

Waitsburg City Council Meeting – January 20, 2016

Mayor Gobel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe called the roll. The following were present:

Mayor: Walt Gobel

Council Members: Kevin House, Deb Callahan, Karl Newell, KC Kuykendall, Marty Dunn and student representative Stuart Walsh

Others: On file at City Hall

Agenda Approval

At the request of Mayor Gobel, Unfinished Business item B was moved to New Business Item A, shifting all other new business items down. With no other changes, agenda was approved and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – December 17, 2015 Regular Meeting

With no changes, the minutes were approved and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None given.

New Business

a. Student Representative Oath of Office.

Student Representative Stuart Walsh read his oath of office and took his place on the City Council.

b. City Watershed hunting

Corri Hadley and Scott Rasley with Fish and Wildlife presented the City with options related to hunting in the City Watershed; recommending that the City Council partner with Fish and Wildlife and allow the area be open for the Free to Hunt program. After a short discussion period, Council Member Kuykendall moved to adopt the Free to Hunt program and proceed with an agreement with State Fish and Wildlife department. Council Member Newell seconded the motion and motion to allow hunting was approved and passed unanimously.

c. WWII Memorial

Don Schack representing the WWII Memorial committee presented a proposed WWII Walla Walla County Veterans Monument to be installed at Fort Walla Walla with the help of the City of Waitsburg via a \$5,000 contribution to the project. Council asked Mr. Schack a few questions and discussed the proposal before Council Member Dunn moved to authorize the commitment as a part of the City's 2017 City budget with Council Member Newell seconding. Motion to approve the contribution was approved and passed unanimously.

d. Annual Utility Rate review.

Annual review of the City utility rates to determine if an increase is needed based on the CPI for the prior year. City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe presented the percentage change which amounted to roughly \$.07 per user per month, with no more discussion council member Dunn moved to not authorize an increase in utility rates based on the CPI with Council member House seconding, the motion to leave rates unchanged was approved and passed unanimously.

e. Main St. Bridge Replacement Project Update

City Administrator Randy Hinchliffe presented an update on the Main Street Bridge Project including a preliminary design and cost estimate. Council asked that he try to include the public as much as possible in the design as the project progresses. No action taken, discussion only.

Unfinished Business

a. Dirt Track Racing

Event sponsor Brandon Kelly along with Skagit Valley Race Track sponsor Steve Bitler were in attendance in an effort to gain approval from the City Council to hold dirt track racing at city fairgrounds facility. Before opening up the discussion to the audience, Mayor Gobel informed all in attendance that the City Council had received their letters and emails regarding the general concerns of the City and if anyone had submitted a letter, he asked that they refrain from reiterating their same concerns. The Council then heard from 9 people in attendance with their comments directed at the event sponsor and Mr. Bitler for comment. At the conclusion of the open question and answer period, Mayor Gobel took comments from the City Council with the majority wanting to see a comprehensive plan before making a decision. With no more discussion Council Member Kuykendall moved to deny the request with Council Member Callahan seconding. With no Council members voicing opposition to the motion to deny, the motion to deny the event was approved unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report

Council Reports

Nothing reported.

City Clerk Report

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe informed the City Council on various day to day business matters of the City; specifically an update on the City's 2015 4th Quarter Budget.

Approval of Bills

With no questions related to the City's obligations, Council Member Dunn moved to approve with Council Member Newell seconding. Motion to approve the bills was approved and passed unanimously.

December 2015 Payroll Clearing (Warrants 20074-20088)	\$17,801.06
January 2016 Payroll Clearing (Warrants 20162-200)	\$17,587.03
Claims Clearing Vouchers (Warrants 20089-20161)	\$60,694.08
Total	\$96,082.17

Adjournment of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Approved:

2/17/2016

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk