

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 22, 2008

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 Stockton, Councilmember Trulove, and Councilmember McKeegan. Staff members present included Ms. Fisher, Ms. Niemeier, Mr. Conklin, Ms. Lehrhaupt, Mr. Richardson, Mr. MacDonald, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Sale, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Ableman, and Mr. Wahl. Councilmember Overhauser and Councilmember Huff were excused.

C. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of January 8, 2008 were approved as distributed.

D. Claims and Vouchers nos. 93059 through 93062 and 93076 through 93192 in the amount of \$546,308.23 were approved as read.

E. Claims for Damages None

F. Small Contracts Ms. Niemeier stated that there are five small contracts. They are with Cheney Cleaning Company for \$495.25 per month, West Plains Karate, Gary Carver, Julie Butler, and the fencing instructors. Councilmember Stockton moved to approve the small contracts. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

G. Information Items Mr. Sale introduced Spokane County Commissioner Todd Mielke, Chief Bruce Holloway from Fire District 3, Chuck Hafner, Chuck Stocker, Chuck Chisholm, and Bob Lincoln. Commissioner Mielke stated that there was a ballot item last fall with regard to emergency communications infrastructure which also included one element of crime check. They had five weeks to put it together and it was not enough time. It lost by about 285 votes. The problem has not gone away. Everyone will have an emergency at some time. We used to have crime check for non-emergency situations. People call 911 because they have a difficult time deciding what constitutes an emergency. At times, people can get a message that says the 911 operators are busy. This would allow calls to be transferred to crime check and vice versa. We have a lot of dead spots in this region. Mr. Sale stated that the problem with the system, including Cheney, is that law enforcement cannot communicate with each other. If we have a major incident, we will get people from all over to help. Our equipment is old and we have dead spots. There is no ability in this town for reverse 911. Our emergency calls here go to the 911 system in Spokane. There is no funding mechanism for Cheney or the County to fix this. By 2012, we have to change our systems. There are spots where our officers cannot call to get help. We have a lack of redundancy in the system. All public radios have to make this change. It is not just emergency services. Replacing the system is a multi-year, multi-phase process. The cost to individual jurisdictions is prohibitive. For us, it would be a minimum of \$500,000. To fix the system, it will cost \$40-45 million countywide. The solution is a long term funding solution. If we delay it much longer, we will be behind the curve. Chuck Stocker stated that he is the community member working on this. He is supporting this because we need a system where we can communicate with the schools. Where he lives in Newman Lake, they have concerns in the summer time. This system can let everyone speak together. The plan is to upgrade and maintain the system also. This will sunset in ten years. They did look at the other alternatives on how to get this money. All three County Commissioners are in support. Commissioner Mielke stated that nothing they do is more important than protecting people and providing infrastructure. This does both. Together we can build a regional coalition to move this forward. Councilmember Trulove asked if there will be a countywide plan with the proceeds flowing to agencies in other cities so we have an integrated system. Commissioner Mielke stated that there has been a plan going on for eight years. Mr. Sale stated that Cheney is different because we have our own radio system. He has been assured that we will be integrated into the greater system, but we will still have our own system. Councilmember Trulove stated that chances are that the other communities will have to do this too. Commissioner Mielke stated that King County has already done this and others will have it on the ballot soon.

H. Appointments Mayor Gainer stated that he would like to reappoint Bob Lincoln to the Civil Service Commission for a three year term. Councilmember McKeehan moved to approve the appointment. Councilmember Stockton seconded. Carried unanimously.

I. Citizen Comments None

J. Action Items

1. 08-009 – Resolution D-393 – LEXIPOL Daily Training Bulletin Subscription Mr. Sale stated that this will provide online training for the Lexipol manual. It sends out daily questions to the officers. Councilmember McKeehan moved for passage of Resolution D-393. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

2. 08-011 – Resolution D-394 –Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Mr. Sale stated that this was a grant applied for by the Spokane Police Department. They received the grant. There is a match that comes with the grant. The city's match is \$11,540 based on population. Spokane County Fire is paying for the fire portion out of their budget. Our portion for police is \$5,770 over three years. There should be enough in the budget this year. We will look at it in future years. Councilmember Stockton moved for passage of Resolution D-394. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

3. 08-012 – Resolution D-395 – Resolution Supporting Ballot Measure for 1/10 of 1% Mr. Sale stated that this is a resolution to support putting the tax increase on the ballot. Councilmember Trulove moved for passage of Resolution D-395. Councilmember Stockton seconded. Carried unanimously.

4. 08-014 – Resolution D-397 – Acceptance of Bid: Structural Steel for Cheney Substation Project Mr. Richardson stated that this is for steel purchased to build a stand for the circuit breaker. Councilmember Trulove moved for passage of Resolution D-397. Councilmember Nixon seconded. Mr. Richardson stated that this is the same vendor that did our other substation work. Carried unanimously.

5. 08-015 – Resolution D-398 – Acceptance of Bid: Relay Panels & Controls for Cheney Substation Project Mr. Richardson stated that this is for relay panels to go in the substation house. Councilmember McKeehan moved for approval of Resolution D-398. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

6. 08-018 – Resolution D-399 – PWTF Loan Extension – Cheney WWTP Expansion Design Mr. MacDonald stated that this will allow for a three month extension of the loan we are using for the design of the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion. We have some additional work that needs to be completed. The design is done but we are waiting for DOE's approval and we need review of legal documents. We will probably close this out in February. Councilmember Stockton moved for passage of Resolution D-399. Councilmember McKeehan seconded. Carried unanimously.

7. 08-017 – Resolution D-400 – WWC Video Inspection Software and Hardware Upgrade – Bid Award Mr. MacDonald stated that this was not budgeted for 2008. It was budgeted in 2007. It is much needed software. It will catalog mains and the collection system. They will defer or scale back some other work to pay for this. There might also be savings that can pay for it. Councilmember Trulove asked if this is software that we do not have yet. Mr. MacDonald stated that our current software is outdated. It is also a proprietary system. Councilmember Trulove moved for passage of Resolution D-400. Councilmember McKeehan seconded. Carried unanimously.

8. 07-089 – Ordinance U-51 & U-59 – 2006 Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulation Amendments Councilmember Trulove moved for the third reading of Ordinance U-51 in title and summary form only and placed before Council for final passage. Councilmember McKeehan seconded. Carried unanimously. Yes votes: Councilmember Mather, Councilmember Nixon, Councilmember Stockton, Councilmember Trulove, Councilmember McKeehan. Ordinance U-51 passed. Councilmember Trulove moved for the third reading of Ordinance U-59 in title and summary form only and placed before Council for final passage. Councilmember Stockton seconded. Carried unanimously. Yes votes: Councilmember Mather, Councilmember Nixon, Councilmember Stockton. Councilmember Trulove, Councilmember McKeehan. Ordinance U-59 passed.

9. 08-016 – P-Zone Information Item/Discussion – Request for Direction from Council Mr. Sale stated that he is looking for direction from Council on how to proceed. This is substantially different from the current agreement we have. It has been reviewed by their attorney. It states that we do not condone minor traffic infractions. It goes into responsibilities as it relates to civil disturbances. Supervision is the key to liability. If we have a civil disturbance, neither party is equipped to address it individually. There are provisions that the chiefs will discuss issues as they come up. If the Council agrees with the proposal, it will come back to Council for approval. Councilmember Trulove questioned if it has gone to the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Sale stated that it has and they recommended bringing it to Council. Councilmember Trulove stated that he does not have a concern about the liability. He is willing to accept additional liability if we can make the cooperation better. Mr. Sale stated that this gives us a lot more leeway with how we can work with EWU police. Councilmember Trulove stated that people in the community have told him they are in favor of this. One of the complaints is that they do not like campus police doing traffic stops on the edge of town. Mr. Sale stated that there will be instances where that will happen, but Chief Walters has told his people that there will not be much change with this agreement. Mr. Sale stated that he thinks this is very workable. This was written so the Council could have some control. Councilmember Mather stated that she thinks it is very well worded. It is a big step in building a relationship between the City and EWU. The people she has talked to have said they want to be able to use EWU police if they have a need for them. Councilmember Trulove stated that he assumes the next step would be to put this on the agenda and that Ms. Fisher would go over it with a fine tooth comb. Ms. Fisher stated that supervision is the key. This is a well written document. We are working on the relationship with EWU and this is a tremendous step. Councilmember Mather moved to bring this back to the next meeting for consideration. Councilmember Trulove seconded. Carried unanimously.

K. Council Reports Councilmember Nixon asked if we have found the 24% water that was lost. Mr. MacDonald stated that there never was a 24% loss of water. It was probably due to errors in meter reads. Councilmember McKeehan stated that he appreciated the presentation about 911 tonight. It is a relief to know that you can get a quick response when it is needed. He thanked the Fire Department.

L. Staff Reports Mr. MacDonald stated that we have had some fruitful discussions with Allpak. We hope to bring a purchase and sale agreement to Council on February 12. The next step would be to execute a development agreement.

M. Mayor's Report Mayor Gainer stated that he will be attending the AWC Legislative Conference next week with Ms. Fisher and Councilmember McKeehan. He will have a State of the City address tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Wren Pierson Building.

N. Executive Session Mayor Gainer recessed the meeting at 7:51 p.m. for executive session regarding matters of personnel. He asked Ms. Fisher, Ms. Niemeier, Mr. Conklin and Ms. Lehrhaupt to stay. It will last approximately twenty minutes. Mayor Gainer reconvened the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

O. Adjournment Councilmember McKeehan moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Stockton seconded. Carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor