

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 19, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Mayor Poucher called the council meeting to order at 6:05pm. Council members Roberts, Landgren, Keene, Johnson and Marx were present. Staff members present were: Clerk Treasurer, Lori Kreps; PWD, Mike Wellman; Deputy PWD, Tom Smith; Police Chief, Bruce Brending. Also, present were: Attorney, Ken Woodrich; The Enterprise, Jesse Burkhart and approximately 20 members of the public.

II. TOWN HALL

Marsha Holliston of Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce said the annual 13+ mile yard sale will be held on Saturday & Sunday, June 14th & 15th from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

C. Roberts made a motion for a resolution that the council supports a city wide sidewalk sale to be held in conjunction with the annual 13+ mile yard sale. C. Marx seconded the motion; Approved 5-0.

Wayne Carlock, 691 W. Jewett Blvd., asked for signatures in support of separating from Fire District 3 and creating a new Fire District 16.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1) Minutes of City Council Meeting – March 5, 2008. *C. Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting March 5, 2008; C. Johnson seconded the motion. Approved 4-1. C. Landgren abstained because he was not present at that meeting.*

V. ACTION ITEM (Deferred)

No action items deferred.

VI. ACTION ITEMS (New)

1) Approval of Easement Agreement between Doug and Brenda Charters and the City of White Salmon. PWD Wellman said the property is immediately west of Francis and Mamie Gaddis Park. In order to get to the kiosk, one would have to drive across a portion of the Charters property. The property is approximately 5,000 square feet which includes access to the park and a small parking area. Also included is a 30 foot utility easement on the east end of the property and this area is approximately 10,000 square feet. In exchange for the property, the City will grant one sewer hookup to the Charters when sewer is available in their area. Wellman recommended that the Council grant the easement. Attorney Woodrich will review the contract as revised by Charters' attorney. *C. Keene made a motion to table the approval of the easement agreement subject to legal council clarifying the revisions. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.*

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- 2) **Columbia River Basin Water Management Program “Grant Funding Application 2008-2009 Funding Cycle”**. PWD Wellman said the City is looking into the possibility of taking excess Buck Creek water that we filter in the winter (which will be in the range of 500 gallons per minute) and putting it back into the aquifer. The state has a aquifer storage and recharge (ASR) Project which addresses these issues. Applying for this grant would help pay for part of the sand filtration facilities at Buck Creek. The down fall would be that they would want some water rights back (up to one third) and we do not have a lot to give. Wellman would like council’s approval to apply for the grant with the stipulation that if we do get approved he will bring it back before council. *C. Roberts made a motion to approve the submission of the grant application by PWD Wellman. C. Keene seconded the motion, Approved 5-0.*

VII. DEPARTMENT HEAD / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Chief, Brending had no report

Fire Chief Hunsaker was not present. Mayor Poucher said the fire members overwhelmingly approved the purchase of the ladder truck for the Lyle Fire District.

Clerk Treasurer, Lori Kreps, said the City had computer problems last Thursday and the computers were down for a couple of hours. Radcomp Computers volunteered their services to fix the problem. It was discovered that the backup system was not working and had not been working for several years. Two external hard drives have been purchased and files are now being backed up daily and weekly. Also, our security needs to be upgraded. Lori thanked Denise Peppel for volunteering at City Hall eight hours each week. Denise has been reorganizing files on the computer and this is enabling employees to access information quickly.

Mayor Poucher said we have implemented direct deposit for payroll and streamlined customer ACH utility payments. The State Auditor will be in next week for more staff training. All City Hall staff needs training. Poucher thanked Jan Brending from the City of Bingen for volunteering her time with Lori and staff.

PWD Mike Wellman said the copier the City acquired last year has the capability of scanning. Wellman is taking old studies and scanning them into a PDF file to make them more accessible. Four out of the six Buck Creek pilot filters are in place. The system monitors guardia and e-coli. No e-coli has been detected after it goes through the filters. Wellman will be submitting a report to D.O.H.

Deputy PWD Smith said the City crew is working on the swimming pool.

Finance Audit Committee – C. Johnson said Don Tackley is checking with local banks for the best interest they can provide to the city. C. Johnson said the next step is a RFP to banks in the area.

Business/Tourism – C. Roberts said the next meeting will be at noon on Monday, March 31, 2008, at the Collage of the Gorge. Deputy PWD Smith will be there to review the snow removal policy.

City Operations - C. Marx said several citizens have contacted him about the possibility of burning in City limits. Mayor Poucher said citizens should call City Hall. Fire Chief Hunsaker will review and issue permits. Marx said Chief Brending is contacting WSDOT about the cross walks in front of Hi School Pharmacy.

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Pool Committee – C. Landgren said the committee met and discussed the repairs at the pool. Volunteers are available to help. They will be contacting the High School art department to possibly paint a mural on the wall.

Annexation Committee – C. Landgren said the committee will be meeting on March 20th and March 27th with Dotty DeVaney, the city’s Planning Consultant to review the Comprehensive Plan.

C. Marx said he would donate labor to fix the gazebo if the City would provide the materials.

VIII. APPROVAL OF CHECKS

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of this date March 19, 2008. C. Johnson reviewed the accounts payable and made a motion to approve claim checks 36596-36600 and 36648-36689 in the amount of \$24,300.28; Payroll Checks 20621-20626 and 889970-889976 in the amount of \$53,434.79. Seconded by C. Roberts, Approved 5-0.

IX. COUNCIL AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

PWD Wellman said we need to make sure that volunteers are covered through L&I.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was called into executive session at 6:51pm for ongoing litigation. Mayor Poucher said the meeting would last 20 minutes. At 7:10pm Mayor Poucher informed the public that executive session would last another 5 minutes. Executive session adjourned at 7:16pm. The regular City Council meeting reconvened at 7:18pm. *C. Marx made a motion authorizing Mayor Poucher and Attorney Woodrich to proceed with negotiations between Richard Cortese and the City. Seconded by C. Landgren, Approved 5-0. Meeting Adjourned at 7:19pm.*

David Poucher, Mayor

Lori Kreps, Clerk/Treasurer