



City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 04, 2020, 7:00 PM

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

NOTE: Please see the published Agenda Packet for all item file attachments

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McDonnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Greg Anderson, Ellen Burton, Bonnie Carter, Don Chaney, Steve Hogan, Shannon Roberts and Melissa Smith

Staff: Bernie Bacon, Sherry Coulter, Jennifer Gorsuch, Cathy Huber Nickerson, Shawn MacPherson, Heather Rowley and Steve Wall

Press: No one from the press was present

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randal Friedman, 1187 NW 10th Avenue, Camas, commented about Downtown Camas and North Shore planning.

Phil Williams, 936 NE 41st, Camas, commented about Legacy Lands.

Scott McElhaney, 4227 NW Sage Loop, Camas, commented about the City's COVID-19 local response.

Scott Hogg, 3533 Norwood Street, Camas, commented about the City's public comments webpage and Legacy Lands.

John Ley, 444 NW Fremont Street, Camas, commented about the COVID-19 financial impacts to the City's budget.

Additional public comments received via publiccomments@cityofcamas.us are attached to these minutes.

STAFF PRESENTATION

1. City of Camas COVID-19 Financial Impact and Response Presentation
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Huber Nickerson provided an overview of the presentation. Discussion ensued.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. \$533,676.61 Automated Clearing House and Claim Checks Numbered 144193 to 144293; \$2,210,176.18 Automated Clearing House, Direct Deposit and Payroll

Checks Numbered 7839 to 7842 and Payroll Accounts Payable Checks Numbered 144185 through 144192; \$17,893,268.44 April Electronic Payments

3. April 20, 2020 Camas City Council Special Meeting Minutes - Draft
4. Quit Claim Lake Road & Everett Street (SR-500) Roundabout Property to WSDOT (Submitted by James Carothers, Engineering Manager)

It was moved by Council Member Carter, and seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

MEETING ITEMS

5. City of Camas Proclamation of Civil Emergency COVID-19
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

It was moved by Council Member Smith, and seconded, that the April 6, 2020 motion confirming the Proclamation of Civil Emergency for COVID-19 dated March 18, 2020, and the Supplement dated April 15, 2020, be reaffirmed. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Scott McElhaney, 4227 NW Sage Loop, Camas, commented about the City of Camas COVID-19 Financial Impact and Response presentation, supporting Downtown Camas businesses, the bi-annual budget process, and about Legacy Lands.

John Ley, 444 NW Fremont, Camas, commented about the City of Camas COVID-19 Financial Impact and Response presentation.

Phil Williams, 936 NE 41st, Camas, commented about the City's public comments webpage.

Randal Friedman, 1187 NW 10th Avenue, Camas, commented about the City of Camas COVID-19 Financial Impact and Response presentation.

Alicia King, 3457 NW Endicott Street, Camas, commented about the City's budget, the City's public comments webpage, and about urban forestry.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Bernie Bacon

From: Douglas Strabel <dstrabel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 10:17 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: City Council Public Comments
Attachments: 05042020 - COUNCIL MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS - PART 1.pdf

Attached are my comments that will be reviewed during the public comments portion of the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday 05/04/2020.

The topic is:
City Update on Spending Reductions

thank you.....Douglas Strabel

On Friday 5/01/2020 I sent an email to get an update:

Good Morning

Just wanted to check-in and see how well the City of Camas is doing in taking the necessary actions and making the cuts in spending that we proposed last week.

The FINANCIAL IMPACT RESPONSE PRESENTATION update to the taxpayers during next Mondays CC MEETING needs to show that you are being pro-active and addressing the pending financial downdraft by taking action!!!

We could have done a lot in the last week. I'm interested in seeing how successful the City staff has been comparatively.

and received the following 2 responses:

Good morning,

As you may recall during our last meeting there was an item documenting the various postponements, hiring freezes, no overtime, etc. These have been documented with numbers and they should show in the material attached to the agenda/power-points. These are actual reductions from the budget due to the Covid-19 impacts.

The presentation also shows a revenue forecast in three scenarios based on when the community is released from the governor's stay-at-home restrictions.

Further adjustments to spending may be necessary, too soon to tell for sure, but we are monitoring and making preliminary preparations in advance.

