of NCW before, during and after the Olympic Games being held in February 2010.

Ms. Collings reported that the EWEB have been having discussions regarding how to tie the City and business activities together during the Christmas holidays. She said they have come up with the theme “Wings and Wishes” she said she has been working with businesses, giving them an opportunity to participate by putting this logo in their advertising. She said the intent is to draw local people to the East Wenatchee area during the holiday season to participate in the parade which is the arrival of Santa from Eastmont Community Park to the Wenatchee Valley Mall which will be held on Friday, November 27th, and also the City Tree Lighting Festival on Thursday, December 3rd at East Wenatchee City Hall.

Ms. Collings said the EWEB has been working on a design for the 25th anniversary of Classy Chassis in 2010. She also stated that the EWEB has secured a local business that will be sponsoring the 75th anniversary celebration on July 4, 2010. She added the 75th Anniversary will have a 1930's theme.

Finance Department – 2010 Preliminary Budget

City Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, provided Council with an estimate for the end of 2009 and the 2010 Preliminary Budget for East Wenatchee. He reviewed the budget assumptions for 2010 and the preliminary assumptions for capital costs for street preservation projects. Mr. Gerde gave a summary of

major revenue sources in the 2010 preliminary budget as well as major changes in revenue from 2009 to 2010. He also reviewed the major changes in expenditures expected for the 2010 budget and items that need to be reviewed or considered for the final budget.

Council discussed several areas of the budget, including placing specific road projects on hold such as the 15th Street overlay project in order to ensure we do not have a negative cash flow, which is projected by the year 2013 in the five-year financial plan.

Street Superintendent, Brandon Mauseh, said the 15th Street overlay was not a critical project as long as some maintenance was done to the street.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hendricks, second by Councilmember Johnson, to remove the 15th Street Project from the 2010 budget. The motion carried, 7-0.

Mayor Lacy said the budget committee meeting will continue for the committee to have further consideration regarding department requests and any other changes to the preliminary budget if they choose.

City Attorney, Devin Polson, reminded Councilmembers that when emailing concerns and considerations regarding the budget it becomes an open public meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lacy apologized for being late this evening. He said there is an upcoming meeting on November 12, 2009, at the Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council (WVTC). He said the City has sent a letter to the WVTC outlining the City's position regarding funding needs for Grant Road.

Mayor Lacy said the proceeds from the sale of property located at 302 N Colorado Avenue in the amount of \$112,500 should be received within the next several days. He said designations of those funds are important because the City can put those funds into a special account for capital improvement purposes. However, if Council did not take any action in terms of designation, it would go into the City's general fund and become part of the City's operating expenses. He asked Council for direction on where they would like those funds to be placed.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, second by Councilmember Buckner, to place the proceeds from the sale of the City property into the Capital Improvement Fund for capital projects. The motion carried, 7-0.

Mayor Lacy said he spent time in union negotiations yesterday. He said he completed several tentative agreements on various parts of the agreement. He said will be meeting again in the next couple of weeks to continue negotiations.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes – Regular Session, October 13, 2009
2. Consideration of Bills

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, second by Councilmember Bremmer, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried, 7-0.

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, October 27, 2009, Council does approve warrant numbers 22208 through 22311 in the total amount of \$299,208.32. Warrant numbers 22223, 22236, and 22250 were voided.

ORDINANCE

09-10-06 First reading of an ordinance regarding property taxes in the proposed 2010 East Wenatchee Budget.

Mayor Lacy read first reading of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY AND AUTHORIZING ANY INCREASE WHICH MAY BE ALLOWED IN THE AMOUNT UNDER THE NEW CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY AND STATE ASSESSED PROPERTY PROVISIONS OF STATE LAW LEVYING THE GENERAL TAXES FOR THE CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2010, ON ALL PROPERTY, BOTH REAL, PERSONAL AND UTILITY, IN SAID CITY WHICH IS SUBJECT TO TAXATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING SUFFICIENT REVENUE TO CARRY ON THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF SAID CITY FOR THE ENSUING YEAR AS REQUIRED BY LAW; CONTAINING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Lacy said since this has been discussed several times during the budget process, without objection, he would like to elevate the ordinance to second reading so City Treasurer, Nick Gerde, has some direction in putting together the City's preliminary budget.

Councilmember Hendricks asked for clarification regarding the 1% increase. Mayor Lacy said the 1% increase is in the ordinance but the ordinance actually includes the levy of the entire property tax.

Councilmember Raab asked why the city did not separate the 1% increase, because if this is voted down we have turned down all of the property taxes. Mayor Lacy said this can be revised if decided upon.

City Attorney, Devin Poulson, explained that the ordinance was written based on instructions from Douglas County. He said this is the same process that has been used for several years. He added the Department of Revenue puts out the model ordinance which the City is following.

Mayor Lacy suggested that the City Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, redraft the ordinance for the next scheduled meeting to ensure we have what we need for preliminary budget.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Buckner, second by Councilmember Johnson, to adopt the ordinance regarding property taxes in the proposed 2010 East Wenatchee Budget. The motion failed, 4-3 due to the lack of a majority plus one vote. (Bremmer, Raab, Hendricks)

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Johnson said he was approached by a gentleman from NCWTV.com asking if the city would be interested in broadcasting the City Council meetings on NCWTV.com. Mayor Lacy said the city has an option for a public television channel through the Charter Cable Franchise which the city is still discussing with Charter Communications as their franchise is up for renewal, so if the city decides to have a public broadcast the city has the means without paying a public contractor.

Councilmember Johnson said Link Transit was given a presentation by Vintage Real Estate, the owners of the Wenatchee Valley Mall, with regards to establishing a transportation center on the north end of the Wenatchee Valley Mall.

Councilmember McCourt submitted minutes from the Chelan-Douglas Health District meeting, held on October 15, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:15 p.m.

Dana Barnard
City Clerk