



CITY OF EAST WENATCHEE

271 9th Street NE * East Wenatchee, WA 98802
Phone (509) 884-9515 * Fax (509) 886-6233

City Council Workshop

East Wenatchee City Hall
271 9th St. NE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Minutes

Thursday, April 15, 2021

In attendance:

Mayor Crawford	Josh DeLay, Finance Director
Councilmember Sterk	Lori Barnett, Community Development Director
Councilmember Raab	Tom Wachholder, Project Development Mngr.
Councilmember Tidd	Rick Johnson, Police Chief
Councilmember Magdoff	Devin Poulson, City Attorney
Councilmember Johnson	Garren Melton, Natural Resource Specialist
Councilmember Hepner	Josh Toftness, Streets Manager
Councilmember Sleiman	Mary Beth Phillips, Court Administrator
	Maria Holman, City Clerk

5:30 p.m. Council Workshop.

Councilmember Magdoff opened the meeting. The meeting was in person and via zoom.

1. City Attorney Devin Poulson presented information regarding the Supreme Court's February ruling that affected unlawful possession of a controlled substance in Washington State. Mr. Poulson provided clarifications on the constitution and what options are available to the City. He explained that the City Council has the ability to set laws within the City. As recommended by the City Council, Ordinance 2021-10, will be included for consideration in the May 4, 2021 Agenda. The Ordinance would make possession of regulated drugs in East Wenatchee a misdemeanor.

Comments provided by Councilmember Magdoff, Councilmember Hepner, Chief Johnson, Councilmember Sterk and Councilmember Tidd.

No action was taken by the Council.

2. Natural Resource Specialist Garren Melton presented information on becoming a Tree City and what the requirements are to qualify. The Council requested Mr. Melton to bring a draft Ordinance to an upcoming Council Workshop for consideration.

Comments provided by Councilmember Magdoff, Chief Johnson, Mayor Crawford, Councilmember Hepner, Councilmember Raab and Councilmember Tidd.

No action was taken by the Council.

3. Mayor Crawford presented information regarding the Maul Foster Alongi Strategic Plan recommendations, the proposal for Phase II, and fees to develop and complete a strategic plan for the City of East Wenatchee. Mayor Crawford recommended removing the City survey from the proposal and instead use information collected by “Our Valley Our Future’s” (OVOF) survey that is being conducted now. OVOF is usually successful in their surveys. Additionally, the City would not overwhelm the community with multiple surveys in a short period of time. Second, the Mayor suggested sharing the draft strategic plan with the community for feedback before the plan is completed to receive input and encourage participation. As recommended by the City Council this will be included in the April 20, 2021 Council meeting agenda for consideration.

Comments provided by Councilmember Sterk, Mayor Crawford, Councilmember Magdoff, Finance Director Josh DeLay, Councilmember Sleiman, Community Development Director Lori Barnett and City Clerk Maria Holman.

No action was taken by the Council.

4. Community Development Director Lori Barnett presented information regarding the CDBG Corona Virus Recovery Funding opportunity. The City has been notified of the availability of \$23,760.18 in CDBG CV2 funding from the State Department of Commerce. CV1 and CV3 funds were used previously. Before the City may take advantage of the funds, the City must decide what projects or programs to fund.

On April 13, 2020 the City was notified of a special allocation of \$83,927 in “CDBG-CV” funds. The Council approved funding for the following programs:

- \$27,000 for City CDBG planning and administrative activities
- \$58,695 to the Columbia Valley Housing Association down payment assistance program
- \$133,927 Microenterprise business grants – \$5,000 in grants for up to 26 businesses. The Chelan Douglas Port Authority is administering this program.

On September 11, 2020 the City was notified of a special allocation of \$114,862 designated as “CDBG-CV3”. The Council approved funding for the following programs:

- \$5,000 for City CDBG planning and administrative activities.
- \$15,000 for the Chelan & Douglas County COVID-19 Food Assistance Program
- \$94,862 to Community Action Council for emergency income payments for rent and utilities

To utilize these funds, our CDBG annual action plan does not need to be amended again. To meet the public notice requirement, staff recommends that the funds be allocated for one of the projects noted above. The Port Authority believes that they would be able to spend the funds for the microenterprise business grants. If that is the consensus of Council, Ms. Barnett can start the application right away. Council was in support.

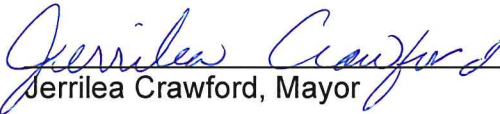
Comments provided by Councilmember Magdoff.

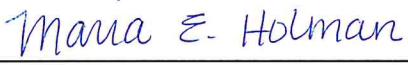
5. Councilmember Tidd commented on the Douglas Public Utility District's power delivery rate policy rate increases.

Comments provided by Councilmember Hepner, Mayor Crawford, Councilmember Magdoff, Councilmember Raab, and Councilmember Sterk.

Adjournment. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Attest:


Jerrilea Crawford, Mayor



Maria E. Holman, City Clerk