

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL  
December 8, 2015

Council Present: Dick Deane, Bill Ecret, Karen Liebrecht, Todd Voth, David Curnel, Jon Lane, and Jason Avila

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Mayor Deane.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Jason Avila, Council member, led the Council in the flag salute.

OATH OF OFFICE

W. Robert Taylor, Finance Director, administered the oath of office to the new City Manager, John M. Williams.

PRESENTATION AND AWARDS

Police Department: Sergeant Beau Montgomery and Sergeant Dean Gaddis were introduced to the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: The minutes of the November 24 meeting were presented for approval.

Approval of Claims, Prepaid Claims, Checks, and Payroll: Vouchers audited and certified by the Finance Director as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims, certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Council for approval and is retained for public inspection at the Civic Center. As of December 8, 2015 the Council does approve for payment claims in the amount of \$911,407.52; prepaid claims in the amounts of \$1,674.74 and \$26,574.80; claim checks in the amount of \$677,040.03; and payroll in the amounts of \$10,677.84 and \$303,956.17.

Action taken: Mr. Voth moved that the Consent Agenda be approved, seconded by Mr. Avila, and passed unanimously.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - None

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS AND QUOTES - None

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMMUNICATION - HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GRANT COUNTY - HOMELESS

The Housing Authority of Grant County requested permission for over night camping and the display of signs on city property promoting "A Night in a Box". This is an event to raise funds for a future warming center sponsored by the Homeless Task Force.

Stephanie Barnwell stated that one of the goals of the Homeless Task Force is to raise community awareness concerning homeless issues. The event will be four men, including Police Chief Ruffin, sleeping in a cardboard box on January 21. She mentioned that the event will take place in the parking lot of Penhallurick's store on Stratford and requested permission for signage to promote the event.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, reminded the Council that permission has been granted for overnight camping in the past in conjunction with other events and that there are already rules in place for the placement of signage on City property.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Mr. Ecret moved that permission be granted for the overnight camping and that the Housing Authority work with staff on the signage and that any donations take place in the parking lot and not from City right-of-way, seconded by Mr. Lane, and passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION - ADULT HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

The Moses Lake Adult Hockey Association has requested authorization to hold a hockey tournament at the municipal ice rink on January 29-31, 2016 and to include a beer garden.

Nate Strom, representing the Adult Hockey Association, stated that 4 teams have already signed up for the tournament and it is customary to provide a beer garden at these type of events. He mentioned that the beer garden will be located inside the ice rink fenced area. Security will be provided.

Spencer Grigg, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that staff is familiar with the running of a tournament but the beer garden at the ice rink has not been done in the past as it is essentially a youth facility.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Mr. Lane moved that the request be granted for the hockey tournament and beer garden, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION - SURFACE MINING

Western Pacific Engineering and Survey, on behalf of the Port of Moses Lake, requested an amendment to the municipal code to allow surface mining as a permitted use in the Heavy Industrial Zone.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that there are no provisions for surface mining in the Heavy Industrial Zone. He mentioned that the request to include surface mining in the City's heavy industrial zone was precipitated by a surface mining operation outside the City's limits.

Kevin Richards, Western Pacific Engineering, stated that the location for the future surface mine would be located under Runway 32 Right and it is an appropriate use in the Heavy Industrial Zone.

There was some discussion by the Council and staff was directed to amend the Heavy Industrial Zone to allow surface mining as a conditional use.

ORDINANCE - AMEND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN & REZONE REQUESTS - 1<sup>ST</sup> READING/PUBLIC HEARING

An ordinance was presented which amends the Comprehensive Plan by updating the Transportation Element and providing for two site-specific land use designation changes and zone changes.

The ordinance adopting the 2015 Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Zone Changes to be consistent with the amendments was read by title only.

The public hearing was opened.

Kim Foster, representing the ASPI Group, stated that they own 15 acres off of Patton Boulevard which they are requesting be changed from General Commercial to High Density Residential to allow for the construction of residences that would be used by out-of-town businessmen and their families while they are in Moses Lake to establish their businesses.

Action Taken: Mr. Lane moved that the public hearing be closed, seconded by Mr. Avila, and passed unanimously.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Mr. Lane moved that the first reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Liebrecht, and passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONSORDINANCE - 2016 BUDGET - 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

An ordinance was presented which adopts the 2016 budget.

The ordinance adopting the budget for the City of Moses Lake, Washington for the year of 2016 was read by title only.

Bob Taylor, Finance Director, stated that no direction was received from the Council so no changes have been made to the ordinance and so the budget is not balanced at this time.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, reminded the Council that a budget cannot be approved unless it balanced. He mentioned that some reductions have been proposed but additional measures will be needed to balance the budget.

Ryann Leonard, 907 Sand Dune Road, wanted to know why all the funds are not listed in the budget.

Mr. Taylor stated that, by law, it is not required to include the debt service funds in the ordinance itself but are included in the comprehensive budget.

John Williams, City Manager, stated that a potential solution to the budget issue is to fund the necessary items and adopt a formal balanced budget and then at a later time develop a detailed budget. This will provide time to determine the amount that is left and which projects could be funded.

Council directed staff to provide a balanced budget ordinance at the next meeting.

#### ORDINANCE - AMEND 2015 BUDGET - 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

An ordinance amending the 2015 budget was presented.

The ordinance amending the 2015 budget for the City of Moses Lake, Washington, was read by title only.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that the first reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

#### REQUEST TO CALL FOR BIDS - None

#### REFERRALS FROM COMMISSIONS - None

#### OTHER ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

#### LOWLAND WASTEWATER - AGREEMENT

Jill Goodrich, Lowland Wastewater Company, Inc. requested permission to serve the Sandcastle Estates Phase 2 subdivision with her system which, through an agreement with the City, is discharged into the City's force main. The current agreement with Lowland Wastewater Company does not include all the Sandcastle Estates Phase 2 subdivision. The proposed agreement would replace the agreement signed in 2009 and include the Sandcastle Estates Phase subdivision and a small unplatted tract of property included in Mrs. Goodrich's system.

Gary Harer, Municipal Services Director, gave the background on the agreement.

Action Taken: Mr. Voth moved that the City Manager be authorized to sign the agreement seconded by Mr. Avila, and passed unanimously.

#### NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

#### PANHANDLING

Zane Peterson, 215 Beale Street, stated that the Unchained Brotherhood, conducts a toy collection event every year based at Penhallurick's business on Stratford Road. All the collections are given to the Moses Lake Food Bank. He requested the Council consider a special permit to allow them to access the City's streets to obtain donations.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the regulations in place because of complaints that were received about aggressive panhandling. He pointed out that any changes to the regulations would apply to everyone.

Katherine Kenison, City Attorney, stated that there is nothing in the regulations that would allow a deviation of the process to allow persons to intrude into the City's right-of-way.

There was considerable discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that Chapter 9.22 be repealed on an emergency reading, seconded by Mr. Voth, and failed with Mr. Voth, Mrs. Liebrecht, and Mr. Avila in favor and Dr. Curnel, Mr. Lane, Mr. Ecret, and Mayor Deane opposed.

#### COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

##### ICE RINK

Mr. Ecret requested information on the costs to operate the ice rink.

Spencer Grigg, Parks and Recreation Director, provided information on the expenditures and revenues for operation of the ice rink and pointed out that there is currently a loss of a little over \$24,000, but the majority of that is because of the expense of bringing the ice rink into service after the closure.

##### HUNTING

Mr. Voth stated that he was getting complaints from the neighbors concerning hunting on property in Cascade Valley within the City's limits. He mentioned that it was his understanding that permission had been granted to hunt the geese by the family because they were destroying the crop. The complaints indicate that he is actually providing a guide service.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the Council did grant permission for the person to hunt the geese by family members only but that he is now providing a guide service for goose hunters. He stated that it is the intent of the staff to contact the person to remind him that only family members were given permission to hunt on the property.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ATTEST

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Dick Deane, Mayor

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W. Robert Taylor, Finance Director