Stay safe, stay healthy,

Greg Anderson Councilmember

Hi Douglas,

Thank you for your email inquiring about the City's progress on expense reduction. The City is taking a phased approach to spending cuts. Staff and the Finance Committee are implementing numerous changes to immediately cut spending. Many of your recommendations are similar and therefore incorporated into this phased plan. At the May 4th City Council meeting, the Council will review the first phase of the 2020 revised budget, May - July 2020.

The City staff and Finance committee acted quickly to cut costs implementing policies, canceling and deferring purchases. Receipts are reviewed weekly so the City can adjust immediately while using this data as early indicators for planning the next phase. Similarly, the City has modeled delays and decreases in revenue. Staff and Council Members are committed to taking a fiscally responsible approach. Thank you for your input.

Enjoy your weekend!

Regards,
Ellen

Ellen L. Burton
Camas City Council Member I Ward 3

Bernie Bacon

From: Douglas Strabel <dstrabel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: City Council Public Comments
Attachments: 05042020 - COUNCIL MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS - PART 2.pdf

Attached are my comments that will be reviewed during the public comments portion of the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday 05/04/2020.

The topic is:
REVIEW OF FINANCIAL IMPACT PRESENTATION

thank you.....Douglas Strabel

After reviewing the proposed 5/04 FINANCIAL IMPACT PRESENTATION there are quite a few questions:

How much will the savings you have already implemented, save each month?

What dollar amount of your savings are one time savings, versus how much are monthly savings that will last for as long as needed??

The 2019/2020 City Budget called for spending \$195M, with \$191M in taxpayer money as income. **That's \$4M in deficit spending.**

To recap the "General Fund" makes up 25% of the budget. The City expected to start the year with about \$57M available in the General Fund, which is one of over a half dozen different buckets of money that are received and spent. (EMS, Roads, Parks, etc. make up the rest of the buckets).

Salaries & Benefits make up \$57M in expenses. (Again of the total \$195M budgeted expenditures). The city was planning to spend \$69M on Capital Projects.

The city had \$12M budgeted for DEBT payments. Does include or exclude the debt on the money spent for the Roundabout and for the Northshore land purchase (\$17M) added??

The Presentation shows the current "plan" is to spend city reserves, taking it from 37% down to 15% in just 3 months. Why??

It would appear you're depleting over HALF of the city's "rainy day fund" in 3 months.

That makes zero sense to me.

Furthermore, the plan only shows through the end of July. Why??

The 2019/2020 budget goes through the end of the year.

What is the LINE ITEM DETAIL of the PHASE 1 Spending Cuts??

**What are the DETAILS of the PHASE 2, 3 and 4??
When do the TAXPAYERS see the WHOLE PLAN??
Where is the TOTAL PLAN for 2020??**

What are your plans for the rest of the year? How much do you believe you need to save in spending for the next 7 months?

Two weeks ago you talked about cutting out Travel – the 2018/2019 average was only \$60K total for each year. That is not enough to make any difference!!!

Seems like the GOAL of this whole exercise is to TRACK SPENDING.

The GOAL should be REDUCE SPENDING!!

PAYROLL EXPENSE – AFTER LAND/CAPITAL PROJECTS ARE THE BIGGEST ONGOING EXPENSE

WHEN WILL THIS BE ADDRESSED???

Bernie Bacon

From: Phil Williams <pw54.city@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 7:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Barry McDonnell
Subject: Questions about legacy lands (please reuse and answer online as written)

For quick context, during the April 6th meeting a citizen called into comment. She wanted to thank everyone involved in acquiring legacy lands and called them “a gift to Camas for generations to come” She continued “I want to thank you on behalf of my children and my children’s children”.

Question 1:

Are legacy lands legally protected for generations to come? If so, what are those protections in legal terms?

Question 2:

How long does the city have to wait until they can start the process to convert a legacy land back to a property that can be rezoned and developed or outright sold?

Question 3:

Without referring me to the Clark County Preservation Futures, so in Camas’ own words, can you or Shawn please tell us what the step by step process would be for Camas to convert these legacy lands to any other use if they chose to do so?