

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 26, 2007

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 Harris, Councilmember Rast, Councilmember Overhauser, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Stockton, and Councilmember Trulove. Staff members present included Ms. Niemeier, Ms. Lehrhaupt, Mr. MacDonald, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Simmons, Ms. Cooper, Mr. Wahl, and Ms. Showalter. Councilmember McKeehan was excused.

C. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of December 11, 2007 were approved as distributed.

D. Claims and Vouchers nos. 92790 through 92900 in the amount of \$\$633,090.35 were approved as read.

E. Claims for Damages None

F. Small Contracts None

G. Information Items None

H. Appointments None

I. Citizen Comments None

J. Action Items

1. 07-177 – Resolution D-383 – IBEW Contract Ms. Showalter stated that this is a three year contract. It was opened for salaries only. This will bring them up to speed with their peers. It is very important to have salary parity. This gives them a 5.5 % increase for each of the next three years. Councilmember Harris moved for approval of Resolution D-383. Councilmember Rast seconded. Councilmember Overhauser stated that we are headed into a year that we have some budget issues. This is a lot of money to give without negotiating other changes and flexibility. We are also going to be looking at a utility rate increase and the citizens may not understand that. Councilmember Huff stated that we should discuss the hours they operate the next time this is open. He thinks the hours should be 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Councilmember Trulove stated that he thinks the contract is still the best in the Inland Northwest. We still have lower salaries for IBEW workers in the area. This is a conservative approach on behalf of the city. Carried with Councilmember Overhauser voting nay.

2. 07-182 – Resolution D-389 – Spokane County Grant Mr. Simmons stated that the Health Department has updated the code and the fence around the perimeter of the pool does not meet it. The holes are too large. We are required to replace the fence. We have previously received funding for playground equipment, a shelter, and bleachers. We are asking for \$10,000. Councilmember Huff moved for passage of Resolution D-389. Councilmember Stockton seconded. Councilmember Trulove questioned who made the changes. Mr. MacDonald stated that he believes it is the Department of Health. Discussion followed. Carried unanimously.

3. 07-178 – Ordinance U-72 – 2008 Salary Ordinance Ms. Showalter requested the third reading. She stated that the only contract not settled is the Police Guild. Councilmember Huff moved for the third reading of Ordinance U-72 in title and summary form only and placed before Council for final passage. Councilmember Rast seconded. Carried with Councilmember Overhauser voting nay. Yes votes: Councilmember Harris, Councilmember Rast, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Stockton, Councilmember Trulove. No votes: Councilmember Overhauser. Ordinance U-72 passed.

K. Council Reports Councilmember Overhauser stated that she will miss Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Rast. Councilmember Huff stated that he will too. Councilmember Stockton wished everyone a happy new year. He thanked Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Rast. Councilmember Trulove thanked Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Rast and wished them a good new year.

L. Staff Reports Arlene Fisher introduced her daughters, Megan and Melissa. She stated that she met with Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Richardson about water and the moratorium. She would like to schedule a General Government Committee meeting on January 14 at 5:15 p.m. Mr. MacDonald stated that the Public Works and Utilities Committee will be meeting on January 10.

M. Mayor's Report Mayor Gainer stated that it is sad to see Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Rast leave us. He presented certificates of appreciation to Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Rast for their service to the Cheney community.

N. Executive Session None

O. Adjournment Councilmember Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Rast seconded. Carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor