

City of Selah
Council Minutes
July 12, 2011

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

A. Call to Order Mayor Pro Tem Overby called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

B. Roll Call

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

Members Excused: Mayor Jones

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Chief; Jeff Hagler, Parks, Recreation & Tourism Director; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner; Monica Lake, Executive Assistant

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Gawlik led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Marc Griese led the opening prayer.

D. Agenda Changes

E. Public Appearances

Mayor Pro Tem Overby welcomed Representative Norm Johnson.

Representative Johnson thanked the Council, saying that he was happy to be here today. He expressed his pleasure over the renaming of South Wenas to Jim Clements Way. He noted that Jim was able to do many great things for Selah over the years he spent in Olympia, such as acquiring the initial funding for the Selah bypass project that will be completed shortly.

City Supervisor Sweet commented that it should be completed in a couple weeks.

Representative Johnson said he was also here on behalf of Senator Curtis King and Representative Charles Ross, who were unable to attend. He congratulated the Public Works Department for their excellence, commenting that communications received from the Department of Ecology are typically negative in nature and that it was a pleasant change to receive a letter praising the City of Selah's Waste Water Treatment Plant. He congratulated the Council Members for their efforts as leaders of this community. He went on to say how pleased he was to discover that Lead Operator Todd Laroche is the son of a good friend, and wished that he could have been there to join in celebrating the work done by his son and crew for the City of Selah. He then handed Mayor Pro Tem Overby the letter received from the Department of Ecology, and thanked the Council for letting him have a few minutes of their time.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby thanked Representative Johnson for coming in to address the Council, and commended the Waste Water Treatment Plant workers for their hard work and dedication to their jobs. He noted that this is a great honor, and that our treatment plant has been the recipient of this award four times in a row.

Representative Johnson commented that he thought they were the only ones to have received it four times in a row.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby read aloud the letter addressed to Representative Johnson from the Department of Ecology.

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses **None**

G. Communications

1. Oral

Mayor Pro Tem Overby opened the Public Meeting.

C.B. Smith, residing at 212 Anchor Loop, approached the podium and addressed the Council. He said that he would like to address the lack of notice given by the United States Postal Service regarding their proposed plan to move local mail processing from Yakima to Pasco, and how that will impact our community. He noted that mail currently collected from Mabton to Vantage is brought to Yakima for processing, and that the planned move will send the mail to Pasco for sorting and processing. He said that the mail would be collected in Selah, bundled up in Yakima, and then sent to Pasco to be sorted and sent back to Yakima and Selah. He observed that the United States Postal Service feels this is a fiscally necessary change. He extended an invitation to the Council members to attend a meeting hosted by the United States Postal Service at Howard Johnson Plaza on July 21st at 6pm, saying that all questions posed at the meeting will be answered at that time. He also mentioned that he has an address for comments to be sent to.

Councilman Jorgensen inquired if it as an email address.

Mr. Smith responded that it is a mailing address.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby asked Mr. Smith to read the address aloud for viewers watching the meeting on Y-PAC.

Mr. Smith read the following address aloud: Consumer & Industry Contacts, Seattle District, PO Box 90306, Seattle, WA 98109-9631.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby thanked Mr. Smith. He went on to say that the organization he works for processes a large volume of mail through the Yakima Post Office, and that their organization is structured around the Yakima postal facilities. He observed that relocating the mail hub to Pasco will introduce delays into their mail service, and that he understands Mr. Smith's concerns over the planned relocation. He thanked Mr. Smith for coming in to address the Council, and noted that it doesn't take a large attendance at a public meeting to express opinions and have things change. He went on to say that things that look good on paper continue to look that way unless someone speaks up and shares a different viewpoint.

Seeing no one else rise to speak, Mayor Pro Tem Overby then closed the Public Meeting.

2. Written

- a. Letter from Grace and Jeff Snodgrass thanking the Selah Police Department for watching their house while they were away
- b. Public Works Maintenance Facility – Change Order Proposal (COP) #1
- c. Yakima Transit Sales Tax Report for May 2011

H. Proclamations/Announcements **None**

I. Consent Agenda

Councilman Tierney moved, and Councilman Jorgensen seconded, to add M-1, M-2 and M-3 to the Consent Agenda. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby read the Consent Agenda.

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

- * 1. Approval of Minutes: Study Session & Council Meeting June 28, 2011
- * 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll:
 - Payroll Checks Nos. 71328 – 71439 for a total of \$205,226.50
 - Claim Check No. 58489 for a total of \$ 18,809.45
 - Claim Checks Nos. 58490 – 58576 for a total of \$346,395.61
- * 3. Resolution M – 1 Resolution Appointing the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee to serve as the Advisory Board for the Selah Tourism Promotion Area
- * 4. Resolution M – 2 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem to Sign the Construction Change Directive (CCD) #1 for the New Public Works Maintenance Facility
- * 5. Resolution M – 3 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem to Sign the Change Order Proposal (COP) #2 for the New Public Works Maintenance Facility

Councilman Larson moved, and Councilman Tierney 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

M. Resolutions

- * 1. Resolution Appointing the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee to serve as the Advisory Board for the Selah Tourism Promotion Area
- * 2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem to Sign the Construction Change Directive (CCD) #1 for the New Public Works Maintenance Facility
- * 3. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem to Sign the Change Order Proposal (COP) #2 for the New Public Works Maintenance Facility

N. Ordinances **None**

O. Communications

- 1. Oral **None**

P. Reports/Announcements

- 1. Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Pro Tem Overby observed that BDI shows recycling rates are rising fairly consistently on an almost monthly basis, with more recycling customers enrolling every month. He noted that this is excellent progress for a program that is made up entirely of voluntary participants. He commented that a number of other communities strive for 50% participation with compulsory recycling, and for the City of Selah to be around 38% with only voluntary participants is a great accomplishment. He encouraged everyone to do their part by recycling, and declined to mention any names of Council Members not currently enrolled in the program.

- 2. Council Members

Councilman Tierney said he was pleased to see the new maps of the City of Selah and that they would be of great assistance to the Council when making future decisions.

Councilman Larson had no report.

Councilman Jorgensen inquired if there have been complaints received regarding the end of July pool closure date this year.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Hagler responded that he has received some comments on the matter, noting that the closure date is listed in the summer/fall Parks brochure. He reminded the Council that it had been decided during the budget sessions to close the pool two weeks earlier than the normal August 15th closure. He went on to say that attendance is down this year, partly due to the cooler weather in June, and that the cooler weather today has resulted in a lower attendance this afternoon.

Councilman Smeback had no report.

Councilman Gawlik commended Mayor Pro Tem Overby on a well-run meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby thanked Councilman Gawlik for his compliment.

Councilman Schmid commented that the youth sports at McGonagle Park, Carlon Park and Woods Field bring a large number of people to the City of Selah, due in no small part to the Council's support of these activities. He noted that the fast pitch softball tournament last weekend was comprised of 54 teams, which brought much-needed dollars into our community. He commended the Public Works crew for their efforts in keeping the facilities in spotless condition, noting that visitors from around the state were impressed by the cleanliness and general upkeep of Carlon Park. He said that he expects to hear similar comments from out-of-town visitors regarding McGonagle Park at this weekend's tournament.

3. Boards

4. Departmental

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski said that he has closed the books for June and will be providing the second quarter summary to the Finance Committee on Wednesday.

Community Planner Davison hoped that the Council Members were enjoying the new maps displayed on the wall. He commented that they may be a bit difficult to read from a distance, and noted that the streets and major landmarks are identified. He went on to say that the maps will be continually updated to reflect any changes in either zoning or city boundaries.

Public Works Director Henne thanked the Council for approving the two Resolutions. He said that the light at the intersection of Fremont Avenue and North Wenas will be energized on Monday July 18th, and the one at the intersection of North Wenas and Naches Avenue will be energized the following Friday. He went on to say that the project should be mostly completed by the end of the week, and that the ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place around the end of the month. He said that he will inform the Council when a date and time are selected.

Parks, Recreation & Tourism Director Hagler said that he is working with the Department of Transportation regarding the placement of the North Park Lodge signage on the interstate, as well as the Visitor Center signs from Harrison Road to North Park Lodge directing people to the Visitor Center located inside. He passed out sports schedules for the various tournaments, along with a list of teams and their home towns. He commented that a youth sports tournament from Yakima had contacted him and will be using McGonagle Park and Carlon Park for their overflow. He encouraged the Council Members to review the list and note where the various teams are coming from, and mentioned that they are using the information to promote the City of Selah through the sports information packets handed out to all the teams.

Police Chief Dwarshuis had no report.

City Attorney Noe had no report.

Fire Chief Davis said that he has two new rigs, with utility boxes installed, coming in from Spokane today to replace old vehicles at Stations 4 and 6. He noted that they are staying busy right now.

Mayor Pro Tem Overby inquired about fires over the Fourth of July.

along section 7, but aside from that is was mainly grass fires. He noted that they have helped East Valley with fires two or three times over the last month.

City Supervisor Sweet had no report.

Q. Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

R. Adjournment

Council Member Gawlik moved, and Council Member Schmid seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried with 6 voting aye and 1 voting nay.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23pm.

EXCUSED

Robert L. Jones, Mayor

Paul Overby, Council Member

Kevin Jorgensen, Council Member

John Gawlik, Council Member

Keith Larson, Council Member

John Tierney, Council Member

Dave Smeback, Council Member

Allen Schmid, Council Member

ATTEST:

Dale E. Novobiofski, Clerk/Treasurer