

City of Selah  
Council Minutes  
June 9, 2009

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

A. Call to Order Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 3:59pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Summer Derrey, Kevin Jorgensen, Denise Nichols, Paul Overby; Dave Smeback, John Tierney

Members Excused: Keith Larson

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Chief; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner; Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Tierney led the Pledge of Allegiance. Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Hagler led the group in prayer.

D. Agenda Changes

E. Public Appearances

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses

G. Communications

1. Oral

2. Written

a. Letter from Kelly Susewind, P.E., P.G., Water Quality Program Manager, WA State Department of Ecology

There being no Proclamations or announcements, Mayor Jones moved to the Consent Agenda.

H. Proclamations/Announcements

I. Consent Agenda

Mayor Jones read the Consent Agenda.

**Councilman Tierney moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Councilman Smeback seconded. By voice vote, the Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.**

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

- \* 1. Approval of Minutes: Study Session & Council Meeting May 26, 2009
- \* 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll:
  - Claims Checks Nos. 54114 – 54114 for a total of \$ 5,230.58
  - Claims Checks Nos. 54187 – 54202 for a total of \$ 200.70
  - Claims Checks Nos. 54203 – 54295 for a total of \$ 338,731.74
  - Payroll Checks Nos. 66023 – 66113 for a total of \$ 180,792.40
- \* 3. Item M – 1 Resolution Approving Payment of Invoice Submitted by Eco-Northwest for Stormwater Education Services Provided under the Terms of Their Professional Services Agreement with the City of Selah
- \* 4. Item M – 3 Resolution Declaring Selah Police Department Property as Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposal
- \* 5. Item M – 4 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a WSDOT Local Agency Agreement Supplement for the Speyers Road Improvement Project
- \* 6. Item M – 5 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Standard Consultant Agreement with Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. for the Construction Phase of the Speyers Road Improvement Project
- \* 7. Item N – 1 Ordinance Amending the 2009 Budget for Speyers Road Sewer Line Extension

J. Public Hearings

K. New Business

- 1. Selah Parks Board Carlon Park Sign Recommendation

Jeff Hagler addressed Old Business Item L - 1. He reported the "ais" should project \$30,695 because tax was not included in original estimate. He reported the Parks Board had lots of discussion regarding the sign and what would be on it.

Councilman Kevin Jorgensen said the Parks Board has desired to get the Parks Service Area Board more involved and to identify the greater community of Selah. For that reason, they recommended putting "Selah" on the top of the sign, rather than "the City of Selah." He noted that broader community was discussed at the Council Retreat.

Mr. Hagler confirmed that.

Councilman Jorgensen said he thought it was a good recommendation made by Councilwoman Nichols to refer this project to the Parks Board. He said the Parks Board unanimously supported the sign and said it would be a big improvement to Carlon Park. He said there was also discussion regarding the need to have regular discussion of priorities for Selah Parks.

Councilman Tierney asked whether it was to be "Selah" or "Selah Community," citing the middle paragraph of the Parks Board minutes.

The Parks & Rec Director confirmed that it was to be "Selah."

Councilwoman Nichols asked how many people are on the Parks Board.

He responded that there are seven people on the Board.

She noted there were only three in attendance at the meeting, so they did not have a quorum.

Mr. Hagler confirmed that there was not an official quorum.

Councilwoman Derrey asked Councilwoman Nichols if the Board went over all the points she discussed.

Councilwoman Nichols said yes, but noted her disappointment that there was such a small group present, saying that does not totally represent what the Council had expected it to represent. She said she appreciates Mr. Hagler taking this to them and thinks that is the way the considerations should go. She said her other concern is that they've made a commitment to look at some of the other priorities, saying she thinks committing \$30,000 from the Parks budget for a sign at this time is ill-advised. She cited need for repairs of playground equipment at Playland and Wixson. She said that while she likes the sign, she thinks the timing is bad.

Councilman Tierney asked the Parks & Rec Director where controls for the sign message electronics would be located and by whom they would be operated.

Mr. Hagler said there is a computer in the Park Maintenance shop at Carlon Park, and his staff could control those messages from there. He noted those messages would not be limited to Carlon activities.

Mayor Jones asked the City Supervisor if the City is going to get money from FEMA for flood damage to Playland Park.

Frank Sweet said they are working on that.

Councilman Overby asked Jeff Hagler how he would prioritize this request if it were under consideration at budget time. He said he asked the question knowing that whatever we take this out of this year is going to come out of some reserve that we won't be able to pull money out of next year. He suggested that this (expenditure for the sign) would really be competing with what the Parks Department wants next year in terms of what they are going to have available to spend. He asked Mr. Hagler where this would fit if it were put side-by-side with a mower or if a flood takes out more playground equipment.

The Parks & Rec Director said the practical things in the parks are very important. He said it is difficult to compare. He said this sign is more of a publicity thing, but it is needed.

Mayor Jones said the play area at Playland Park was not purchased by the City; it was donated by the Yakima Training Center. The insurance company has recommended removal of merry-go-round at Wixson Park.

Councilwoman Nichols asked what the insurance company said about the ground cover, and seemed surprised that they had okayed the gravel.

Public Works Director Joe Henne said Public Works just put thirty more yards of pea gravel in there.

Councilman Jorgensen those are exactly the things the Parks Board was asked to discuss and prioritize. He noted their consensus was that they had no problem putting the sign at the top of the list so long as they had a working list where projects and needs could be considered routinely. He said he wasn't quite sure whether this was to be done now or put in line for the budget cycle. He said he was late to the meeting, so didn't understand.

Councilman Tierney said there are things that we *must* do as a City, things we *can* do, as well as things we'd *like* to do. He said he questions whether this is the number one thing we want to do in a time of declining resources. He said he'd like to wait until we find out what we might get from FEMA before acting on this. He asked if we really need to have this right now.

Mayor Jones said Carlon Park is an economic generator; the rest of our parks are not. He said people who visit this park spend money in Selah. Playland is primarily used by Yakima people. He said you'll find that a lot of Yakima people also use Wixson Park because it is safe. He said he's glad these parks are used and kept clean. He noted there is a big difference between pleasure parks and economic generators.

Councilman Overby said he remains concerned that if the Parks Department has equipment go down, there will be safety considerations and those will happen over the summer, prior to the budget time. He said it would make sense to consider this proposal at budget time when the Council will know what stuff needs to be replaced.

Mayor Jones said it is up to the Council to decide if that is a priority now.

Councilman Jorgensen said there is no reason why the sign couldn't be up and in place by next spring if it is part of this fall's budget cycle.

Jeff Hagler noted the lead time is six weeks.

Mayor Jones told Mr. Hagler to make sure that's a budget priority.

Councilman Smeback said even if we approve it today, we're looking at late summer before it could even be installed.

The Parks & Rec Director said he didn't see a problem if it waited for the budget cycle.

Procedure was discussed.

The City Supervisor urged the Council to avoid tabling the issue, noting that would just make it more confusing. Rather he urged them to just deny it and bring it up in the budget cycle. He explained that he moved this proposal forward because there are two big tournaments coming up in July, and it seemed to make some sense to try to finish it in time for those substantial tournaments.

Allen Schmid explained that one is a 14u a-b state tournament and the other is a 12u a-b regional championship with teams from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and Alaska. He explained that everything is there for the sign; it's basically just going to be redone.

The City Supervisor said it will not be catastrophic if it is not adopted today. If staff believed this would put the City in a precarious position where we couldn't fix mowers that broke down, this wouldn't have been brought forward. He said out of a \$340,000 balance projected, an expenditure of \$30,000 would not put the City in a position of economic crisis. He assured the Council that staff *did* look into the financial impact.

Allen Schmid, 1410 W. Cherry, addressed the Council. He said they have been in contact with UW National Champs, and they have confirmed that they will be back in September at which time they will play an exhibition game and will provide clinics for local athletes. He noted it isn't every day that a town our size has national champions eager to play in our community.

Councilman Tierney asked Parks & Rec Director Jeff Hagler what kinds of reserves he needs.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet stated that the reserve cited (Fund 301) is not the Parks reserve. He said Parks has Fund 170 with \$100,000 or so that are earmarked for Parks. He said this sign would not impact Mr. Hagler's Parks budget.

**Councilman Smeback moved to approve the proposed sign at Carlon Park with "Selah" at the top of the sign. Councilman Jorgensen seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Tierney – no; Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Overby – no; Council Member Nichols – no; Council Member Jorgensen – yes; Council Member Derrey – no. Motion failed; four opposed – two in favor.**

Councilwoman Derry said she thought she had a good idea. She suggested they could get a very inexpensive vinyl sign made and somehow put that on the sign. She noted they could talk about that later.

L. Old Business

M. Resolutions

- \* 1. Resolution Approving Payment of Invoice Submitted by Eco-Northwest for Stormwater Education Services Provided under the Terms of Their Professional Services Agreement with the City of Selah
2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Agreement Between the City of Selah, Selah School District and Selah Community Action Network regarding a Youth Center

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler addressed resolution M - 2, noting it is the same agreement that was in place this school year. He said they want to re-up the agreement for the coming school year. He said he will take the agreement to the school board later this week. He said the Youth center has had a very successful year and averaged 40 kids per day after school.

Councilman Tierney noted the agreement provides that Selah C.A.N. does an evaluation each November. He asked if that had been done.

Mr. Hagler said he'd have to go back and look.

Councilman Tierney read from the agreement, noting it would be nice to know the effectiveness of the Youth Center. He said it would be nice to know if the neighbors were unhappy with it. He said he thought this was a great program, but he would like to know if it's really that effective.

Mayor Jones said he has tried to visit at least once a week. He praised the people in charge and said this neighborhood is a good site. He suggested that compared to previous years "No news is good news."

Councilman Overby said we used to discuss this almost every meeting, noting attendance is almost double what it used to be. He said he agreed that some type of formal evaluation would be good.

**Councilman Tierney moved adoption of the Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Agreement Between the City of Selah, Selah School District and Selah Community Action Network regarding a Youth Center. Councilman Overby seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes. Support was unanimous.**

- \* 3. Resolution Declaring Selah Police Department Property as Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposal
- \* 4. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a WSDOT Local Agency Agreement Supplement for the Speyers Road Improvement Project
- \* 5. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Standard Consultant Agreement with Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. for the Construction Phase of the Speyers Road Improvement Project

N. Ordinances

- \* 1. Ordinance Amending the 2009 Budget for Speyers Road Sewer Line Extension

O. Communications

- 1. Oral

P. Reports/Announcements

- 1. Mayor
- 2. Council Members
- 3. Boards
- 4. Departmental
  - a. Planning Commission Minutes – May 5, 2009 – Approved
  - b. Compliance Certificate 2008 In-Service Training

Police Chief Stacy Dwarshuis reported that last year they were trying to raise money for a new speed sign down by the Police Department. He reported that this week he will be submitting a grant application to buy two mobile speed signs. He said they had an interesting call from Naches primary

school last week. Officer Reeves and Brody went out to visit Mrs. Mitt's second grade class. The Yakima County Sheriff's Office has since decided against a K-9 program, so this class donated the \$400 they had raised to our program. He reported that Business After Hours will be held tonight at Carmen's Comedy Club.

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler reported that they have been successful with getting the swimming pool patched and up and running. He said the tennis courts have been resurfaced, and they will put up nets end of this week.

Councilman Tierney requested a five-minute Executive Session to discuss the letter from Mr. Hoffert.

Mayor Jones said they could have that Executive Session at the next meeting.

Public Works Director Joe Henne said he got an email from some citizen reporting the collapse of the wooden playground structure at Wixson Park. (The email was sent by a member of the audience, Ron Conrad.) Joe Henne reported that Speyers Road is pretty much on schedule. He thanked the Council for their approval of supplements for Speyers. He reported that Well 6 is wrapping up and the water & sewer mains are done on Speyers, and they will be hooking up some services before long.

Mayor Jones said he was glad to see rebar cut from the bench at the skatepark.

Q. Executive Session

No Executive Session was scheduled.

R. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

  
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Paul Overby, Council Member

  
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Denise Nichols, Council Member

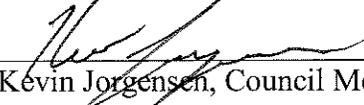
  
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John Tierney, Council Member

  
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Dave Smeback, Council Member

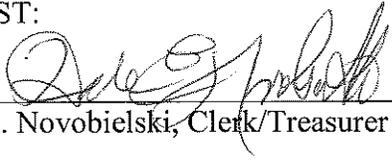
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert L. Jones, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Summer Derrey, Council Member

(Excused)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Larson, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Jorgensen, Council Member

ATTEST:



Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer