

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Minutes

WORK SESSION

Mayor Fournier called the Work Session to order at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT

Councilmember Linda Gotovac

Councilmember John O'Callahan

Councilmember Jason Lawton

Councilmember Rachel Davidson

1. Mayor Fournier wishes to discuss the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Levy and last minute changes to the both the Sewer and Water Capital Improvement Funds.

Mayor Fournier began the session with a review of the November 10, 2020, Public Hearing on the proposed 2021 Ad Valorem Tax Levy and then explained, in practical terms, how Ad Valorem Taxes work in the State of Washington. This led to a robust discussion among the Councilmembers regarding which approach (maximum revenues vice minimal revenues) to take in light of the several initiatives to increase City revenues through septage receiving and composting. Public Comment on this topic was received from former Councilmember Sirena Painter, who prefers a minimal approach, and thanked the Council for the extensive dialog on this topic.

The discussion then turned to last minute changes in the proposed 2021 budget. As a result of further analysis, the Administration believes the time is right to invest in a new Police Cruiser, two emergency response vehicles within Public Works, a broadcast tower for the radio meter reading system, and the establishment of a composting facility (with associated equipment rentals) at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 7:30 pm with Mayor Fournier and

PRESENT

Councilmember Linda Gotovac

Councilmember John O'Callahan

Councilmember Jason Lawton

Councilmember Rachel Davidson

AGENDA APPROVAL

2. Agenda for Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

Recommended action: Move to approve the Agenda for Tuesday, November 24, 2020, as presented.

November 24, 2020

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Gotovac.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. Minutes of the November 10, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Tenino City Council.

Recommended action: Move to approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Tenino City Council as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Payroll EFT's in the amount of \$27,322.94 and Claims Checks #29495 through #29530, and other EFT's in the amount of \$325,346.75 (Check #29522 voided for incorrect payee) for a Grand Total of \$352,669.69.

Recommended action: Move to approve EFT's and Vouchers as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

5. Liquor and Cannabis Licenses or Renewals:

New Licenses: None

Renewals: Hedden's Pharmacy; Cannabis NW

Motion made to approve the renewals by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENTATIONS

6. Mr. Chris Coulombe wishes to address the Tenino City Council and seek relief from results of a water leak at 439 Huston Street S. Mr. Coulombe took timely action to repair the leak. As per TMC Section 12.04.245, C/T Millard offered to adjust both the September and October Utility Bills according to the formula contained in the Municipal Code. Mr. Coulombe does not wish to accept the offer, but rather prefers to pay \$1000 to settle the account.

Total amount of relief authorized by TMC: \$616.93

Total amount of relief sought: \$1233.86

These amounts include both September and October, 2020.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember O'Callahan, to accept a payment of \$1000.00, in lieu of the statutory amount computed by C/T Millard, in full satisfaction of Mr. Coulombe's account.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Tanya Barham, of Portland, Oregon, spoke on behalf of "Community Energy Labs" in support of an energy efficiency project she would like the City Council and Mayor to support.

The project would involve placing sensors and building controls on a building that has solar photovoltaics on the roof in order to affordably maximize savings and carbon reduction in accordance with new and stringent building regulations in the states of Washington and California.

She has provided a sample letter of support for the Council's consideration.

PUBLIC HEARING

7. Thurston County has provided initial guidance for the computation of Ad Valorem Taxes for 2021. Because the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) did not exceed 1%, the Department of Revenue is limiting Ad Valorem Tax increases in Cities with less than 10,000 residents to a maximum of 101% of last year's levy. (In other words, the City may only increase its Ad Valorem Tax levy by a maximum of 1% using regular levy computation procedures).

However, the Regular levy procedures result in a revenue increase of \$7921, which would cause the City to implement extreme cost saving measures. Use of the Highest Lawful Levy Procedures would allow a more substantial increase in revenues, while remaining within the bounds of State Law and would cause far less disruption to City Operations.

Recommended action: Move to adopt an Ad Valorem Tax Levy using Highest Lawful Levy Procedures that would result in a total increase of \$34,305.41.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

8. State law provides that each municipality hold two Public Hearings prior to budget adoption in order to provide the opportunity for input by the Public. Tonight's second hearing will focus primarily upon expenditures.

Recommended action: Move to accept the Administration's recommendations on budget expenditures as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember O'Callahan.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

PROCLAMATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

9. City Engineer Mike Marshal has certified that all work to extend the City's infrastructure onto the property that will contain the Southwest Washington Agriculture and Innovation Park has been properly completed by Barcott Construction, and recommends paying the amount invoiced, less the required retainage by RCW.

Recommended action: Move to approve payment for Barcott Construction in the amount of \$213,187.86

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

NEW BUSINESS

10. The City's Interlocal Agreement with Thurston County Central Services for the maintenance of electronic equipment is set to expire on December 31, 2020. Thurston County has proposed to simply extend the terms of the current agreement for an additional year. City Attorney Hughes has reviewed both the base document and the proposed extension and finds nothing objectionable.

Recommended action: Move to approve the extension of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Tenino and Thurston County Central Services for the provision of electronic maintenance.

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

11. Ordinance 915 would amend the 2020 budget by directing the Clerk/Treasurer to execute a series of transactions in order to:

- Close the SWWAAIP Trust Fund
- Preclude the Quarry Pool and Street Funds from ending the year with negative balances.
- Reduce the balances of the Water and Sewer Funds to an amount consistent with their proprietary purposes and increase the balances of the Water Capital Improvement and Sewer Capital Improvement Funds.

Recommended action: Move to approve Ordinance 915 as a "first reading."

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

12. Ordinance 916 would adopt the proposed 2021 Municipal Budget.

The 2021 Budget is a balanced budget, the significant features of which are:

- A 3% Cost of Living Adjustment for the City's employees
- A fifth Public Works Employee to operate the Septage Receiving Station
- The purchase or lease of a new Police Cruiser and two Emergency Response Vehicles for Public Works
- The inclusion of two street projects: Ritter Street and Hodgden Street
- The construction of a Composting Facility (including the rental of a belt press)

Recommended action: Move to approve Ordinance 916 as the first reading.

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

RESOLUTIONS

13. Proposed Resolution 2020-04 would establish the Ad Valorem Tax Levy for 2021. This Resolution would authorize the collection of \$266,511.10 representing a dollar increase of

\$34,305.41 over last year's levy, which is 14.7% increase in property tax revenues and represents the highest lawful levy the City may impose absent a voter-approved levy lid lift.

Motion to approve the Resolution as presented made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember O'Callahan.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember O'Callahan, Councilmember Lawton, Councilmember Davidson.

Motion passes 4/0.

ORDINANCES

REPORTS

14. 1) Chamber of Commerce
 - 2) Economic Development Council (EDC)
 - 3) Experience Olympia & Beyond (VCB)
 - 4) Fire District #12
 - 5) Library
 - 6) Museum
 - 7) Tenino Community Service Center
15. 1) ARCH Commission
 - 2) Civil Service Commission
 - 3) Facade Improvement Grant Review Committee
 - 4) Finance Committee
 - 5) Planning Commission
 - 6) Public Safety Committee
16. 1) Chief of Police
 - 2) Director of Public Works
 - 3) City Planner / Building Official
 - 4) City Attorney
 - 5) Clerk/Treasurer
 - 6) Mayor
17. 1) Bucoda/Tenino Healthy Action Team (BTHAT)
 - 2) Community Investment Partnership (CIP)

- 3) Solid Waste Advisory Board
- 4) South Thurston Economic Development Initiative (STEDI)
- 5) TCOMM/911
- 6) Tenino School Board
- 7) Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC)
- 8) Transportation Policy Board

PUBLIC COMMENTS 2

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fournier adjourned the Meeting at 8:22 pm