

**Study Session Minutes  
Selah City Council  
September 10, 2013  
3:30pm**

**Mayor Gawlik opened the Study Session. He welcomed Selah School District Superintendent Shane Backlund and invited him to speak.**

**Superintendent Backlund gave an update on the high school construction project, noting that it is approximately 50% complete and projected to be finished by April 2014. He talked about the new middle school project schedule and alternates that were added to the project, noting that the groundbreaking ceremony will be held Thursday at 5:00pm. He added that the project is scheduled for completion in December 2014. He discussed the school district's three year priority plan and the inclusion of more STEM activities with a focus on local fields and businesses. A brief discussion followed.**

**Mayor Gawlik thanked him for his time. The Study Session ended at 3:51pm.**

City of Selah  
Council Minutes  
September 10, 2013

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

A. Call to Order Mayor Gawlik called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Keith Larson; John Tierney; Dave Smeback; Allen Schmid; Brooke Finch;  
Carl Torkelson

Members Excused: Paul Overby

Staff Present: David Kelly, City Administrator; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Dale  
Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Gary Hanna,  
Deputy Fire Chief; Rick Hayes, Police Chief; Eric Steen, Police Sergeant;  
Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner;  
Jeff Hagler, Parks, Recreation & Tourism Director; Monica Lake,  
Executive Assistant

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Torkelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gawlik asked for a moment of silence for the victims of 9/11 and those fallen in the war against terrorism.

Pastor Mark Griesse led the opening prayer.

D. Agenda Changes **None**

E. Public Appearances/Introductions/ Presentations **None**

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

G. Communications

Fire Chief Davis noted that tomorrow is the twelfth anniversary of 9/11. He said that Combat Veterans United chose the Selah Fire Department as one of their stops on their poker run, and read aloud the certificate of appreciation presented to the Selah Fire Department from Combat Veteran United.

Mayor Gawlik noted that 9/11 has been declared Patriots Day.

1. Oral

Mayor Gawlik opened the meeting.

Miss Selah Molly McDowell, First Princess Taylor Mackey, and Princess Emily Spicer presented Mayor Gawlik and the Council with a framed picture of the 2013 Selah Community Days logo based on the theme "Arabian Nights", and thanked them for their support on behalf of the Selah Community Days Association. Miss Selah noted that the frame will be added to those currently on display in the Civic Center.

Seeing no one else rise to speak, Mayor Gawlik closed the meeting.

2. Written **None**

H. Proclamations/Announcements **None**

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: August 27, 2013 Council Meeting
- \* 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll:

Payroll Checks Nos. 76300 – 76336; 62644 – 62659 for a total of \$188,719.26  
Claim Checks Nos. 62400 – 62443 for a total of \$116,890.71  
Claim Checks Nos. 62569 – 62641 for a total of \$473,718.46

**Council Member Schmid moved, and Council Member 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

1. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Ellensburg-Yakima Commuter Service Contract between the City of Selah and Hopesource for commuter fixed-route services between the cities of Yakima and Ellensburg

City Administrator Kelly addressed M – 1. He said that the City has had a commuter opportunity between Selah and Ellensburg, which currently requires those who use it to go out on I-82 to the firing

range exit and park their vehicles. He went on to say that this proposal is to move the park-n-ride in to town to allow those in town to use the service, adding that Council budgeted money to pave the parking lot at the Christian Church at Selah for park-n-ride usage. He commented that this agreement would move the park-n-ride from its current location to one within the City. He remarked that the City of Yakima has received a grant to do this, and are asking for the City to contribute six thousand dollars annually to the cost of having it in town. He noted that this amount will be prorated for the remainder of 2013. He suggested that the City look at graveling the parking lot this year, and if things work out then look at paving in the spring.

Council Member Schmid inquired as to how many people are using the service.

City Administrator Kelly replied that he doesn't have specific numbers, but the bus is really full.

Council Member Schmid asked if it was a combination of Selah and Yakima riders.

City Administrator Kelly responded in the affirmative.

Mayor Gawlik noted that one of the City employees uses the service.

City Administrator Kelly said that he knows a woman who works for the Selah School District and commutes from Ellensburg to Selah on a daily basis.

