

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL
June 14, 2011

Council Present: Jon Lane, Bill Ecret, Dick Deane , Karen Liebrecht, David Curnel, Richard Pearce, and Brent Reese

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Reese led the Council in the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

PROCLAMATION

The proclamation declaring June 28 - July 1, 2011 as Community Wide Blood Donor Week was read in its entirety.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: The minutes of the May 24, 2011 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 city hall. As of June 14, 2011 the Council does approve for payment claims in the amount of \$1,956,214.66; prepaid claims in the amount of \$28,832.28; claim checks in the amount of \$1,037,470.26; and payroll in the amounts of \$334,607.08, \$4,699.82, and \$353,992.13.

Resolution - Abandon Easement - Alaniz: A resolution was presented which abandons the southerly 6' of a 20' easement located adjacent to the north property line of Lot 27, Broadripple #1, 1102 S. Ashley Way.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the Consent Agenda be approved, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - None

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS AND QUOTES

RESERVOIR 9 PROJECT

The City received three bids for the 2011 Reservoir 9 Project. This project consists of removing Tank #2 and constructing a 2.8 million gallon standpipe reservoir at 7725 Newell Street. Additive A was included in the bid to remove Tank #3 at 7915 Chanute Street and Tank #5 at 9002 Tyndall Road. Additive B was included to remove the foundations of these two tanks. Deduct A was to use the standard paint instead of a newer paint that will retain its color for many more years.

Gary Harer, Municipal Services Director, stated that the two tanks have not been used in several years and by removing the tanks and foundations the city can re-use that property. The new reservoir will increase the water pressure in the Larson area.

Action Taken: Mr. Deane moved that the bid be awarded to T Bailey, Inc. in the amount of \$2,007,586, seconded by Mrs. Liebrecht, and passed unanimously.

SEWER LINING PROJECT

The city received six bids for the 2011 Sewer Lining Project. This project consists of lining approximately 36,700' of 8" and 10" concrete sewer mains in the Larson and downtown areas. The project bid documents include some additional lines that may be added if the City's budgeted amount is not entirely spent on the original quantities.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that the bid be awarded to Planned Engineering Construction in the amount of \$779,817, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PUBLIC HEARINGSHEDGE HEIGHT LIMITS - LANUM

Bruce Baily, representing Jack and Laura Lanum, 1004 Skyline, requested permission to allow the hedge on their property line to exceed the 4' height limit in order to hide the unsightly vehicles on the neighboring property.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the adjoining neighbor has complained about the height of the hedge and the enforcement process has been suspended because the Lanums wished to discuss the matter with the Council. He presented pictures of the area in question as well as other properties where the hedges have grown over the 4' limit.

There was some discussion by the Council and it was suggested that the ordinance be amended to allow a hedge to exceed the 4' limit in the front yard.

Nick Mount, 1010 Skyline Drive, pointed out that 1004 Skyline is a corner lot at a four lane intersection and vehicles come around the corner at a speed that makes it difficult for him to exit his driveway safely. Allowing the hedge to exceed the 4' height limitation will increase that problem.

There was additional discussion and staff was directed to provide additional information on hedges.

REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY - TSUNAMI SUSHI

Dwane Lind, Tsunami Sushi, requested permission to close Third Avenue between Division and Ash on July 22, 2011 from 7 p.m. to 12 midnight. The intent is to provide entertainment for the patrons of Tsunami Sushi.

There was some discussion and the Council felt the request should address the adjacent neighbors concerns, where alcohol would be served and consumed, whether or not a flat bed truck would be used for the concert, the need for power, the need for portable toilets, who does the clean up after the concert, etc.

Staff was directed to work with Mr. Lind on the request to close Third Avenue from Ash to Division and report back to the Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONSORDINANCE - AMEND 18.58 - SIGNS - 2ND READING

An ordinance was presented which amends the sign regulations. The amendments include the prohibition of the use of temporary sign material for a permanent sign and that such signs must be

removed within 90 days; regulates the size and height of political signs providing that a political sign can be no larger than 32 square feet per sign and have a maximum sign height of 8'; and provides that the Community Development Department will permit sandwich board signs according to standards established by the City Council.

