

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL
June 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Moses Lake City Council was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Curnel via audio only online meeting access. Special notices for attendance, citizen comment, and public hearing input were posted on the meeting agenda, as well as a special News Flash on the City's website.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Curnel, Deputy Mayor Jackson; Council Members Eck, Riggs, Liebrecht, and Myers. Council Member Hankins joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Manager Allison Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Curnel requested the addition of an Executive Session for Litigation at the end of the meeting.

Action taken: Council Member Riggs moved to approve the Agenda as amended, second by Deputy Mayor Jackson. The motion carried 6 – 0.

SUMMARY REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Planning Commission Appointment

Mayor Curnel reviewed two applications and recommends appointment of Anne Henning for an unexpired term through December 31, 2021. Council discussed Anne's qualifications and former employment with the City of Moses Lake.

Action taken: Council Member Hankins moved to confirm the appointment, second by Council Member Riggs. The motion carried 5 – 2, Council Member Liebrecht and Deputy Mayor Jackson were opposed.

COVID-19 Virtual Meetings

City Manager Williams explained that the Governor has extended the OPMA exemption requiring cities to provide a location for the public to listen to live meetings until July 1. Since we are still in Phase 2 which requires our facilities to be closed to the public, we would be required to open the Council Chambers for all public meetings starting on July 1 and allow the stated limit of 5 persons, at one time, to be present to listen to live meetings. We have high hopes that the Governor will extend the exemption until a County has reached the 3rd Phase of reopening.

Staff requested a motion to temporarily designate the regular, special, and study session locations for the City Council, as well as all Committees, Boards, and Commissions to be conducted in a virtual setting to comply with the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" Proclamation until Grant County enters Phase 3 of the reopening program.

Action taken: Mayor Curnel moved to conduct virtual meetings as stated by the City Manager, second by Council Member Liebrecht. The motion carried 7 – 0.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Parks & Recreation New Hires

Recreation Superintendent Susan Schwiesow provided a photo and biography for recently hired Administrative Assistant Stefanie Dunn and Museum Manager Dollie Boyd that were displayed for Council as a new staff welcoming recognition.

CONSENT AGENDA

- #1
 - a. City Council meeting minutes dated June 9 and 17, 2020
 - b. Claim Checks 148205 through 148359 in the amount of \$1,243,626.60; Payroll Checks 63417 through 63431 in the amount of \$10,430.52; and Electronic Payments dated June 12, 2020, in the amount of \$456,012.56
 - c. Award Seal Coat 2020 Project
 - d. Petty Cash Resolution 3809

Action taken: Council Member Myers moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Council Member Liebrecht. The motion carried 7 – 0.

PUBLIC HEARING

- #2 Six-Year Street Plan Resolution 3810
Council and staff discussed the Yonezawa Boulevard project, Transportation Benefit District history, and tax benefits of potential adjacent commercial projects. Mayor Curnel opened the hearing at 7:23 p.m. No written comments or requests to speak were received, and the hearing was closed.

Action taken: Council Member Karen Liebrecht moved to adopt Resolution 3810, second by Council Member Riggs. The motion carried 7 – 0.

- #3 Right of Way Vacate
A hearing was advertised for this meeting and needs to be cancelled at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- #4 COVID-19 Utility Waiver and Payment Plan Policy Resolution 3811
The resolution coincides with an extension of the Executive Order from the Governor’s Office extension to July 28. Council originally authorized the waivers under Ordinance 2946 on March 24. This Ordinance will also authorize staff to enact a Payment Plan Policy required to be completed by July 10. Staff will develop a plan that will utilize some of the CARES Act grant funds along with a long-term payment arrangement.

Action taken: Council Member Hankins moved to adopt Resolution 3811, second by Deputy Mayor Jackson. The motion carried 7 – 0.

#5 COVID-19 Budget Approval

The City has entered into a contract with the Washington State Department of Commerce to receive an allocation of \$726,600 from the federal CARES Act grant program. The proposal includes a percent of indirect administration costs, pandemic program costs, small business grants, utility payment grants, homeless shelter costs, Civic Center A/V upgrades, and redirected Public Safety/Building staff response expenses.

Action taken: Council Member Liebrecht moved to approve the budget for COVID-19, second by Council Member Hankins. The motion carried 7 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

#6 Oasis Major Plat Deviation Request

Shane Carlile is proposing a 24-lot development named Oasis Major Plat. The Plat is 14.2 acres located in the Urban Growth Area at approximately 6400 Mae Valley Road NE. He is requesting a roadway wider than indicated in the City Standards that is similar to other developments in the area. He has agreed to sign a covenant for the halfwidth improvements to Mae Valley Road, to include roadway, curb, sidewalk and stormwater.

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to authorize the deviation, second by Council Member Hankins. The motion carried 7 – 0.

#7 Interim Controls Ordinance 2953

The Ordinance provides for interim regulations on small wireless facilities and wireless communication eligible facilities requests. The current cell antenna leases are in need of updating to be in compliance with Federal Communication Commission regulations. A Public Hearing is required to be held within 60 days of adoption of the Ordinance. Staff will work with the Planning Commission to develop revised regulations within one year.

Action taken: Council Member Liebrecht moved to adopt Ordinance 2953 as presented and set a Public Hearing for August 11, second by Council Member Riggs. The motion carried 7 – 0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Police Chief Kevin Fuhr showed a photo of the new Bearcat armored vehicle they purchased, advised that the Annual Crime Report will be available online soon, and that he met with the Freedom Fest Committee today regarding the 4th of July Fireworks social distancing plan.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Council Member Riggs invited anyone interested in attending the Downtown Association Zoom Meeting on June 25 should call 770-1700 to get the meeting id number.

Mayor Curnel gave accolades to the Police Department's care of the City as relayed in a

Columbia Basin Herald article, as well as a recent article providing an update on former K-9 Chief.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Curnel called an Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to be held for 30 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss litigation and there will be no further business.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



David Curnel, Mayor

ATTEST 
Debbie Burke, City Clerk