Council Member Schmid asked if the park-n-ride plan still involved the use of the Christian Church at Selah parking lot.

City Administrator Kelly responded in the affirmative.

Council Member Smeback wondered if the commitment was only through calendar year 2014.

City Administrator Kelly replied that it is for a twenty month calendar beginning in October.

Council Member Schmid observed that this is a two year contract.

City Administrator Kelly responded that it is from July 2013 through June 2015.

Council Member Tierney interjected that they are prorating it.

Council Member Tierney requested that Transit do a count at the end of the first year of service as to how many Selah residents are utilizing the service.

City Administrator Kelly commented that the City employee currently commuting from Ellensburg has to travel into Yakima before coming out to Selah, and that this will be a better situation for those who commute between Selah and Ellensburg.

**Council Member Larson moved, and Council Member Schmid seconded, to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Ellensburg-Yakima Commuter Service Contract between the City of Selah and Hopesource for commuter fixed-route services between the cities of Yakima and Ellensburg. Roll was called: Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Tierney**

**– yes; Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Finch – yes; Council Member Torkelson – yes. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.**

Council Member Schmid asked if we have pursued the possibility of having a bus run two to three times during the day between the Training Center and Selah.

Mayor Gawlik responded that Council Member Overby, who is not in attendance today, would be the best person to address that question.

Council Member Schmid said that Council has discussed the matter several times over the years, and that the most recent feedback from Yakima Transit was that it brought them outside of their hour round-trip circuit. He felt that it would be a great opportunity to supply that service, and that he will talk to Council Member Overby about bringing the matter back up with Yakima Transit.

Council Member Smeback commented that the Training Center hasn't requested that service from the City.

Mayor Gawlik commented that there was a service that ran from the Training Center to Yakima.

Council Member Smeback reiterated that it has never been requested.

Council Member Schmid responded that there were inquiries three to four years ago when Council was working on the transit issue.

Council Member Smeback asked if it came from the Training Center.

Council Member Schmid responded in the affirmative.

City Administrator Kelly stated that he would research the matter and obtain more information to be brought back to Council at the next meeting.

N. Ordinances **None**

O. Communications

1. Oral

Mayor Gawlik opened the meeting. Seeing no one rise to speak, he then closed the meeting.

P. Reports/Announcements

1. Mayor

Mayor Gawlik noted that email accounts for each Council Member are now available on the website. He said that this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. is the next Economic Development & Beautification Committee meeting and encouraged anyone who wishes to sit in on the meeting. He said that there is one opening on the Civil Service Commission and encouraged anyone who is interested and lives inside the City limits to fill out an application.

## 2. Council Members

Council Member Finch had no report.

Council Member Schmid had no report.

Council Member Smeback had no report.

Council Member Torkelson had no report.

Council Member Larson had no report.

Council Member Tierney had no report, but wondered if a committee will be formed to look into a seasonal display to replace the one removed from the Civic Center roof.

Mayor Gawlik remarked that it could be proposed to the Economic Development & Beautification Committee.

Council Member Tierney felt that the City needs to do something in regards to the matter.

## 3. Boards **None**

## 4. Departmental

Public Works Director Henne said that the contractor started work on the Civic Center roof and should be done by Friday. He went on to say that the crew is working on last minute repairs in the parks and cleaning the catch basins on main arterials in preparation for the winter season.

Mayor Gawlik asked about the issue regarding the apple sign removed from the Civic Center roof.

Public Works Director Henne replied that it was taken down prior to replacement of the roof, and that it looks to be beyond repair at this point.

Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Director Hagler commented that it was a busy weekend, noting that he had a tourism booth at the Tree Top BBQ and that the City put on the apple pie eating contest during the vent. He went on to say that there was a softball tournament at Carlon Park and Grid Kids football playing on the Wood Field outfield, adding that the Grid Kids group is happy to stay in our community and will be using the field for the next five weeks. He reminded everyone that the Army Base Race is just around the corner, noting that they have approximately four hundred runners signed up to date.

Mayor Gawlik remarked that he had the pleasure of meeting with Major General Takeyoshi Omori, commander of the Japanese troops here for the Rising Thunder training exercise, and that he is a very interesting gentleman.

Police Chief Hayes said that they have finished testing for the new hire position and are now waiting for the Civil Service Commission to certify the list; he is hoping to have the new hire start on October 1. He commented that the Skewered Apple BBQ event went off without a hitch.

Mayor Gawlik remarked that the entire town smelled like barbeque Saturday night.

City Attorney Noe had no report.

Fire Chief Davis said that they had a first aid station at the Skewered Apple BBQ and that there were only a couple of minor incidents during the event. He commented that, after nineteen years, they had some professionals come out to work on the trees. He noted that there is a Fire Commissioners meeting later tonight.

City Administrator Kelly said that he wanted to recognize Dorraine Bigby, the Utility Billing Clerk, for recognizing a discrepancy in billing to one of the larger businesses in town where the meter usage didn't match the remote. He went on to say that the amount of water usage was not registering accurately on the old meter, which has since been replaced with a larger meter, as the amount of water coming in was significantly less than the amount registering on the discharge meter. He noted that the company is aware of the discrepancy and that the City will be receiving approximately one hundred thousand dollars more for the last three years' worth of water usage that the meter didn't accurately register.

Mayor Gawlik expressed his thanks to Utility Billings Clerk Bigby, Public Works Utility Supervisor Jones, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor Laroche, and Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski, saying that they worked to find the problem and get it corrected.

City Administrator Kelly commented that there will be approximately forty to fifty thousand dollars more per year to the water fund going forward.

Council took a five minute recess.

Q. Executive Session

1. 30 Minute Session – Contract Negotiations RCW 41.56.122

Council went into Executive Session at 4:36pm. At 5:06pm, Council went back on the record. Mayor Gawlik stated that they would be extending the Executive Session for an additional 30 minutes.

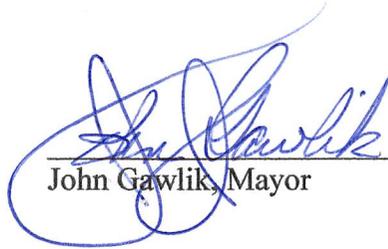
Council went back into Executive Session at 5:07pm. At 5:37pm, Council went back on the record. Mayor Gawlik stated that they would be extending the Executive Session for an additional 20 minutes.

Council went back into Executive Session at 5:38pm. At 5:58pm, Council went back on the record. Mayor Gawlik stated that no action was taken during the Executive Sessions.

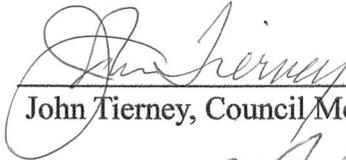
R. Adjournment

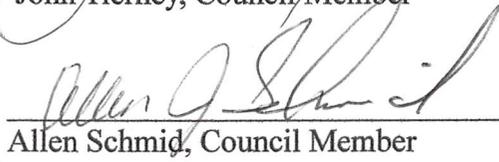
**Council Member Smeback moved, and Council Member Torkelson seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.**

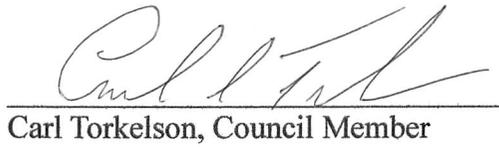
The meeting adjourned at 5:58pm.

  
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John Gawlik, Mayor

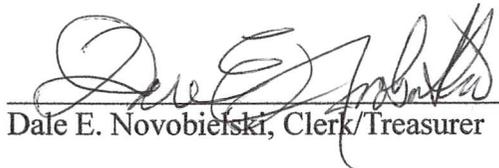
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Keith Larson, Council Member

  
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John Tierney, Council Member

  
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Allen Schmid, Council Member

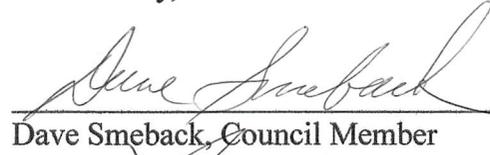
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Torkelson, Council Member

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer

EXCUSED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Overby, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Smeback, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brooke Finch, Council Member