

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL
October 14, 2014

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

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

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

PRESENTATION AND AWARDS - None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: The minutes of the September 9 and 23 meetings 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 October 14, 2014 the Council does approve for payment claims in the amount of \$1,381,521.10; prepaid claims in the amounts of \$10,569.41 and 17,600.31; claim checks in the amount of \$1,202,788.22; and payroll in the amounts of \$321,762.24, \$324,639.77, and \$3,959.46.

Sonico Preliminary Major Plat and Findings of Fact: William Perdue of Sonico has submitted an application to plat 6.23 acres into two lots. The site is located south of Randolph Road and west of Patton Blvd. The area is zoned Heavy Industrial, which corresponds with the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designation of Industrial. The Planning Commission recommended that the preliminary plat be approved with conditions. The Council's approval of this decision incorporates and adopts the Findings, Conclusion and Decision of the Planning Commission.

Action Taken: Mr. Lane 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

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.

The public hearing was opened. There were no comments.

Action Taken: Mr. Voth moved that the public hearing be closed, seconded by Dr. Curnel, 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 2014 was read by title only.

The public hearing was opened.

Action Taken: Mr. Voth moved that the public hearing be closed, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

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

Action Taken: Mr. Lane moved that the first reading of the ordinance be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Liebrecht, 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 2014 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.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Laura Lutz provided some information on regulations that other cities have enacted to allow the keeping of chickens.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, stated that the information was previously provided to Council concerning the keeping of chickens and that the keeping of chickens is a policy decision, not a land use decision.

There was considerable discussion by the Council on the keeping of chickens in the City and additional information was requested.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE - SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM - 2ND READING

An ordinance was presented which repeals the existing Shoreline Master Program and adopts the updated Shoreline Master Program.

The ordinance repealing the existing Shoreline Management Master Plan and adopting a new Shoreline Master Program was read by title only.

Gilbert Alvarado, Community Development Director, gave some background and history on the Shoreline Master Program and explained the process remaining before the new program would take effect.

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

RESOLUTION - CHECKS

A resolution was presented which names those employees authorized to sign checks on behalf of the City.

The resolution naming those employees authorized to sign checks on behalf of the City of Moses Lake was read by title only.

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

RESOLUTION - GREAT WASHINGTON SHAKEOUT

A resolution was presented which supports the City's participation in the Great Washington Shakeout "Drop Cover and Hold On" earthquake drill on October 16 at 10:16 a.m.

The resolution of intent to participate in the Great Washington Shakeout and Work Toward Becoming a Safer Community was read by title only.

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

RESOLUTION - NUISANCE ABATEMENT COSTS

A resolution was presented which affirms the Council's prior authorization to staff to collect the funds expended for the nuisance abatements at 2404 Lakeside, owned by Vona Gibson.

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

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

RESOLUTION - NUISANCE ABATEMENT - 8616 JEAN - CULLINAN

A resolution was presented which provides for the abatement of nuisances at 8616 Jean, owned by Dick Cullinan.

The resolution determining that Dick Cullinan is the owner of certain real property within the City; that a nuisance requiring abatement by City forces or forces contracted by the City exists on such property; and directing the use of such forces to abate the nuisance found was read by title only.

Rick Rodriguez, Code Enforcement Officer, was sworn in and provided testimony concerning the nuisance violations.

There was no other testimony. The hearing was closed.

Action Taken: Mr. Ecret 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 - None

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

FIREMEN'S BREAKFAST

Matthew Borschowa, Firefighter, explained that the annual Firefighter's Breakfast, which was a joint effort of the firefighters and the Lions Club, was held on Saturday, October 11, and was attended by over 400 people including several Council members. The funds raised will go towards Operation Warm which provides coats for children.

COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - None

CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

AMBULANCE REPORT

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

BUILDING ACTIVITY REPORT

The September Building Activity Report was provided.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The third quarter financial report has been posted on the City's website.

INVESTMENT REPORT

The City received \$18,681.39 in investment income for August 2014.

GAMBLING TAX

The City received \$69,370.69 from gambling tax for the third quarter.

SALES TAX/TRANSIENT RENTAL INCOME

The City received \$510,845.79 in sales tax and \$67,348.68 in transient rental income in September.

BUDGET - GRANT COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION DECISION - REC

Joseph K. Gavinski, City Manager, pointed out that in the past three weeks the City has been informed that the State Board of Tax Appeals has confirmed the decision of the Grant County Board of Equalization and a tax bill was sent to REC for the unremitted taxes. The Department of Revenue informed the county that the bill was premature but the county did not rescind the bill. It is the position of REC that they do not have to pay the taxes at this time because they are appealing the decision. This means that the City will not be receiving any additional funds and the City must adjust the budget.

Mr. Gavinski explained the financial situation of the City because of the loss of the revenue from REC and recommended several ways to cover the loss of funds.

Spencer Grigg, Parks and Recreation Director, provided information on the cost to operate the Larson Recreation Center, which includes the ice rink.

There was some discussion on the impacts of closing the Larson Recreation Center.

The regular meeting was recessed at 8:15 p.m. and the Council met in an executive session with the City Attorney to discuss labor relations. The executive session was adjourned at 9 p.m. and the regular meeting was reconvened.

BUDGET

Action Taken: Mr. Lane moved that the Larson Recreation Center and skating rink be closed for the 2014-15 season, seconded by Mrs. Liebrecht, and passed unanimously.

Action Taken: Mrs. Liebrecht moved that the 2014 Holiday Show be cancelled, seconded by Dr. Curnel, and passed unanimously.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ATTEST

Dick Deane, Mayor

W. Robert Taylor, Finance Director