

**City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

Minutes

WORK SESSION

None

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Gotovac called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with;

PRESENT

Councilmember Linda Gotovac
Councilmember John O'Callahan
Councilmember Jason Lawton
Councilmember Rachel Davidson

AGENDA APPROVAL

1. Agenda for Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

Recommended action: Move to approve the Agenda for Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Minutes of the October 27, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Tenino City Council.

Recommended action: Move to approve the Minutes of the October 27, 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

3. Payroll EFT's in the amount of \$41,563.39 and Claims Checks #29448 through #29494, and other EFT's in the amount of \$80,646.03 for a Grand Total of \$122,209.42

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

November 10, 2020

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.

4. **Liquor and Cannabis Licenses**

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENTATIONS

5. Ms. Megan Matthews, DSHS, will present information on Governor Inslee's plan to reduce poverty and inequality in Washington State. She seeks to understand the concerns of rural communities because rural communities are disproportionately impacted by poverty.

She has provided the draft plan, an Executive Summary, and a two-page resource directory. Additionally, she has provided a link to their website that contains pre-recorded webinars on related topics: www.dismantlepovertyinwa.com

Ms. Matthews gave a high-level overview of Governor Inslee's proposed plan. While the details are available within this meeting's agenda packet, her emphasis was on obtaining input by the Council, Mayor, and Citizens of Tenino in order to refine the proposed plan, if required. A detailed briefing of the plan's contents will be scheduled after the January 1, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

6. 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 an 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 \$28,430.

After C/T Millard explained the methodology used to arrive at the proposed Highest Lawful Ad Valorem Levy, and the rationale for pursuing it, the floor was opened to public comment.

Former Councilmember Dave Watterson spoke to urge the Council that now is not the time for the City to adopt the Highest Lawful Levy, but rather to limit the levy to the procedures used to compute a "regular" levy. Councilmember O'Callahan then spoke and agreed with Mr. Watterson that the City should not pursue the Highest Lawful Levy.

After further discussion amongst the Councilmembers, no motion was made to adopt any levy, but direction was given to C/T Millard to recompute the levy using the computations for a "regular" levy and to bring that proposal back to the Council during the November 24, 2020, regular City Council meeting.

7. 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 hearing will focus primarily upon revenues.

The City's revenues have been declining since being annexed into Fire District #12. By pursuing the highest lawful levy to raise Ad Valorem Taxes and by undertaking Septage Receiving, we can nevertheless achieve a balanced budget in 2021 and, if projections are accurate, can begin reducing Sewer Facility Charges in 2020 without reductions in other areas.

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

Motion made by Councilmember O'Callahan, Seconded by Councilmember Lawton to accept the Administrations' projected 2021 Budget, provided that the proposed budget is amended to reflect a regular Ad Valorem Tax Levy, instead of the Highest Lawful Levy amount.

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

Motion passes 4/0.

PROCLAMATIONS

8. Mr. John D. Harbaugh, a veteran, has donated \$100.00 to the Quarry Pool Fund.

Recommended action: Move to proclaim the City's appreciation to Mr. Harbaugh for his donation.

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

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

Motion passes 4/0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

RESOLUTIONS

9. Proposed Resolution 2020-04 would establish the Ad Valorem Tax Levy for 2021. This Resolution would authorize the collection of \$260,635.50, representing a dollar increase of \$28,429.81 over last year's levy, which is 12% increase and represents the highest lawful levy the City may impose absent a voter-approved levy lid lift.

Since the Council did not accept the proposed Highest Lawful Levy, this item was tabled for the November 24, 2020 Regular meeting of the Tenino City Council.

ORDINANCES

None

REPORTS

10. 1) Chamber of Commerce
 - 2) Economic Development Council (EDC)
 - 3) Experience Olympia & Beyond (VCB)
 - 4) Fire District #12
 - 5) Library: Ms. Linda McKinnie reported that on Nov 3rd they have expanded their services. Face masks are required to enter as well as only a certain number of customers can enter. They can now offer computer services again; call for an appointment. Timberland Library has ordered new shelving for the Tenino Branch and will be replaced the first quarter 2021.
 - 6) Museum: Councilmember O'Callahan reported that the winter visiting hours are in effect. Those hours are Friday and Saturday, 12-4, or by appointment. They may be open on Sundays if volunteers are available. Please check the Museum's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Tenino-Depot-Museum-873639076016013>) or their website (www.teninodepotmuseum.net) for any updates.
 - 7) Tenino Community Service Center
11. 1) ARCH Commission
 - 2) Civil Service Commission
 - 3) Facade Improvement Grant Review Committee
 - 4) Finance Committee
 - 5) Planning Commission: C/T Millard reported that the November 11, 2020, meeting has been cancelled both because the 11th is Veteran's Day and because there is no business for the Commission to conduct.
 - 6) Public Safety Committee
12. 1) Chief of Police

- 2) Director of Public Works
 - 3) City Planner / Building Official

 - 4) City Attorney
 - 5) Clerk/Treasurer: C/T Millard elaborated on his written report.
 - 6) Mayor
13. 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

George Sharp: Mr. Sharp reported on the EDC grant monies for businesses and they will be closing out next week. On behalf of STEDI and the Chamber of Commerce the Holiday Market will open this weekend, they have 28 vendors signed up for the holiday season.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tempore Gotovac adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.