

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 10, 2009

A. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Gainer called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call – Excused Absences Councilmembers present included Councilmember Mather, Councilmember Nixon, Councilmember Overhauser, Councilmember Trulove, and Councilmember McKeehan. Staff members present included Ms. Fisher, Ms. Niemeier, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Jennings, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ault, Mr. Dennstaedt, Mr. Ableman, Mr. Lesser, Mr. Noland, Mr. Winters, and Mr. Schuller. Councilmember Huff was excused. Mayor Gainer stated that Councilmember Stockton requested to be excused due to personal business. Councilmember Overhauser moved to approve the request. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

C. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of October 27, 2009 were approved as distributed.

D. Claims and Vouchers nos. 101228 through 101371 in the amount of \$1,008,326.38, payroll warrants nos. 54152 through 54209 in the amount of \$33,993.43; direct deposits nos. 26313 through 26467 in the amount of \$267,980.98; claims warrants nos. 101187 through 101222 in the amount of \$335,879.14; and transfers to claims clearing fund for distribution in the amount of -\$18,551.96 for a total payroll of \$619,301.59 were approved as read.

E. Claims for Damages Ms. Niemeier stated that we have claims from Brandon Fenton for \$63.36 and Tina McCarren for \$30.00. Councilmember Overhauser moved to deny the Fenton claim. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously. Councilmember Overhauser moved to postpone the McCarren claim to the next meeting. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

F. Small Contracts Ms. Niemeier stated that the small contracts are with Robert Quinn for wetland mitigation and XO Communications for phone service. Councilmember Overhauser moved to approve the small contracts. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

G. Information Items John Driscoll, Executive Director of Project Access, stated that the number of uninsured people in the state has gone up 20% in the last six months. Most people that do not have medical insurance are employed adults. Project Access has provided nearly \$20 million of free medical care to Spokane County residents. They serve 800–1,000 patients per year. There were 22 from Cheney this year. He requested consideration for the same amount of funding next year. He stated that almost 60% of bankruptcies are attributed to medical costs. Mr. Winters recognized Ken Johnson for working hard to get us grants. Since 2002, he has secured more than \$1 million in grant funds. He presented Mr. Johnson with a plaque. Mr. Ableman stated that there is a small change order for the Elm Street Transit Improvements. It is a \$55 credit. Councilmember Trulove stated that the problem is not cars going fast, it is the students crossing in a wide area.

H. Appointments Mayor Gainer asked for confirmation of the appointment of Tony Tobin to the Park Board. Councilmember Overhauser moved to approve the appointment. Councilmember McKeehan seconded. Carried unanimously.

I. Citizen Comments None

J. Action Items

1. 09-197 – 2010 Budget – Public Hearing – Public Safety Mayor Gainer opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. Ms. Niemeier stated that we will have presentations from Police and Fire this evening. There is no action needed. Mr. Campbell presented the Police Department accomplishments for 2009 and goals for 2010. We have a reserve officer volunteering almost full time as a detective. Their goals include having the bloodhound fully deployed, WASPC accreditation, and a technology replacement plan citywide. There are no maintenance and operations increases. They increased the travel budget for the Chief and patrol. Councilmember Overhauser stated that she was in Seattle after the shooting of a police officer. It really brings home how important our police department is to us. Mr. Winters stated that the Fire Department increases are in IT, salaries, and benefits. He presented their accomplishments and goals. An intermediate life support

certification class will be taught on duty for staff members. They will continue to try to get grants, explore options for residents, and increase the use of firefighting foam to decrease water usage. Councilmember Trulove asked if foam is more expensive than water. Mr. Winters stated that it is approximately \$60 for a five gallon bucket. It can be made thick or thin depending upon the application. Councilmember Overhauser asked if it is a better suppressant. Mr. Winters stated that it stays a lot longer and you do not have to keep applying water. Councilmember Nixon stated that we hired two new firefighters and our overtime doubled. He is glad to hear that they are working on it. Mr. Winters stated that they are trying to use their vacation and Kelly days in a way that will not increase overtime. Councilmember Overhauser asked if they are getting H1N1 calls. Mr. Winters stated that they are, but they are taking all the precautions they can to keep from getting infected. They are getting the H1N1 shots and limiting the number of people going into a residence when they know there are H1N1 symptoms present. Mayor Gainer closed the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.

2. 09-195 – Resolution D-740 – MOU with WTSC for Traffic Emphasis Mr. Campbell stated that this is for the X-52 traffic emphasis. Councilmember McKeehan moved for approval of Resolution D-740. Councilmember Mather seconded. Carried unanimously.

3. 09-196 – Resolution D-741 – Declaration of Surplus Equipment – 1984 John Deere 544C Loader Mr. Ableman stated that we have enough loaders to handle snow removal. Councilmember Mather moved for passage of Resolution D-741. Councilmember Nixon seconded. Councilmember Overhauser asked if it is a 1984 or a 1985. Mr. Ableman stated that it is a 1984. Carried unanimously.

4. 09-198 – Resolution D-742 – Street Division Sand Shed – Construction Bid Award Mr. Ableman stated that they budgeted \$40,000 to store dry chemicals. This is for a 34' x 48' shed that will be 16 feet high. Councilmember Overhauser moved for approval of Resolution D-742. Councilmember Mather seconded. Fred Pollard, 421 N 3rd St, asked if there is any threat of contamination from the chemicals. Mr. Ableman stated that there is not. There will be an asphalt pad and tarps. These are the chemicals we put on the streets. Carried unanimously.

5. 09-188 – Ordinance V-29 – 2010 Budget Ordinance Ms. Niemeier stated that we have had the general government and public safety public hearings. We will have the Light Department and Public Works presentations at the next Council meeting. There will be a special meeting on November 17th at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the 2010 budget. Councilmember McKeehan moved for the second reading of Ordinance V-29 in title and summary form only. Councilmember Overhauser seconded. Carried unanimously. Councilmember McKeehan moved to defer this to the November 24th meeting. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

K. Council Reports None

L. Staff Reports Ms. Fisher acknowledged Mr. Simmons for his hard work on the park bond. Unfortunately we did not get 60%. We are still trying to sort out our options and decide what direction to take. She attended Rotary and Halloween events. IT is moving forward with installation of the servers. We will have a lengthy Council meeting at the end of November.

M. Mayor's Report Mayor Gainer commended Mr. Simmons for his hard work. He asked everyone to recognize veterans tomorrow.

N. Executive Session Mayor Gainer recessed the meeting at 6:48 pm for executive session as per RCW 42.30.110 regarding potential litigation with no action to follow. Mayor Gainer reconvened the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

O. Adjournment Councilmember McKeehan moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mather seconded. Carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

