

City of Selah | City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 09, 2024

Call to Order:

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilmembers Present: David Monaghan (arrived at 5:32 p.m.), Clifford Peterson, Elizabeth Marquis, Michael Costello, Kevin Wickenhagen, William Longmire

Councilmember Absence: Jared Iverson

Staff Present: Rich Huebner, City Administrator; Rob Case, City Attorney; Daniel Christman, Police Chief; Rocky Wallace, Public Works Director; Kimberly Grimm, City Clerk/Treasurer; Jeff Peters, Community Development Supervisor; Zack Schab, Recreation Director; and Jennifer Leslie, Permit Technician.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

Invocation:

Mark Soptich from Latter Day Saints provided prayer.

Comments from the Public:

Katrina Henkle from the Selah Downtown Association started by passing out updated business maps and shared where they can be found around town and on the website. The SDA hosted a meeting at City Hall talking about ways to support the Economic Ecosystem and small businesses in Selah. The survey is still open and all Small Business and Entrepreneurs are encouraged to participate. Other updates included a reminder about the SDA rummage sale and the announcement that the SDA is doing a Color Run at Selah Community Days.

Then, Kelliann Ergeson and Carol Holden, from Selah Parks and Recreation Service Area (SPRSA), provided an update on the pool operation. Kelliann shared that SPRSA is considering a Maintenance and Operation levy to allow the continued operation of the pool. Carol adds that if the community wants the pool open, the public needs to know that SPRSA will need the levy to pass. SPRSA will be at Community Days.

Consent Agenda (all items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered part of the consent agenda and are enacted in one motion).

Mayor Bell presented the stipulations of the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Peterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Costello seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked council for discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Bell requested a voice vote to approve the motion. By voice vote motion carries.

Approved Consent Agenda:

- A. Rich Huebner * Approval of Minutes from March 26, 2024 Study Session and Council Meeting
- B. Kimberly Grimm * Approval of Claims & Payroll
- C. Jennifer Leslie * Approval of Minutes from March 05, 2024 and March 19, 2024 Planning Commission Meetings
- D. Rocky Wallace * Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Two-Page Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Updated Cost Estimate for the East Goodlander Road / Lancaster Road Traffic Signal Project
- E. Rocky Wallace * Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Contract with Northeast Electric, LLC, Related to the City's East Goodlander Road / Lancaster Road Traffic Signal Project
- F. Rich Huebner * Resolution authorizing the Mayor sign a 34-page Interagency Agreement with Yakima County for reimbursement of expenses related to the acquisition, installation, and implementation of Flock Automated License Plate Reader Cameras

Resolutions

13-A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign two four-page Professional Services Contracts to (1) Reestablish the Professional Services Relationship with the City's Hearing Examiner, and (2) Establish a Hearing Examiner Pro Tem

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by Community Development Supervisor, Jeff Peters. After presentation,

Councilmember Wickenhagen moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Costello seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – yes; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes.

13-B. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to “Task Order No. 2024-04” with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc., for Professional Services Related to the Civic Center Remodel Project

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by Public Works Director, Rocky Wallace. After presentation,

Councilmember Marquis asked to clarify that the \$85,000 ARPA funds were being deducted from the \$250,000 budgeted. Mr. Wallace stated that is correct. Mr. Huebner added that Mayor Bell, Councilmember Wickenhagen and himself spoke with elected officials during their trip to Olympia about the additional renovations for the Civic Center, what isn't completed will then be requested in future state funding to help complete the project.

Councilmember Costello moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Peterson seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Mayor Bell added that Rob Case was at the presentations as well. Councilmember Costello asked if ADA compliance will be done first. Mr. Wallace replied yes some and other renovations. Councilmember Costello then asked if that will take care of most all of the ADA work list. Mr. Wallace states part of it, other restrooms need ADA updates.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – yes; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes

13-C. Resolution establishing the City’s intention to execute a contract with a consultant firm to complete the Climate Element of the City’s future Comprehensive Plan

Presented by City Administrator, Rich Huebner. After presentation,

Councilmember Costello asked if it would benefit the City to stay with Beckwith. Mr. Huebner said it could be a benefit because we have one element finished by Beckwith and know his style. Mr. Peters added that the Beckwith contract has extra climate studies and detailed data to help later with the comp plan. Councilmember Longmire asked how many elements there are. Mr. Huebner and Mr. Peters stated 6 to 8 different elements. Councilmember Wickenhagen stated that the park plan was done by HLA. Mr. Peters shared that the park plan is not part of the comp plan elements.

Councilmember Marquis asked if the Administration had intended for Beckwith to complete the other elements. Mr. Huebner said yes and in general practice continuity is ideal. Councilmember Peterson asked if YVCOG would be a firm that staff would reach out to with Option B. Mr. Huebner answered yes. Councilmember Marquis shared the concern of Beckwith being out of town versus other firms in our valley, should the money stay in our communities. Mr. Huebner

responded that the most qualified firm is the best option. Councilmember Marquis asked if Beckwith would be designate the grant funds like YVCOG or would the City hold the funds. Mr. Huebner said that is only the YVCOG scenario.

Councilmember Wickenhagen clarified that funds to YVCOG are not pooled and are only used for Selah. The Beckwith contract has all \$150,000 allocated, there is no scenario of having left over funds. Mr. Huebner stated that the Beckwith contract had additional studies included. Councilmember Longmire states that if YVCOG is chose we would get an individualized plan. Mr. Huebner said it would be a regional plan, if the city wants to be more restrictive another consultant can be hired or Mr. Peters can work on it. Councilmember Wickenhagen said that is not correct. Councilmember Longmire states that Chris is shaking her head, can we have her up here. Councilmember Wickenhagen states it is not regional, each plan is designed for the individual city. Councilmember Costello stated we have not seen anything. Mr. Huebner said right, there has been no scope of work. Councilmember Longmire asked Chris to come up to provide clarification. Councilmember Costello asked if there would be a breach of contract with Beckwith. Mr. Huebner answered no there is not, the contract was for the HAP.

Chris Wickenhagen, with YVCOG, came to the podium. She stated that it is not a regional climate plan, funding can be used until 2029 after the 2026 comp plan completion to continue climate element implementations. There is no reimbursement if the funds are not used. YVCOG is just an extension of city staff. Councilmember Marquis asked what the time frame is. Mrs. Wickenhagen shared that the full scope of work is not needed, just the letter of intent signed by the Mayor and the next period of tasks submitted to Commerce. Mr. Longmire asked if YVCOG could also do the extra steps requested like were presented in the Beckwith contract. Mrs. Wickenhagen said she would have to ask Bryon but yes, we work for you. Councilmember Longmire stated that he like that YVCOG is local. Councilmember Costello stated that if we had gone with YVCOG to begin with, we would not be in this boat.

Councilmember Longmire moved to approve the Resolution as presented using Option D with removal of the Professional Services Agreement. Councilmember Costello seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Mr. Huebner stated the Interlocal Agreement with YVCOG will need to be updated, even though not directly tied to the climate element. Councilmember Marquis followed for a point of discussion that Beckwith has already invested time and it may be a waste of time to start a new contract. Councilmember Peterson asked if Beckwith has done anything with the climate element. Mr. Huebner stated that Beckwith did do all of the work on our behalf for the grant application. Councilmember Costello asked if we will owe Beckwith. Councilmember Wickenhagen stated that we don't owe him, we didn't sign the contract. Mr. Peters answered that there are no monies owing.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – no; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – abstain,

relationship with the Director of YVCOG; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes

Agenda Change

Mayor Bell asked if anyone had any objections with YVCOG presenting tonight, hearing no objection. Mayor Bell introduced Kris Wickenhagen with YVCOG.

Mrs. Wickenhagen shared the results of the workshop. The priorities identified were the Police Station, Civic Center Refresh, and Community Engagement Education Outreach Technology Website. She shared the City Council’s Core Values, “the City of Selah Council is committed to being engaged, honest, forward thinking, and fiscally responsible in representing our community”. Mrs. Wickenhagen thanked the Council for letting her facilitate the workshop and had a great time.

13-D. Decision on “Appeal” of Code Enforcement Decision

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by City Attorney, Rob Case. After presentation,

Councilmember Peterson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Monaghan seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Mr. Longmire pointed out that Ord. 2205 passed September 12, 2023, the code complaint was filed on September 15, 2023, the change to Ord. 2205 was published in the Yakima Herald on September 22, 2023, and did not take effect 9/27/2023. Section 111.5 2018 Edition and 6.75 were not the chapters or codes the complaint was filed under. It was not part of the Municipal Code at the time. Mr. Case suggest that he will this bring back to the April, 23, 2024 Council meeting if there are not any objections.

Councilmember Peterson withdrew his motion, Councilmember Monaghan withdrew his second.

During City Attorney Report: Mr. Case stated that the appeal was filed in October after 111.5 of the Property Maintenance code was adopted. Mr. Longmire wanted to clarify that the code complaint looks like it was filed under the 111.5, which it was not. Mr. Case is confident in the way the Resolution is written.

Councilmember Peterson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Monaghan seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – present; Councilmember Longmire – abstain, conflict of interest; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes.

13-E. Resolution Approving New Collective Bargaining Agreement with Police Sergeants and Officers for 2024-2026

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by City Attorney, Rob Case. After presentation,

Councilmember Costello moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Peterson seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Councilmember Wickenhagen asked what was in the budget for salary increase. Mrs. Grimm stated 5%. Mr. Case added that if wages go up so do taxes.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – yes; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes.

13-F. Resolution Approving New Collective Bargaining Agreement with Police Clerks and Limited-Commissioned Officers for 2024-2026

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by City Attorney, Rob Case. After presentation,

Councilmember Wickenhagen moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Monaghan seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – yes; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes.

13-G. Resolution Approving New Collective Bargaining Agreement with Public Works Department Union Employees for 2024-2026

Introduced by Mayor Bell. Presented by City Attorney, Rob Case. After presentation,

Councilmember Costello moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Wickenhagen seconded. Mayor Bell restated the motion and asked Council for discussion.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Bell requested roll call from Ms. Leslie. Jennifer Leslie called roll. Councilmember Monaghan – yes; Councilmember Peterson – yes; Councilmember Marquis – yes; Councilmember Costello – yes; Councilmember Wickenhagen – yes; Councilmember Longmire – yes; Councilmember Iverson – absent. Motion passes.

Staff Reports:

The following staff members provided a department report:

- Community Development Supervisor, Jeff Peters
- Public Works Director, Rocky Wallace
- Clerk/Treasurer, Kimberly Grimm
- Police Chief, Dan Christman
- City Administrator, Rich Huebner

Mr. Huebner thanks Jennifer Leslie and Laura Conger for their help in the interim.

Mr. Huebner shared that 24 applications for the Utility Billing Specialist position came in with 22 being complete. 7 applicants have been selected for the interview process being conducted Friday and Monday. There have been 9 City Clerk applications so far with the first review starting April 10th. The HR/Community Outreach Coordinator position may remain open past April 10th, only 4 applications have been received with only 2 complete. The Police Lieutenant position is posted closing April 19th. There have not been any applications received yet. The timeline for this position ensures that all the steps are completed to by the May Civil Service meeting, the recruitment and Civil Service process continues. Mr. Huebner, Mayor Bell, and Mr. Case will meet with the SDA Executive Board April 15th to discuss the contractual arrangement for funds contributed to the SDA from the City.

Councilmember Reports:

- Councilmember Peterson shared he missed the Fire Commissioners meeting and SPRSA will meet next Monday.
- Councilmember Marquis attended the School District Board meeting, mostly admin items on their agenda, a financial audit went well, and they received a 100% for bus route efficiency from a review.
- Councilmember Costello went with Emergency Management on a field trip to Benton and Franklin County to their emergency operation centers. Yakima County is the largest county on the east side of the state that does not have a warm EOC.
- Councilmember Wickenhagen attend the SDA meeting, it was eye opening with what the SDA does and shows where there needs to be a stronger partnership with the City, SDA, and other organizations. He also attended the Tourism Board meeting, they are offering classes that the breweries and wineries could take advantage of.
- Councilmember Longmire will participate in the SPRSA campaign meeting and reports there will be a pool cleaning day on May 4th.
- Mayor Bell stated that hearing back from the US Senators Cantwell and Murray is really exciting news. He thanked Mike for the new timer so the speaker can see how much time they have left. Last week a couple interesting things came up in a webinar, a very serious issue they call high jacking a council meeting becoming vulgar, using slang and vial language, which you cannot stop them. If you have a time limit you should not routinely

extend it to help in this situation. The other thing you need to follow closer to Robert's rules. Mayor Bell thanked the staff and is proud of them in the recent transitions.

City Attorney Report:

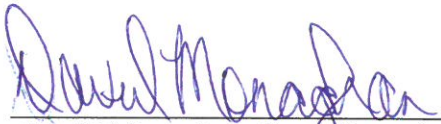
Mr. Case stated that the City has 2 pay periods from the date the CBAs are signed to retro pay the union members. The pay dates will change in the future to the 7th and 22nd of each month instead of the 15th and last day of the month. The Supreme Court is changing the cap on the amount of cases Public Defenders can have each year from 400. This year through March the case count is 128 cases. The City may need to contract another Public Defender in the future.

Mr. Case let the Council know that he is ready to speak on agenda item 13-D if the Council would like to move forward. See 13-D. Decision on "Appeal" of Code Enforcement Decision.

Adjournment

Councilmember Costello moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Wickenhagen seconded. Mayor Bell adjourned.

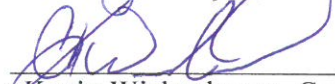
Meeting ended at 8:14 p.m.



David Monaghan, Councilmember



Elizabeth Marquis, Councilmember

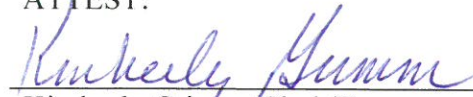


Kevin Wickenhagen, Councilmember

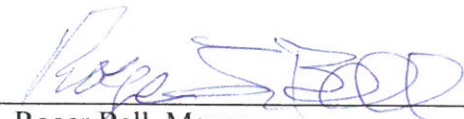
ABSENT

Jared Iverson, Councilmember

ATTEST:



Kimberly Grimm, Clerk/Treasurer



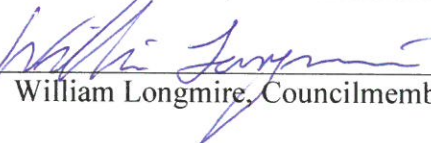
Roger Bell, Mayor



Clifford Peterson, Councilmember



Michael Costello, Councilmember



William Longmire, Councilmember