

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL
October 25, 2011

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

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

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

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS - None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: The minutes of the October 11, 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 October 25, 2011 the Council does approve for payment claims in the amount of \$636,598.71; prepaid claims in the amounts of \$10,648.49 and \$22,375.17; claim checks in the amount of \$1,951,115.51; and payroll in the amount of \$317,533.40.

Accept Work - 2011 Seal Coat Project: Granite Construction Co. has completed work on the 2011 Seal Coat Project. The work should be accepted and the 45-day lien period entered into.

Nuisance Abatements: The Council should set November 8 as the date to consider resolutions to abate nuisances at 1105 Hill Avenue, 304 E. Broadway, and Lot 1, Broad Ripple #6.

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

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - None

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS AND QUOTES - None

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCES - TAXATION - 1ST READINGS/PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinances were presented which fix the estimated amount to be received by the city from property taxes and sets the tax levy rate.

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, explained the process of setting the amounts to be received from property taxes.

The public hearing was opened.

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

The ordinance fixing the amount to be received for municipal purposes from taxations on assessed valuations on property within the City of Moses Lake, Washington for 2012 was read by title only.

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

The ordinance fixing the estimated amount to be received for municipal purposes from taxations on assessed valuations on property within the City of Moses Lake, Washington for 2012 was read by title only.

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

GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

Jefferson Ketchel, Administrator, Grant County Health District, reported on their current activities and future initiatives. In order to enhance the Healthy Community project, he encouraged the City to enact a Complete Streets Ordinance, which would required consideration of all modes of transportation - vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, and mass transit - when making planning and street building decisions. He also felt that there should be a City ordinance requiring children to wear helmets when bicycling. He mentioned that Ephrata has a waste medicine collection station at the Police station and the Health District would work with the City of Moses Lake to establish such a program.

Dr. Curnel pointed out that Moses Lake pays \$1 per person to the Health District and that many smaller cities pay \$2 per person and since Moses Lake is the largest city in the county, the City may wish to consider increasing its participation since the largest proportion of those served by the Health District would be residents of Moses Lake.

There was some discussion by the Council on the information provided.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION - NUISANCE ABATEMENT COSTS - EMC MORTGAGE

A resolution was presented which authorizes staff to collect the funds expended for the nuisance abatement at 818 Sage Bay Drive. The property is owned by EMC Mortgage Corp for FIS Tax.

The resolution establishing the billing to be imposed against EMC Mortgage Corp for FIS Tax, as the owner of certain real property upon which the City caused abatement of a nuisance to be preformed after a failure of the property owners to abate the same was read by title only.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mr. Deane, and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - NUISANCE ABATEMENT COSTS - PESEK

A resolution was presented which authorizes staff to collect the funds expended for the nuisance abatement at 1230 W. Broadway. The property is owned by Joli Pesek.

The resolution establishing the billing to be imposed against Joli Pesek, as the owner of certain real property upon which the City caused abatement of a nuisance to be preformed after a failure of the property owners to abate the same was read by title only.

Mr. Ecret suggested that the City go beyond abatement of the nuisance at this location since it is in foreclosure and spray the weeds to inhibit their growth.

Katherine Kenison, City Attorney, stated that there may be some liability issues for the City by spraying weeds on some one else's property and that she will research the issue before the City takes any action other than the abatement of the nuisance.

Action Taken: Mr. Deane moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - INTER-FUND LOAN

A resolution was presented which provides for an inter-fund loan of \$1,500,000 from the Water/Sewer Fund 410 to the Building Maintenance Fund 528.

The resolution authorizing an inter-fund loan to the Building Maintenance Fund 528 from the Water/Sewer Fund 410 was read by title only.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Liebrecht, and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - ACCEPT GRANT - BULLETPROOF VEST PROGRAM

A resolution was presented which accepts a \$5,101.96 grant from the Bulletproof Vest Program. The funds will be used to purchase replacement bulletproof vests.

The resolution accepting grant funds from the 2011 Bulletproof Vest Program was read by title only.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - BUILD ON UNPLATTED PROPERTY - INTERNATIONAL PAPER

A resolution was presented which allows International Paper to construct a 5,0000 square foot wastewater treatment plant on unplatted property located at 13594 Wheeler Road.

The resolution allowing IP EAT Five, LLC (International Paper) to build on unplatted property was read by title only.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the wastewater treatment plant that International Paper is proposing to construct will benefit the City as it will treat the materials currently being discharged to the City's system.

Jerry Close, Maintenance Manager for International Paper, stated that the City complains about the color of the discharge and the pre-treatment would clear the water. He mentioned that the platting process has been started.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mr. Ecret, and passed unanimously.

REQUEST TO CALL FOR BIDS - None

REFERRALS FROM COMMISSIONSYOUTH HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Moses Lake Youth Hockey Association requested authorization to hold youth hockey tournaments and increase their practice times at the ice rink during the 2011-12 season. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommended that the group be authorized to have two hockey tournaments and their practice times on Saturday be increased. This would allow public recreational skating to begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday rather than 1 p.m. as it did last year.

Celeste Estrada, Moses Lake Youth Hockey, stated that there are currently 80 members registered with 3 more weeks of open registration. She stated that last year they had 4 teams and this year they have 5 teams. She explained the tournament time lines.

There was some discussion concerning the reduction in the times the public could be using the rink and it was pointed out that the hockey players will take the times that are under utilized by the public and one extra hour on Saturday.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that the request be granted, seconded by Mr. Deane, and passed unanimously.

MUNICIPAL AIRPORT - FENCE

The Airport Commission recommended that fences be placed on the north and south ends of the Municipal Airport.

Mr. Pearce stated that this is the first step to having the perimeter of the airport fenced and it is for the purpose of preventing people from driving on the runway and taxiways. The Airport Commission is concerned about people driving on to the airport from unauthorized places and the thefts that have occurred.

Mrs. Liebrecht was concerned that the fences could be the cause of landing and take off accidents for the airplanes and would be a poor use of City funds. She also felt that signage would reduce the incursion of vehicles on the taxiways and runways.

Mr. Ecret was also concerned about the safety and liability issues.

Mr. Pearce stated that the fences on the ends of the airport will be 3' high and since the planes are required to be 25' at the end of the runways, the fences should not be a problem. He pointed out that the funds for the fence will come from the rents of the airport property and not from the general fund. He mentioned that the FAA and security businesses want airports fenced and the Airport Commission has been discussing fencing for over a year.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Darren Jackson, Jackson Flight Center, stated that there needs to be some type of security at the Municipal Airport and the fencing issue is the best option but suggested that the south end only be fenced because the main problem is vehicles coming down the canal bank and accessing the airport beyond the range of the security cameras.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the fences be approved, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed with Mr. Ecret and Mrs. Liebrecht opposed.

OTHER ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL - AGREEMENT

The Grant County Economic Development Council has requested an amendment to the existing contract to cover the cost of additional expenses for promoting economic development in the area.

Mayor Lane pointed out that the Council previously approved this additional expense to help fund the aerospace assessment.

Action Taken: Dr. Curnel moved that the City Manager be authorized to sign the addendum to the agreement, seconded by Mr. Reese.

Mr. Ecret felt that additional information should be provided on where and how the \$5,000 was spent.

Mayor Lane stated that the work has been completed and the report will be made available in the near future.

The motion passed with Mr. Ecret and Mrs. Liebrecht opposed.

REQUEST FOR GRANT - RECYCLING

The Finance Department requested permission to apply for a \$900 grant from the Grant County Solid Waste Department. The funds would provide support for the printing of materials concerning the recycling program in Moses Lake.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that the request be granted, seconded by Mr. Reese, and passed unanimously.

WORK HOURS - SEWER LINING PROJECT

PEC Construction requested permission to install sewer lining between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. on November 20, 21, and 22. The work will take place in the alley between 3rd and 4th Avenues from Elm Street to Holly Street. There are several homes and apartment units that are served by these lines.

Action Taken: Dr. Curnel moved that the request be granted, seconded by Mr. Reese, and passed unanimously.

LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The membership of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee is to be confirmed on a yearly basis. The current members include Debbie Doran-Martinez, Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Commission, Brenda Teals, Allied Arts, Friends of the Adam East Museum and Art Center, and Tourism Commission, Troy Duzon, Amerihost Inns and Tourism Commission, and Christine Richie, Lakefront Inn and Tourism Commission. Councilman Ecret is the Chairman.

Action Taken: Mr. Pearce moved that the current members of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee be confirmed, seconded by Mr. Reese, and passed unanimously.

DRIVEWAY STANDARDS - DEVIATION

Chris Cheely, Phones Plus, Inc., requested a deviation to the driveway standards to reinstall a driveway at 221 S. Pioneer Way that is within the 100' required separation of the intersection with Third Avenue. This driveway was removed weeks ago due to excessive spalling and because it did not meet current ADA standards. Current Community Standards prohibit the driveway from being installed at the same location because of the inadequate separation from the intersection. The owner is requesting that the driveway be reinstalled since it has been at this location for over 40 years.

Mr. Cheely stated that originally there were five ways to access the parking lot at the corner of Date Street and Pioneer Way and three of those have been eliminated under the new design. He mentioned that he would like the access on Pioneer Way to be re-installed as far from the intersection as possible.

Gary Harer, Municipal Services Director, stated that the driveway would be about 25' from the intersection but that is as far as it could be moved and still be usable.

There was some discussion by the Council.

Action Taken: Dr. Curnel moved that the request be granted, seconded by Mr. Reese, and passed unanimously.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - NoneCOUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - NoneCITY MANAGER REPORTS AND COMMENTSDOT ENTRANCE SIGNS

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the City has received the permit from the Department of Transportation for the signs near Kittelson Corner. The concrete for these signs is to be poured by November 4.

CIVIC CENTER BUILDING

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, provided a cost summary of the Civic Center project which is currently 4.8% over the original project bid because of 14 small change orders.

CRIME STATISTICS

Crime statistics for 2009 and 2010 were provided as well as those for 2011 through October 18.

Dean Mitchell, Police Chief, provided some additional information on crime statics and mentioned that the City has programs in place to deter crime.

AMBULANCE FUND

The third quarter Ambulance Report was presented.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The third quarter financial report is on the website.

RECYCLING REPORT

Ron Cone, Finance Director, provided a report on the recycling program which shows the city has been able to refund \$.81 per month on the utility bills and other cities are looking at our program. He also mentioned that there has been an increase for second 64 gallon recycle carts or 96 gallon recycle carts in place of the 64 gallon carts.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

ATTEST

Jon Lane, Mayor

Ronald R. Cone, Finance Director