

City of Selah  
Council Minutes  
April 26, 2011

Regular Meeting  
Selah Council Chambers  
115 West Naches Avenue  
Selah, WA 98942

A. Call to Order Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 3:58pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Paul Overby; Kevin Jorgensen; Dave Smeback; John Gawlik; Allen Schmid

Members Excused: Keith Larson, John Tierney

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Chief; Jeff Hagler, Parks, Recreation & Tourism Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner; Monica Lake, Executive Assistant

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Overby led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Bob Nass led the opening prayer.

D. Agenda Changes

Mayor Jones read the Agenda Changes noted below.

**Added to the Consent Agenda:**

M – 1 Resolution Adopting the 2010 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for Selah, Washington

M – 2 Resolution of the City of Selah providing Notice of the Intent to Establish a Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) pursuant to RCW 35.101; setting a Public Hearing on the proposed TPA; identifying the boundaries of the TPA; identifying the proposed use of revenues generated by the TPA; and specifying the estimated lodging charge by classification

E. Public Appearances **None**

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses

The Mayor welcomed David Tompkins, owner of North Town Coffeehouse, and invited him to speak.

Mr. Tompkins thanked the Council for the opportunity to meet with them, and expressed his delight at opening a new business in Selah. He spoke about the positive reception they have received from the community since their opening, his intent to be an active part of the community, and his feeling that they fill a niche by providing a welcoming environment to sit, talk, and enjoy a coffee. He briefly spoke on his background as a pastor for twenty years, followed by his decision to open the first North Town Coffeehouse in downtown Yakima. He talked about his long-term commitment to Selah, indicating that he has signed a five year lease in the current location with an option to extend for an additional five years.

Councilman Schmid inquired as to the hours of operation.

Mr. Tompkins responded, saying that they were open from 6am to midnight Monday through Friday, and 7am to midnight on the weekends.

Councilman Gawlik welcomed Mr. Tompkins to Selah.

Mayor Jones commented that he and Executive Assistant Lake stopped in last week for coffee, and complimented Mr. Tompkins on the décor of North Town Coffeehouse.

Mr. Tompkins said that the drive- thru will not be open for another couple of weeks, but indicated that the parking lot is crowded during the day. He mentioned that there are plans for the patio area as well, with the intent of having a welcoming area for people to gather.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Tompkins and reiterated a welcome to Selah.

Councilman Schmid requested an addition to the agenda under Getting to Know Our Businesses.

Mayor Jones assented.

Councilman Schmid talked about the welcome packets compiled for distribution to the teams visiting for various tournaments, commenting that this year's packet is a cooperative effort between the City of Selah, the Selah Chamber of Commerce and the Girls' Fastpitch Association. He briefly outlined the items contained within each packet, highlighting the various restaurant menus and other brochures contained within. He indicated that there will be additional items added to the packet, and mentioned the minimal costs involved with the project. He passed around the packet, and commented that the coaches received a City of Selah pin with their packets.

Mayor Jones thanked Councilman Schmid for his efforts, and commented that it covers a lot of people. He asked if it will be a thirty-six team tournament.

Councilman Schmid replied that it is thirty-two teams.

Mayor Jones asked approximately how many people that is.

Councilman Schmid responded that it is four hundred sixty girls and coaches, not counting other visitors or spectators.

Councilman Gawlik asked how far away the teams are coming from.

Councilman Schmid replied that it is Washington State.

Councilman Gawlik asked if it included the west side.

Councilman Schmid replied in the affirmative, adding that they are from all over the state. He went on to say that there are three age groups playing this weekend, 10-, 12- and 14-years old, which means a large amount of spectators as parents travel with those age groups. He encouraged the Council Members to welcome the visitors when they are out and about in Selah this weekend.

Mayor Jones hoped for good spring weather this weekend.

Councilman Schmid responded that they've ordered sunshine and temperatures in the sixties.

Mayor Jones thanked Councilman Schmid for his presentation.

## G. Communications

### 1. Oral

Mayor Jones opened the Public Meeting.

Melanie Kohler, Director of Nursing for the Yakima Valley School, approached the podium and addressed the Council. She talked about the proposed budget cuts and the potential impact it could have on the Yakima Valley School. She requested a letter of support from the Mayor and Council Members in support of the Yakima Valley School, and invited them to tour the facility. She said that the school is not only a long-term care facility, but also provides services for up to 15-18 respite patients with short-term care needs. She spoke about the almost three hundred employees who work there, commenting that many are Selah residents and those who aren't support businesses in Selah on a regular basis. She went on to say that many of those employees would be relocated to other cities if the school is closed, and those families would be leaving a community they live in and support. She mentioned the economic benefits of having everyone live out in the community, and again invited the Council to come tour the facility.

Mayor Jones replied that she will have the letter of support requested, and went on to say that he and City Supervisor Sweet have been in contact with Senator King, Representative Ross and Representative Johnson regarding the issue. He commented that a school closure creates not only a financial loss, but additionally leaves a vacant building which acts as a magnet for vagrants, drug dealers and other less desirable entities. He said it would create an eyesore and a problem for the city if the facility was shut down, and they do not want to see that happen. He mentioned that he has been brainstorming potential ideas to use all or a portion of the facility, with the intent of the school generating an income to cover its expenses. He mentioned that a tour of the facility for himself, City Supervisor Sweet and Ms. Christine Cote from Perry Tech was scheduled for the following afternoon, and that it is a beautiful campus. He went on to say that it would be shame to have this happen to it, and told Ms. Kohler that she has their full support.

Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Kohler for her time, and asked her to stay for the awards presentation.

**Councilman Schmid moved, and Councilman Gawlik seconded, to draft a letter of support to maintain Yakima Valley School to be signed by the Mayor and Council Members, and sent to the Legislature and Representatives at the State. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.**

Mayor Jones asked if anyone else in the audience desired to speak. Seeing no one else rise to speak, the Mayor then closed the Public Meeting.

- 2. Written None

H. Proclamations/Announcements

- 1. Presentation – Officer of the Year and Meritorious Service Awards

Police Chief Dwarshuis introduced Officer Gerald Smith, touching on his five years as a full-time officer and three years in the reserves. He explained that each year the members of the Department nominate one member to receive the Officer of the Year Award, and said that Officer Smith has been the recipient of this award two years in a row. He briefly talked about Officer Smith's ranking as Master Patrol Officer and current duty as School Resource Officer for the Selah School District, and went on to say that Officer Smith is a great asset and that the community would be at a loss if he left. He stated that Officer Smith's name would be added to the plaque in the lobby of the Police Department. He then presented Officer Smith with the award for Officer of the Year, thanking him for his service.

Mayor Jones introduced Officer Smith's mother, Sandy, who was in the audience, and talked briefly about his history with the family. He commended Officer Smith for his great work and stated that he is a real asset to the City.

Police Chief Dwarshuis introduced Master Patrol Officers Richard Brumley and Pauli Martin. He spoke briefly regarding Officer Martin's twenty-eight years of service with the City, with the last twelve years as an officer; and moved on to briefly describe Officer Brumley's background, mentioning his sixteen years of law enforcement service in the Valley and his three years of service in the Selah Police Department. He acknowledged both officers as great assets to the Selah Police Department, and touched briefly on the multiple felony investigations they have teamed up on. He commended them for their dedication to their jobs and the community, noting that at times they sacrifice personal time and well-being to give their all to the community. He then presented each officer with the Meritorious Service Award and thanked them for their service and dedication.

Mayor Jones remarked that he's known both officers for a long time, and commended them for doing a fantastic job. He commented that Selah is very fortunate to have the quality of officers they have, and thanked both officers for their service.

Master Patrol Officer Martin commented that they couldn't do their jobs without good leadership.

Police Chief Dwarshuis thanked her for the compliment.

Mayor Jones said that Selah is fortunate to have such high caliber officers, as well as a Police Chief with excellent management skills.

Police Chief Dwarshuis thanked the Mayor.

I. Consent Agenda

Executive Assistant Lake read the Consent Agenda.

All items listed with an asterisk (\*) were considered as part of the Consent Agenda.

- \* 1. Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting April 12, 2011
- \* 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll:
  - Payroll Checks Nos. 70826 – 70956 for a total of \$163,861.49
  - Claim Checks No. 58088 for a total of \$ 1,920.55
  - Claim Checks Nos. 58089 – 58159 for a total of \$138,203.57
- \* 3. Resolution M – 1 Resolution Adopting the 2010 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for Selah, Washington
- \* 4. Resolution M – 2 Resolution of the City of Selah providing Notice of the Intent to Establish a Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) pursuant to RCW 35.101; setting a Public Hearing on the proposed TPA; identifying the boundaries of the TPA; identifying the proposed use of revenues generated by the TPA; and specifying the estimated lodging charge by classification

**Councilman Jorgensen moved, and Councilman Gawlik seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as read. By voice vote, approval of the Consent Agenda was unanimous.**

J. Public Hearings **None**

K. New Business **None**

L. Old Business **None**

M. Resolutions

- \* 1. Resolution Adopting the 2010 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for Selah, Washington
- \* 2. Resolution of the City of Selah providing Notice of the Intent to Establish a Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) pursuant to RCW 35.101; setting a Public Hearing on the proposed TPA; identifying the boundaries of the TPA; identifying the proposed use of revenues generated by the TPA; and specifying the estimated lodging charge by classification

N. Ordinances

- 1. Ordinance Amending Selah Municipal Code (SMC), Title 8, Chapter 8.70.020 Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets

City Supervisor Sweet addressed N-1. He notified the Council that Public Works Director Henne was unable to attend and he would be speaking on his behalf. He noted that the only change in the Ordinance was the addition of item number twenty-one prohibiting parking on either side of East Goodlander Road from North First Street to North Wenas Road.

**Councilman Overby moved, and Councilman Schmid seconded, to approve the Ordinance Amending Selah Municipal Code (SMC), Title 8, Chapter 8.70.020 Parking Prohibited on Certain**

**Streets. Roll was called: Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes; Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Gawlik – yes; Council Member Schmid - yes. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.**

O. Communications

1. Oral

The Mayor opened the Public Meeting. Seeing no one rise to speak, he then closed the meeting.

P. Reports/Announcements

1. Mayor

Mayor Jones briefly talked about the Valley Mayors' meeting held last Thursday, noting that their topic was the Juvenile Justice Center proposing to add beds to their facility. He opined that the most vulnerable, such as those housed at the Yakima Valley School, should be taken care of first. He said that Councilman Overby attended the meeting and felt he contributed greatly to the discussion. He talked about the work planned for Volunteer Park, first spraying the new path with weed killer and then using the Community Service workers to remove the rocks and facilitate easy mowing of the grass. He mentioned his current project of replacing the old flags with new ones on the town's flagpoles, and mentioned that Community Days is rapidly approaching. He gave an update on Wixson Park, touching on the ground getting leveled back out to repair damage from the work done on Well No. 8, the removal of the old volleyball court and the new sod laid by jail workers. He also mentioned that the apples will be freshly painted on the streets the weekend before Community Days.

Councilman Gawlik asked if there was a new projected completion date from the Department of Transportation in regard to the paving.

Councilman Schmid responded, saying that at the Chamber meeting earlier, the Department of Transportation said that they are currently running two weeks behind schedule due to delays.

Councilman Gawlik inquired if the situation on South Wenas would cause any problems for the parade.

Mayor Jones commented that he did not believe it would.

Councilman Schmid said that they will be paving Wenas from Naches on out and should have the area the parade uses done before Community Days.

Mayor Jones asked if the fiber optics were harnessed.

Community Planner Davison responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Jones commented that the fiber optics by Sweet Beez Café hadn't been buried deeply enough, which caused a delay while waiting for a harness to extend it. He commended the Department of Transportation on their excellent job of rerouting the traffic around the construction and keeping the construction zone as clean as possible.

2. Council Members

Councilman Jorgensen praised Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Hagler and Tourism Coordinator Brown, and said they are doing a fabulous job on both Tourism and Parks & Recreation.

Mayor Jones commented that Mr. Charlie Brown looks the part with his head shaved.

Councilman Jorgensen agreed, and said he is a great addition.

Councilman Smeback had no report.

Councilman Overby thanked Ms. Kohler for speaking to the Council about the Yakima Valley School, and commented that the state has gone back and forth over the last several years with the budget and potentially shutting down the school. He felt it was good to keep reminding the Council of the impact that the residents and the employees have on the community.

Councilman Gawlik agreed with Councilman Overby's comments and support regarding the Yakima Valley School. He felt that the residents of the school, and the care they receive, should be of primary concern.

Mayor Jones commented that the central location of the school is very important to the parents of those residents.

Councilman Schmid had no report.

3. Boards

4. Departmental

Community Planner Davison said that there has been some interest recently from businesses looking to locate to Selah, and there have been single-family zoning permits issued for numerous areas around the City. He commented that the South Wenas extension is progressing, and streetlight standards will be going in soon. He also mentioned that Community Days is fast approaching.

Fire Chief Davis reported that Deputy Chief Hanna has been discharged from the hospital and is resting at home. He said that they have been busy, and are waiting for the warm weather to appear.

Mayor Jones said he understood there have been some grass fires recently.

Fire Chief Davis replied that there have been two up in the Wenas area, and one closer to town.

Mayor Jones commented that the rain received the previous day has helped somewhat.

Fire Chief Davis replied that it did, by helping the grass to grow. He went on to talk briefly about the yearly report given to the Council Members in their packets.

Police Chief Dwarshuis informed the Council that the two patrol vehicles were delivered to YV-Tech the previous day, to the delight of the twenty cadets currently training. He commented that using real police vehicles will be an asset in their training. He talked briefly about a new computer search program from the Department of Justice called E-Trace, which is currently being used at the Police Department courtesy of ATF. He mentioned that Officers Martin and Brumley just completed an arson investigation

course, and that he fully supported any training his officers wanted to undertake. He finished by saying that they were gearing up for Community Days and will be ready when the time comes.

Mayor Jones commented that he had just read an article done on YV-Tech and their newly purchased patrol cars, and that the cadets were learning everything they could about the vehicles.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Hagler said that the Sports Tourism is going well, and thanked Councilman Schmid for his efforts in putting together the Welcome packet for the tournaments. He commented that North Park Lodge was full during the tournament last weekend, and will be again for the upcoming tournament this weekend.

City Attorney Bob Noe had no report.

City Supervisor Sweet had no report.

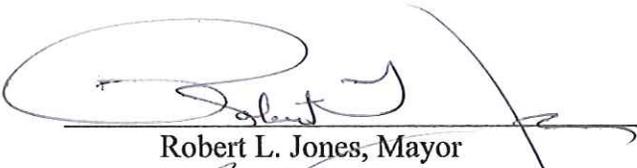
Q. Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

R. Adjournment

**Council Member Schmid moved, and Council Member Gawlik seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:34pm.



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Robert L. Jones, Mayor

EXCUSED  
Keith Larson, Council Member



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Paul Overby, Council Member

EXCUSED  
John Tierney, Council Member



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Kevin Jorgensen, Council Member



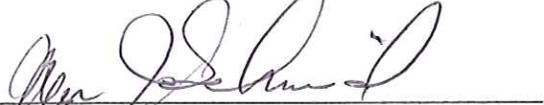
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Dave Smeback, Council Member



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John Gawlik, Council Member



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Allen Schmid, Council Member

ATTEST:



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Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer