

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

ROLL CALL

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

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, second by Councilmember Raab, to excuse Councilmember Barnhart from this meeting. The motion carried, 6-0.

Staff Present: Dana Barnard, Devin Poulson, Brandon Mauseh, Lori Barnett, Dawn Collings, Catalina Garibay, Brooke Black, Ralph Aiken, III, and Nick Gerde.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BUDGET ISSUES

City Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, said according to the City's Finance and Budget Policy adopted by Resolution No. 2009-06, the City Council must approve the annual budget in order to complete the annual financial plan. He said once the City has an approved annual budget he will meet with the budget committee to complete the other elements of the city's annual financial plan which consists of a cash flow for 5 years beyond the budget year; a capital plan; a reserve strategy; a debt strategy; and any other capital plan that the City wishes to embark upon during the next six years. Once the City Council approves the budget he will begin working on a draft of the city's annual financial plan. He would then ask the budget committee to reconvene the first week in January to consider the draft of that financial plan. He added it will then be presented to the City Council for deliberation and approval by resolution.

Councilmember Hendricks expressed concerns of adopting a budget without knowing the five year Financial Plan.

Mr. Gerde explained the process used to complete the five year Financial Plan. He said although Council has reviewed drafts of the five year Financial Plan based upon an estimate for 2009, that estimate changes through the budget year as cash flow projections change and adjustments are made. Therefore, the starting point for the new five year Financial Plan will be based upon the ending balance of the 2009 Budget.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

East Wenatchee Events Board (EWEB) Coordinator, Dawn Collings, introduced her assistant Brooke Black to Councilmembers. Ms. Collings gave a PowerPoint presentation of the 2009 Annual Report for the East Wenatchee Events Board in which she reviewed activities, events, advertising, and goals of the EWEB which works mainly on developing strategies to expand tourism to the East Wenatchee Valley.

Mayor Lacy thanked Ms. Collings for all her hard work.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lacy appointed Councilmember Raab, Councilmember Hendricks, and Councilmember Buckner, to the Budget Committee for 2010. Mayor Lacy said all Councilmembers will rotate in order to participate in the budget process and keep them apprised of the budgetary issues during the course of 2010.

Mayor Lacy said as of December 4, 2009, the East Wenatchee Police Department Police Records Clerk, Jeannie Bryant, has completed 20 years of service with the City. Although Ms. Bryant was not present at the meeting Mayor Lacy thanked her for her dedicated work to the City of East Wenatchee.

Mayor Lacy asked Councilmembers to start using their City email account at the first of the year and discontinue using personal email accounts for any City related business to ensure personal email and personal computers are not subject to public records.

City Attorney, Devin Poulson, said if any Councilmembers had any questions regarding their City email account to contact Ralph Aiken, III, in the City's Information Technology (IT) Department.

Mayor Lacy said an ordinance regarding the Stormwater Utility Budget for 2010 was brought before Council for first reading at the November 24, 2009, City Council meeting. He said that the ordinance will not be discussed this evening as there will be a Joint Special meeting with the Douglas County Commissioners on December 15, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., which will be held at East Wenatchee City Hall. He said there will be a presentation by staff of both the County and City. Each jurisdiction will then decide whether or not to adopt an ordinance changing the fee structure and adopting the Stormwater Budget for 2010.

Mayor Lacy said if the City is able to complete the process in adopting the Stormwater Budget for 2010 on December 15 there will not be any need to have a Council meeting on December 22.

Mayor Lacy said there are several jurisdictions in the area that are experiencing a need to lay off employees in order to balance their budget for 2010. He said that 2010 budget for the City of East Wenatchee does not provide any increases in salaries or shortfalls for 2010. We are fortunate that there will not be any employee lay offs. He credited the City's Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, as well as the decisions of the City Council, for balancing the City's budget.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes – Regular Session, November 24, 2009
2. Consideration of Bills

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, second by Councilmember Buckner, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried, 6-0.

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, December 8, 2009, Council does approve warrant numbers 22448 through 22510 in the total amount of \$127,023.78. Warrant number 22422 was voided.

ACTION ITEMS

09-12-01 Authorization for the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement for the purpose of participating in the State Purchasing Cooperative Program.

City Treasurer/Finance Director, Nick Gerde, said this is a renewal agreement for State Purchasing Cooperative in which police vehicles and street department materials are purchased. He added this will also be used by the Information Technology Department for purchasing computer equipment. Therefore, the \$2,000 renewal fee will be split between the three departments.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hendricks, second by Councilmember Bremmer, to authorize the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement for the purpose of participating in the State Purchasing Cooperative Program. The motion carried, 6-0.

ORDINANCES

09-11-07 Second reading of an ordinance adopting the 2010 Annual Final Budget for the City of East Wenatchee.

Mayor Lacy read the ordinance summary.

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2010.

Councilmember Bremmer expressed concerns that the City is not putting any money towards street projects in this budget. He said he would like to see better efficiencies in scheduling the hourly employees by reducing the salaries by five percent in order to place those dollars into the street projects funds.

Mayor Lacy said the City is not in a position to change the existing conditions of employment pending union negotiations.

City Attorney, Devin Poulson, said we are in a status quo period in which we are not able to make any employment changes. He said if our employees have a 40 hour work week and their hours are cut back to 32 hours a week the union will argue that this is an unfair labor practice.

Councilmember Hendricks expressed concerns regarding the increase of \$800,000 in this budget compared to the 2009 budget.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, second by Councilmember Buckner, to adopt the ordinance adopting the final budget for the fiscal year commencing 2010. The motion carried, 4-2. (Bremmer, Hendricks)

09-11-11 First reading of an ordinance granting a non-exclusive cable franchise to Falcon Video Communications, L.P., locally known as Charter Communications.

Mayor Lacy read first reading of the ordinance.

Mayor Lacy said this item will be placed on the January 12, 2010, agenda for second reading.

City Attorney, Devin Poulson, said this is basically the same Franchise Agreement we have had in the past. There are two significant changes which include extending the term length of the agreement to seven years, and we will be eligible for a Public Education Governmental (PEG) channel. This will give us access to put City Council meetings and Planning Commission meeting on a dedicated PEG channel.

Mayor Lacy said he has been in discussions with the County Commissioners regarding the Charter Communications Franchise Agreement. He said he raised a question of using a PEG channel for public meetings and allowing other jurisdictions in the area to air their meetings on the same dedicated channel in order to provide a better service to the public.

09-12-02 First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 17.74 and 15.24 of the East Wenatchee Municipal Code relating to the Sign Code.

Mayor Lacy read first reading of the ordinance.

Community Development Director Barnett said the changes being made to the ordinance are highlighted in blue.

Councilmembers discussed several items that were not subject to the identified amendments in this ordinance.

Mayor Lacy said Council may adopt this ordinance, Council may make a motion to amend the ordinance addressing specific issues not addressed in this amendment, or Council can make a motion to change the original ordinance.

Mayor Lacy said this item will be placed on the January 12, 2010, agenda for second reading.

09-12-03 First reading of an ordinance amending the Chapter 17.70 of the East Wenatchee Municipal Code relating to Wireless Communication Facilities.

Mayor Lacy read first reading of the ordinance.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bremmer, second by Councilmember Raab, to elevate the ordinance to second reading. The motion failed, 5-1. (Johnson)

Councilmember Johnson said he would like more time to review the suggested amendments.

RESOLUTION

09-12-04 A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement with the Chelan County Regional Justice Center for the Housing of Inmates.

Mayor Lacy said this is the same agreement as the prior year with one difference in which Chelan County proposes that the money in an inmates account be returned to the inmate, instead of the City.

Councilmember Johnson questioned paragraph one, which uses the title of City Manager. The City of East Wenatchee does not have a City Manager.

Mayor Lacy suggested changing the language from City Manager to City Management.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bremmer, second by Councilmember Hendricks, to amend paragraph one of the Interlocal Agreement changing the language from City Manager to City Management. The motion carried, 6-0.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bremmer, second by Councilmember Hendricks, to adopt the resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement between Chelan County, Washington and the City of East Wenatchee, Washington, for the housing of inmates in the Chelan County Regional Justice Center. The motion carried, 6-0.

The title of the resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AND THE CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, FOR THE HOUSING OF INMATES IN THE CHELAN COUNTY REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Johnson said he received a call from the Association of Washington Cities asking him to represent the board as a past president. He said he accepted the position.

Councilmember Raab submitted minutes from the Stormwater Utility Management meeting held on November 19, 2009.

Councilmember Hendricks submitted minutes from the North Central Washington Resource Conservation & Development meeting held on October 14, 2009.

Councilmember Johnson submitted minutes from the Link Transit Board of Directors meeting held on November 17, 2009.

Councilmember Barnhart submitted minutes from the Rivercom Administrative meeting held on November 12, 2009.

Mayor Lacy submitted minutes from the Wenatchee Valley Transportation meeting held on November 12, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT –8:05 p.m.

Dana Barnard
City Clerk