

City of Medical Lake
Regular Council Meeting
S. 124 Lefevre Street, 6:30 P.M.
November 1, 2011

Mayor Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Council present: A. J. Burton Art Kulibert Jeff King
 Howard Jorgenson John Paikuli Brenda Redell

Council Absent: Shirley Maike
Councilmember Paikuli made a motion to excuse Councilmember Maike from this meeting. Councilmember Redell seconded the motion. Council polled; all ayes.

Staff present: Doug Ross Cindy McMullen Pam McBroom Jeff Estes
 Ellen Fender

Others present: Cheney Free Press reporter James Eik, 1 Volunteer Firefighters and 3 visitors.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

None.

MINUTES:

Councilmember King made a motion, seconded by Paikuli to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes for October 18, 2011. Council polled; all ayes.

INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:

None.

MAYORS REPORT

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITION:

None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Zach Baker, Volunteer Firefighter

Mayor Higgins announced the new appointment. Chief Estes gave background information and introduced Baker to council.

MEETINGS AND OTHER INFORMATION:

STAFF REPORT:

Resolution 471: Personnel Policies Update

Administrator Ross explained the reason for this Personnel Policy update. During a WCIA audit the city was required to review its personnel policies. This updated policy reflects recent changes to the following laws:

- Family Medical Leave Act
- Domestic Violence Leave
- Domestic Partner Laws
- Also changes correcting conflicts with the Cities current MP 270 Union Contract

After discussion, Councilmember Paikuli made a motion, seconded by Redell to approve Resolution 471: Personnel Policies Update. Council polled; all ayes.

FINANCE:

Public Hearing: November 1, 2011 at 6:30 PM for Current Expense and EMS Revenue Sources and other Proposed Sources of Revenue for the 2012 Current Expense Budget and Possible Increase in EMS Levy Taxes and Regular Property Taxes

Mayor Higgins opened the Public Hearing at 6:41 pm. He asked for public comment. There was none. Finance Director McBroom gave a staff report. Current Expense revenues were reviewed. Staff is asking council’s approval for a one percent increase in EMS and Property Taxes. Council received property tax breakdowns and comparisons in their packets. It was noted that the one percent increase in EMS tax would bring an additional \$1,079 over last year’s collected amount and with the one percent increase in property taxes the city would be able to collect an additional \$4,969 over last year’s collected amount. That would bring the total amount of property tax that the city would receive to approximately \$505,000 and EMS would bring in approximately \$110,000. This money will help fund public safety budgets. After discussion and three calls for public comment the hearing was closed at 6:53 pm.

Ordinance 1014: Setting the Property Tax Rate and the Emergency Medical Services Rate for the Year 2012; First Reading

Councilmember Jorgenson made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 1014; Setting the Property Tax Rate and the EMS Rate for the Year 2012. Councilmember Kulibert seconded the motion. Council polled; 4 ayes (Kulibert, Jorgenson, King and Redell), 2 nays (Burton and Paikuli) Motion carried. Attorney McMullen read by title only.

PLANNING REPORT:

None.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ordinance 1015: Amending Section 9.11.081 of the MLMC, relating to hours of use of City Parks; First Reading

Administrator Ross explained that the city was asked to review the park hours for Pioneer Park. Currently, all city parks excluding WFP are open between the hours of 7am and 10pm. WFP is open until 11pm due to the location and use of softball fields within the park. The Parks and Recreation Committee has reviewed the request but wanted full council input. Park hours are set by the MLMC and would require an ordinance to legalize a change. Mayor Higgins expressed his opinion of this request. It was noted that he has been in contact, weekly, with some property owners in the area of Pioneer Park and the situation that brought about this request is much better with the closing of the skate park and additional police patrolling in the area. There was much discussion between council on this issue. Views are split with part of council in favor of this change and part are not in favor. After discussion, Councilmember King made a motion to table this ordinance until more information is obtained from the City Deputies. After some additional discussion, this motion failed for lack of a second. Councilmember Kulibert then made a motion to approve Ordinance 1015: Amending Section 9.11.081 of the MLMC, relating to hours of use of City Parks. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Redell. Council polled; 3 ayes (Jorgenson, Redell and Kulibert) 3 nays (Paikuli, Burton and King). Since there was a tie vote, Mayor Higgins cast a vote against the motion. Ordinance 1015 was not approved.

PUBLIC WORKS/RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT:

None.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilmember Kulibert reported on the committee meeting, no action items. It was noted that some work has been done in the fire bay to accommodate more equipment for the firefighters. There are now up to 30 spaces for volunteers to keep their turnouts and equipment. Mr. Jack Robinson also painted a mural on the wall (the fire departments logo). This has all helped to keep fire bay more organized.

MEMBERS REPORTS:

None. Administrator Ross did mention that all the shrubs along the side of the city hall building were removed and some mulch has been added to preserve the soil.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Claims and Payroll

Claim Warrants 20010 through 20065 in the amount of \$85,676.34 and Payroll Warrants 9665 through 9684 in the amount of \$112,305.41 were approved by motion from Councilmember Redell, second by Paikuli. Council polled; all ayes.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Higgins called for an Executive Session at 7:21 pm. Attorney McMullen read the following: *The City Council will now go into executive session to consider selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price and the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. It is anticipated that the executive session will last fifteen minutes. After the executive session, the City Council will reconvene the regular session. The city council will take no action on the issue discussed in executive session.*

At 7:36 pm the executive session was extended for an additional five minutes. Executive session closed at 7:42 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Higgins called the regular meeting back to order after the executive session at 7:42 pm, he then adjourned the meeting at 7:42pm.

Mayor Higgins

City Clerk / Finance Director