

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL
June 11, 2013

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

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

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

PRESENTATION AND AWARDS - None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: The minutes of the May 28 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 June 11, 2013 the Council does approve for payment claims in the amount of \$808,513.37; prepaid claims in the amounts of \$850,107.50, \$14,460.04, & \$28,604.41; claim checks in the amount of \$1,771,551.83; and payroll in the amounts of \$3,779.33 and \$350,757.50.

Six Year Street Transportation Improvement Program - Set Date for Public Hearing: A public hearing was set for July 9 to consider the Six Year Street Transportation Improvement Program.

Action Taken: Mr. Reese moved that the Consent Agenda be approved, seconded by Mr. Lane, and passed unanimously.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - None

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS AND QUOTES - None

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PUBLIC HEARINGS

HARVEST AGAINST HUNGER

Jeni Roberts, Gleaning Coordinator for Harvest Against Hunger, requested time before the Council to discuss ways in which the City can help integrate programs to combat hunger in Moses Lake.

Ms. Roberts provided a flyer with information on the SNAP challenge to feed their families on \$38.83 per person for seven days beginning June 19 and challenged the Council to try.

USE OF CITY PROPERTY - MOBILE RESTAURANT - WRIGHT

Carlos Wright requested permission to operate a small, temporary mobile restaurant at Sinkiuse Square offering fish and shrimp tacos.

There was some discussion by the Council and Mr. Wright was directed to contact City staff.

FENCING

Pat Carroll, Broadway Estates Mobile Home Park, requested permission to install barbed wire fencing on a portion of the fence that abuts an adjoining manufactured home park.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, explained that barbed wire is prohibited in the residential zone but is permitted in the commercial zone. The Broadway Estates Mobile Home Park has barbed wire in some locations because a portion of the park is located in a commercial zone. He mentioned that if a piece of property is bisected by different zoning districts, the property owner can request the Planning Commission to apply the less restrictive zoning regulations to the entire property. If the Planning Commission allows the less restrictive regulations, the installation of the barbed wire fencing would not be an issue to come before the Council.

SENIOR CENTER

Delbert Chase, representing the Moses Lake Senior Opportunity and Service Center, submitted a list of the activities offered by the Senior Center and some of the improvements that have been made to the site.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONSORDINANCE - AMEND 8.04 - FIREWORKS - 2ND READING

An ordinance was presented which prohibits the lighting and/or releasing of sky lanterns in the City of Moses Lake.

The ordinance amending Chapter 8.04 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Fireworks" was read by title only.

Action: Mr. Deane moved that the second reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mr. Avila, and passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE - AMEND 2.44 - PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION - 1ST READING

An ordinance was presented which reduces the size of the Park and Recreation Commission from nine members to seven members

The ordinance amending Chapter 2.44 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Park and Recreation Commission" was read by title only.

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

ORDINANCE - AMEND 3.27 - REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX: 1986 - 1ST READING ADOPTED

An ordinance was presented which imposes a second 1/4 of 1% in real estate excise tax. The funds raised by this tax would be placed in the Street Repair and Reconstruction Fund.

The ordinance amending Chapter 3.27 of the Moses Lake Municipal Code entitled "Real Estate Excise Tax: 1986" was read by title only.

Jeff Foster questioned the need for the additional revenue and pointed out that this tax was not adopted by any previous Council. He pointed out that the taxes will not come from the real estate community but from the person who is buying or selling a house.

Mark Fancher reminded the Council that the tax is paid by the buyer or seller of the real estate and the extra tax can impact the sale of the real estate.

It was mentioned that the City has put projects on hold due to lack of funds.

Action Taken: Mr. Deane moved that the first reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mr. Reese.

There was discussion by the Council on the pros and cons of the imposition of the proposed tax.

Action Taken: Mr. Deane moved that the motion be amended to include a 3 year sunset clause on the real estate tax, seconded by Mr. Reese, and failed with Mr. Deane and Mr. Reese in favor and Mr. Avila, Mr. Lane, Dr. Curnel, Mrs. Liebrecht, and Mr. Ecret opposed.

The motion failed with Mr. Deane and Mr. Reese in favor and Mr. Avila, Mr. Lane, Dr. Curnel, Mrs. Liebrecht, and Mr. Ecret opposed.

RESOLUTION - BUILD ON UNPLATTED PROPERTY - MOSES LAKE INDUSTRIES

A resolution was presented which allows Moses Lake Industries to build on unplatted property with the stipulation that the property be platted within one year.

The resolution allowing Moses Lake Industries to build on unplatted property was read by title only.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, explained the project.

Jon Erlenmeyer, Moses Lake Industries, mentioned that the site is 80 acres located on the former Larsen Air Force Base and there is on-site water and sewer facilities. In order to save time and effort in the future, Moses Lake Industries will plat the site as required.

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

REQUEST TO CALL FOR BIDS - None

REFERRALS FROM COMMISSIONS - None

OTHER ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

COLUMBIA BASIN SKILL CENTER - REQUEST TO WORK OFF HOURS

Rich Beason, contractor, requested permission to work on the Columbia Basin Skill Center and bus facility located at 900 E. Yonezawa Boulevard between the hours of 4 a.m. and 7 a.m. on June 11, 18, 25, and July 9. The work includes pouring concrete, cutting the water main, and installing an in-line water valve. The closest residential home is approximately 500 feet away.

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

BERNHARDT PRELIMINARY PLAT - EXTENSION

Columbia Northwest Engineering requested a one year extension of the approval of the Bernhardt Preliminary Plat.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, explained that the requirements to obtain an extension of the preliminary plat approval.

Gilbert Bailey, representing the project, stated that the developer has made a good faith effort to complete the project but the economic climate has put the project on hold.

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

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - None

CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND COMMENTSLONGVIEW TRACTS SEWER MAIN PROJECT - UPDATE

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, reported on the 32 properties that have yet to connect to the Longview Tracts Sewer Main. Some of the 16 property owners of those 32 properties have stated they are financially unable to connect to the sewer system. Six of the property owners met with staff and explained their situations. He mentioned that if the property owners do not connect, the next step is for staff to begin enforcement procedures, unless otherwise directed by the Council.

AMBULANCE REPORT

The cash report on the ambulance operations for the month of May was provided.

BUILDING ACTIVITY REPORT

The May building activity report was provided.

SALES TAX/TRANSIENT RENTAL INCOME

The City received \$465,345.89 in sales tax and \$36,755.64 in transient rental income in May.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. and the Council met in a 30 minute executive session with the City Attorney to discuss litigation. The executive session adjourned at 8:40 p.m. and the regular session was reconvened. The regular session was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST

Bill J. Ecret, Mayor

W. Robert Taylor, Finance Director