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Regular City Council Meeting  
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MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
JANUARY 22, 2024  
5:30 p.m.

VIA ZOOM/ IN PERSON

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Richard Mays

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Darcy Long, Tim McGlothlin, Rod Runyon, Scott Randall, Dan Richardson

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Matthew Klebes, City Attorney Jonathan Kara, City Clerk Amie Ell, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Police Chief Tom Worthy, Finance Director Angie Wilson, Community Development Director Joshua Chandler, Human Resources Director Daniel Hunter, IT Director David Collins, Executive Assistant Abigail Jara

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mays at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL**

Roll Call was conducted by Executive Assistant Jara. Long, McGlothlin, Runyon, Randall, Richardson present. None absent

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Mays asked Councilor McGlothlin to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor McGlothlin invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Mays said the agenda would be amended to remove the Executive Session.

It was moved by Long and seconded by Randall to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Randall, McGlothlin, Richardson, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Mike Kilkenny, Chairman of the Traffic Safety Commission read a letter to Council asking the City to hire a traffic safety police officer. (See attached letter)

Councilor Long asked how often the Traffic Safety Commission was discussing this issue at meetings.

Kilkenny said every meeting along with discussions of safety, speed, and people not fully stopping at stop lights and stop signs.

Long asked if the blinking stop signs had helped with lowering the number of cars running through stop signs.

Kilkenny said it had helped for a while, but they are starting to be run again. He said it would help the problem if more tickets for this violation were being issued by the Police Department.

City Manager Matthew Klebes said traffic safety was concern for staff and discussions were occurring to explore the possibility of adding moveable radar to patrol cars as well as reinstating a traffic assignment within the Police department.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Matthew Klebes reported;

- During City office snow closures last week, many staff worked remotely
- The City worked with St. Vincent DePaul (SVdP) to amend current litigation allowing opening of emergency warming shelter during cold weather event. SvdP reverting back to original agreement tomorrow. City had reached out to set up dates for mediation.
- Mid-Columbia Community Action Council (MCCAC) activated surge capacity and coordinated services and communication of available resources during weather event. Annex currently housing 70 clients. Families accepted during the weather event will remain at shelter while seeking long-term housing options. MCCAC continues to have

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staffing challenges, actively seeking employees.

- Met with Pacific Coast Producers to discuss economic support for potential upgrades or expansions, beautification efforts, and odors.
- Met with The Dalles Art Center to discuss deliverables and scope of work for the year.
- RFP issued in partnership with Wasco County to upgrade Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Record Management System (RMS).
- Introduction of new staff
  - Oscar Cuevas, System Administrator - IT Department
  - Betsy Domsic, Paralegal
  - Officer Ramos, sworn in last Friday
- Recognized hard work done by Public Works and Police Departments during extreme weather event.

### **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilor Runyon reported;

- Phone meeting with City Attorney.
- Meeting with Port of the Dalles Executive Director Andrea Klaas.
- Worked with Councilor McGlothlin to help get people into shelter during the cold weather event.

Councilor Richardson reported;

- Seeing Public Works crews out working Saturday evening. Expressed appreciation.

Councilor Randall had nothing to report.

Councilor Long reported;

- Phone meeting with City Attorney.
- Thanked city employees who continued to show up and work throughout the weather event.
- Asked for report on numbers who sought shelter during weather event. Hoped to use data for future planning.

Councilor McGlothlin reported;

- During the weather event 12 people admitted to the Annex, 15-19 people sheltered at SVdP and Budget Inn, and 1 refused shelter until 5 days into the cold weather.
- Thanked the Police and Fire Departments for wellness checks.
- Will attend Airport meeting on Friday.
- KODL radio with Mayor Mays.
- Phone meeting with City Attorney.

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Mayor Mays reported;

- KODL radio interview.
- Meeting with City Manager and City Attorney.
- Thanked the Police and Public Works departments.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Richardson and seconded by Long to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried 5 to 0, Richardson, Long, Randall, McGlothlin, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Items approved on the consent agenda were: 1) The minutes of the January 8, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

A Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, Making Appropriations and Authorizing Expenditures from and Within Various Funds of The City of The Dalles Adopted Budget

Mayor Mays opened the public hearing and asked for the staff report.

Finance Manager Angie Wilson presented the staff report.

Mayor Mays asked for public testimony in favor. There was none.

Mayor Mays asked for public testimony opposed. There was none.

Mayor Mays opened for Council discussion.

Runyon asked why there were such large amounts of money being transferred.

Dave Anderson Public Works Director said some came from the water fund. When preparing last year's budget, water revenues were not coming in at the expected rates and it was decided to take a conservative approach pulling back how much money was transferred to the reserve fund. He said in the end the revenue did come in better than expected and that money was now being moved to the water reserve fund for bigger projects.

Runyon asked for clarification of why there was an additional million-dollar revenue for the water capital reserve fund.

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Anderson said the majority of that amount was because it was expected the Dog River Pipeline would be complete so it had been budgeted to pay for completion. He said it had not completed so funds would be carried over to pay for work done this year. This was not an adjustment to the budget for the project, it was a carry over of the money not spent last year that would pay for project work done this year.

Anderson said staff do their best to conservatively determine which projects will be able to complete or start so as not to overestimate and cause the budget to be upside down in the next year. He said unspent funds get carried over into the year and this process allows the funds to be available to finish projects in the current year.

Richardson asked if the sewer main project on East 9<sup>th</sup> Street was on the new road currently under construction where an intruding house had been removed.

Anderson said yes.

Richardson asked that a major street projects list be provided as a BIP in the upcoming budget process.

Anderson said they would be doing this as part of the Capital Improvements Plan.

Klebes said new auditors had given additional guidelines for the Capital Improvement Plan and council could expect to see additional information and refinements.

Richardson asked for information and an estimated timeline for replacement of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street bridge.

Anderson said the original estimated timeline had been adjusted with the report done by Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) who recommended replacement of the bridge now. He said that was why additional funds were being allocated for this. A thorough analysis and conceptual design for the replacement will be completed next. He estimated a timeline for construction would be within the next three to five years.

It was moved by Richardson and seconded by Long to Adopt Resolution No. 24-002 Adopting a Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, Making Appropriations and Authorizing Expenditures within Various Funds of The Dalles Adopted Budget. The motion carried 5 to 0, Richardson, Long, McGlothlin, Randall, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Mayor Mays closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

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**CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD**

Award of Contract to Construct W 2nd St Joint Utilities Phase 2 Project

Public Works Director Dave Anderson presented the staff report.

It was moved by Randall and seconded by McGlothlin to authorize the City Manager to enter into contract with Ajax Northwest, LLC., for the West 2nd Street Utility Improvements – Phase 2, Contract No. 2024-001, in an amount not to exceed \$2,149,783.00. The motion carried 5 to 0, Randall, McGlothlin, Runyon, Richardson, Long voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

**ACTION ITEMS**

City Council Goal Setting Document Adoption

Sara Singer Wilson, City Council Goal Setting Facilitation Consultant presented to council the Council Goal Setting Retreat document.

Richardson said the facilitated goal setting retreat was beneficial and encouraged the community to review the document. He thanked the City for making it happen.

McGlothlin said effective planning is essential and having participated in many similar goal setting processes in the past, this experience was the best presentation and implementation.

Mayor Mays said it was a very productive use of time.

Long recognized Wilson’s unique presentation style and expressed appreciation for the facilitation aligning staff goals with policy and keeping Council focus at the policy level.

It was moved by Richardson and seconded by Long to adopt the 2024 City Council Goal Setting Documentation. The motion carried 5 to 0, Richardson, Long, Runyon, Randall, McGlothlin voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

IGA between the City of The Dalles, Wasco County, and Wasco County District Attorney's Office

City Manager Matthew Klebes presented the staff report.

Wasco County District Attorney (DA) Matthew Ellis summarized his report to The City of The Dalles. See attached.

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Ellis said he had researched what other Oregon District Attorney offices had done when cities had stopped taking criminal cases. He said DA Haroldson of Benton County reported the City of Corvallis provides funding for prosecuting DUIIs, DA Primus of Umatilla County said the City of Hermiston had not followed through after talks of an agreement and this had created a burden on the DA's office until Hermiston took back municipal court, and the DA of Lane County said due to lack of staffing, they were unable to handle all of the misdemeanors so had stopped charging non-person misdemeanors. That policy had gone away when they got back to being fully staffed. He talked with DA Rasmussen of Hood River County who reported the shutting down of municipal court had greatly affected their caseloads.

Ellis said he agreed with City Manager Klebes that the City does not have an obligation to provide money to the DA's office. Instead of soliciting he wanted to provide an overview of what prosecuting a criminal case looks like and how the number of cases had increased since the closing of municipal court.

Klebes thanked DA Ellis for the report and said the City had also communicated with the City of Corvallis who said they did not provide transfer of general funds but instead their Das office received revenue from the fines associated with DUII cases they were prosecuting.

Runyon asked if no action was taken that evening would the City be required to remain in the agreement through 2025. He said the Budget Committee could decide to add back during the budget planning process.

Klebes said the latest date for a termination of the current agreement was February 2, 2024.

Richardson asked that the report provided by DA Ellis be included in the minutes for the public to have access for review. He said the City and County were both fiscally stable and it was the County's responsibility to fund the DAs office. He said he did not see why funding from the City would be in perpetuity and believed it was time to sunset the agreement.

Long said at the time the original agreement was put into place she understood it would not be forever but for a time to soften the blow of the change.

Klebes said one of the recitals of the IGA (Inter-Governmental Agreement) stated the funding was to support the court during the transition.

Long said at the time the agreement was originally brought to Council they were not told it was the responsibility of the County to fund and she did not understand this at that time.

Mayor Mays asked if the \$1.1 million provided by the County came from their general fund.

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Ellis said his salary was paid by the State or Oregon. He said \$100,000 of the funds came from victim advocate grants and the remaining \$1 million was from the general fund.

Klebes said if Council decided to terminate the agreement the money would go into the City's general fund.

McGlothlin said he was resistant to the original agreement when it was first brought to council. He said new Council goals involving law enforcement would benefit from more money in the general fund. He said a new agreement could be discussed and considered during the budgeting process.

Runyon said in his view, 3-4 years is considered long term for an agreement. He supported termination of the current agreement with the understanding the community and citizens would have a chance to present a new agreement to the budget committee.

Mayor Mays said he did not recall when approving the original agreement a discussion of if it would be short or long term. He said they were not told they would be the only city in Oregon with this type of agreement.

It was moved by Long and seconded by Runyon to direct the City Manager to provide a notice of intent to terminate pursuant to Section 4 of the IGA between the City of The Dalles, Wasco County, and the Wasco County District Attorney's Office for the Provision of Criminal Prosecution Services and to Begin Discussions on a Possible New IGA. The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Runyon, Richardson, Randall, McGlothlin voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Resolution 24-003 A Resolution Formally Adopting a City Evacuation Plan and Authorizing Mandatory Evacuations

Human Resources Director Daniel Hunter notified that the Council Wasco County Emergency Manager would be pursuing a grant for updating the county emergency operations plan when this is updated annexes in the presented evacuation plan would also be updated to include any new annexes. He then presented the staff report.

Long asked how the evacuation sites were determined specifically on the East side of town.

Hunter said the county had agreements for the locations and the nature of the event would determine where evacuation site would be.

McGlothlin said he would like to see short term emergency shelter locations included in a plan for instances such as extreme weather events.



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Hunter said cold weather shelters are not included as part of the evacuation plan.

It was moved by Randall and seconded by McGlothlin to adopt Resolution 24-003 A Resolution Formally Adopting a City Evacuation Plan and Authorizing Mandatory Evacuations. The motion carried 5 to 0, Randall, McGlothlin, Richardson, Long, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

McGlothlin recognized work done by Debby Sandoz who spearheaded efforts to provide shelter to those in need during the recent extreme cold weather event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Submitted by/ Amie Ell, City Clerk

SIGNED:



Richard A. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amie Ell, City Clerk