The ordinance amending Chapter 18.58 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Signs" was read by title only.

Mick Hansen, 1828 Fairway, felt that campaign signs should be limited in size, number and erected no more than one month prior to the election but he was opposed to regulating use of private property.

John Abens, 2412 Lakeside, requested that the requirement to remove the temporary signs be changed to three years because of the cost of the signs and suggested that temporary signs be eliminated.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, explained the reasons for eliminating the vinyl signs being used as permanent signage.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the second reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mr. Pearce, and passed with Mrs. Liebrecht and Dr. Curnel opposed.

ORDINANCE - AMEND 3.62 - UTILITY SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES - 1ST READING

An ordinance was presented which increases the utility system development charges by the December to December CPI.

The ordinance amending Chapter 3.62 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Utility System Development Charges" was read by title only.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the first reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mr. Ecret, and passed with Dr. Curnel opposed.

ORDINANCES - AMEND 17.15 - REQUIREMENTS FOR PLATS AND SITE PLANS AND 17.18 - BINDING SITE PLAN - 1ST READINGS

Ordinances were presented which amend the Requirements for Plats and Site Plans and Binding Site Plans by including a signature line for the Auditor, changing "survey" to "binding site plans" and adding the Treasurer's Certificate.

The ordinance amending Chapter 17.15 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Requirements for Plats and Site Plans" was read by title only.

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

The ordinance amending Chapter 17.18 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Binding Site Plan" was read by title only.

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

ORDINANCE - NORTH LAND CABLE FRANCHISE - 1ST READING

An ordinance was presented which grants a franchise to Northland Cable Television, Inc. to operate and maintain a cable system. The proposed ordinance imposes the 3% utility occupational tax.

The ordinance granting a franchise to Northland Cable Television, Inc., to operate and maintain a cable system in the City of Moses Lake and setting forth conditions accompanying the grant of franchise was read by title only.

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, explained the process the city went through concerning the franchise fee and the utility fee.

There was some discussion on the franchise and utility fees.

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

REQUEST TO CALL FOR BIDS - None

REFERRALS FROM COMMISSIONS - None

OTHER ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

OPERATIONS FACILITY - LANDSCAPE PLAN

Staff requested direction for the type of landscaping that is proposed to be installed along Road 4 at the Operations and Maintenance Facility to screen the facility from the neighbors. The disadvantage of the screening is that it will impact the security since the police and others will not be able to see into the facility.

Gary G. Harer, Municipal Services, Director, explained the different landscaping proposals.

Jenny Sloan, 11690 Road 4, stated that even though it is zoned public, the facility is industrial in nature and should be required to be landscaped as such. She felt a significant buffer should be installed which would help to mitigate the noise from the operation.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, explained that the site is zoned public which has different landscaping requirements from an industrial zone. He mentioned that the use of the property would more closely resemble a commercial operation rather than an industrial operation.

Rolando Gonzalez, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, explained the proposed landscaping and the reasons for the choice of plants as it relates to the maintenance issue.

There was considerable discussion about the noise and landscaping.

Action Taken: Mr. Ecret moved that the landscape plan as proposed by the Parks and Recreation Superintendent be approved, seconded by Mr. Deane, and passed with Dr. Curnel opposed as the landscaping will not address the noise issue.

STRATFORD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Washington State Department of Transportation presented a preliminary design for improvements to the Highway 17 and Stratford Road interchange. The improvements include reducing the traffic lanes on Stratford Road to three to accommodate an 8' bicycle lane and a 6' sidewalk on each side and constructing a roundabout at the Wal-Mart intersection and at the on-off ramps on the north side of SR-17. The estimated cost is about \$6.5 million and the Department of Transportation needs an endorsement from the city to place this project on their six-year transportation plan. Staff suggested a \$100,000 contribution as the project will increase the safety for the pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the bridge and the motorists at the Wal-Mart intersection.

Gary Harer, Municipal Services Director, stated that the city has been requesting sidewalk on this overpass for 20 years as there is only a 3' wide sidewalk on each side. He pointed out that there is a fair amount of accidents at the on and off ramps and the Wal-Mart intersection. The Department of Transportation feels that the roundabouts will increase the level of service and decrease the number of accidents in this area. He explained the advantages of a roundabout over a signalized intersection.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the project be endorsed and the City pledge \$100,000 towards the project, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

CIVIC CENTER STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Staff is proposing to improve Balsam Street and the portion of Fourth Avenue that has been vacated with a mini roundabout and the installation of pavers, trees, and landscaping. It has been suggested that the clock that the Rotary International donated to the City and that is presently located in the intersection of Ash Street and Third Avenue be relocated to the center of the mini roundabout.

Gary G. Harer, Municipal Services Director, stated that the improvements to Balsam and Fourth need to be done this fall. The relocation of the clock has been mentioned to the Rotary Club.

Wayne Rimple, representing the Rotary Club, stated that it was the intent of the Rotary Club that the clock would be a location where the public could congregate, so it was originally placed at Sinkiuse Square. When the Square was redesigned and the 4-way stops were implemented downtown, the clock was moved to the middle of the street. Now the intent is to move the clock to the proposed roundabout in front of the Civic Center Complex. He requested that the Rotary Club meet with members of the Council to reinforce the intent of the Rotary Club with respect to the clock.

There was some discussion and Mayor Lane, Mrs. Liebrecht, and Mr. Deane agreed to meet with the Rotary Club.

John Abens, Rotary, felt that the roundabout in front of the Civic Center Complex would be a good place for the clock.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the concept for the Civic Center street improvements be endorsed, seconded by Mr. Pearce, and passed unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - MUTUAL AID

Authorization was requested for the City Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Grant County Fire District #5 for a joint technical rescue team, combined response, and associated training. It is recognized that technical rescue response cannot be accomplished by either agency due to limited resources. The combined efforts will greatly enhance public safety in both jurisdictions.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the City Manager be authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - NoneCOUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - NonePROJECT PEGASUS

Mayor Lane provided information on Boeing's next generation of jet and the fact that Washington State is bidding for the project. If Washington is chosen, there is a possibility that Moses Lake would be in contention as a site for the project. He mentioned that the Port of Moses Lake will take the lead in this project.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND COMMENTSRECYCLING

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, presented the Recycler of the Year Award that was given to the City. He mentioned that the city has reduced its garbage to the landfill by 44% for the year of 2011 and by 35% since inception of the program.

SUMMER EVENTS

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, stated that Burke Marketing will be revising the Pig out in the Park to something a little different since it coincides with the food and wine festival. The other events are doing fine and no changes are anticipated.

FARM ANIMALS

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, stated that the study session can be advertised in whatever way the Council chooses.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated he contacted the Health Department and they are neutral on the issue of rabbits and chickens in the city limits. The City of Spokane, the City of Spokane Valley, and the City of Wenatchee have all indicated they have had code enforcement issues with the rabbits and chickens.

After some discussion it was the consensus of the Council that a study session be set for 6 p.m. on June 28.

SEX OFFENDERS AT PUBLIC FACILITIES

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, stated that the notice to sex offenders included not only the Surf 'n Slide Water Park but also Blue Heron Park and Larsen Recreation Center. He mentioned that the notices have been served and the city is looking to draft a policy on how to deal with the issue.

ENTRANCE SIGNS

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, stated that the Washington State Department of Transportation has tentatively approved the entrance sign on Highway 17 near Kittelson Road with the provision that additional information be provided. There is a problem with the signs at the off-ramp near the Department of Labor and industries building because it requires some federal involvement. It seems to be a cumbersome process to get federal permission to place the signs and it may be more involved than it is worth.

BUILDING ACTIVITY REPORT

The May 2011 Building Activity Report was presented.

INVESTMENT REPORT

The city received \$22,567.27 in investment income in May 2011.

SALES TAX/TRANSIENT RENTAL INCOME

The city received \$456,738.86 in sales tax and \$31,217.30 in transient rental income in May 2011.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

ATTEST

Jon Lane, Mayor

Ronald R. Cone, Finance Director