



DRAFT
CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Meeting – Wednesday, February 15, 2023
In Person and Via Zoom Teleconference

Council and Administrative Personnel Present

Council Members:

Ben Giant
Patty Fink
Jason Hartmann
Jim Ransier
David Lindley

Staff Present:

Jeff Broderick, Land Use Planner
Jeff Cooper, Acting Public Works Manager
Mike Hepner, Police Chief
Bill Hunsaker, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement
Marla Keethler, Mayor
Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer
Troy Rayburn, City Administrator
Ken Woodrich, City Attorney

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Marla Keethler called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. There were approximately 10 members of the public in attendance in person and via teleconference.

II. Changes to the Agenda

Staff requested removal of consent agenda items F. Personal Services Contract – Alcance Interpreter Services and L. Approval of Meeting Minutes- February 1, 2023.

Moved by Ben Giant. Seconded by Jason Hartmann.

Motion to remove consent agenda items F. Personal Services Contract – Alcance Interpreter Services and L. Approval of Meeting Minutes- February 1, 2023.

Carried 5-0

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Authorization of Quiet Title - Teague Reservoir
- B. Industrial User Wastewater Treatment Agreement - Everybody's Brewing
- C. Interlocal Agreement - DNR Contract
- D. Interlocal Agreement - Klickitat County Dispatch Services (\$34,778.22)
- E. Interlocal Agreement - White Salmon Valley School District - Seasonal Water Rates
- F. ~~Personal Services Contract – Alcance Interpreter Services (\$2,000)~~
- G. Personal Services Contract - It's All a Little Grey, LLC- HR Consulting Services (\$3,500)
- H. PWB Contract Approval - Transmission Mainline Replacement Phase 1 (\$1,855,100)
- I. PWB Contract Approval - North Main/Spring St Water Improvements (\$1,942,800)
- J. Resolution 2023-02-556 2023 Arbor Day Observance
- K. Small Works Contract - Klickitat Tree Operations LLC - 2023 Tree Maintenance (\$967.50)
- L. ~~Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 1, 2023~~
- M. Approval of Vouchers

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of this 15th day of February 2023.

Type	Date	From	To	Amount
Claims	2/15/2023	38908	38949	125,405.93
	2/15/2023	EFT	EFT	9,941.12
			Claims Total	135,347.05
Payroll				0.00
			Payroll Total	0.00
Manual Claims	12/31/2022	EFT	EFT	2,116.75
	2/8/2023	38905	38907	22,826.02
			Manual Total	24,942.77
			Total All Vouchers	160,289.82

Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Jim Ransier.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda as amended with vouchers in the amount of \$160,289.82.

Discussion:

David Lindley, Council Member noted that the Arbor Day Celebration was reviewed and approved by the Tree Board.

Ben Giant, Council Member asked for clarification on what determines the need for a wastewater agreement.

Marla Keethler, Mayor explained it is based on the type of waste produced and the quantity of waste.

CARRIED 5-0.

IV. Public Comment

Dan Cox, White Salmon Resident

Dan Cox noted concern about the lack of childcare options in White Salmon creating a hardship for local working families. The limited options available are majority for age 3 and up which leaves a large gap in service.

Dan Cox noted a large increase in his water rate in town due to the ADU on his property. He requested the council look at restructuring the way an ADU is billed.

V. Presentation

Black History Month

Council Member Jim Ransier introduced a video on the Jackson Street Jazz Scene in Seattle.

VI. Business Items

A. Public Hearing - Ordinance 2023-02-1124 Imposing an Additional 0.1% Sales Tax for the Transportation Benefit District

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer presented information about the proposed ordinances related to funding the White Salmon Transportation Benefit District. The proposed funding sources presented to council being 0.1% sales tax increase and establishing an annual vehicle licensing fee.

The sales tax of 0.1% can be implemented by a council manic vote for a period of 10 years.

The annual vehicle licensing fee can be implemented by council manic vote for no more than \$50 annual and must be implement is steps. The highest initial annual fee is \$20 but can be less.

The funds generated by both funding sources would be restricted fund deposited into the designated Street Construction Fund (renamed the Transportation Improvement Fund). These funds are only eligible to be used by the city for transportation improvements, including grant match dollars for eligible transportation projects, investing in transportation improvements, constructing transportation improvements, preserving transportation improvements, and maintaining transportation improvements.

The transportation projects must be identified in a federal, state, or local plan. For the City of White Salmon, the local plans include the Six-Year Transportation Plan (STIP) that was adopted in 2022 or the Transportation System Plan (TSP) that will be completed in 2023.

Council Members discussed.

Staff and Administration confirmed that the boundaries of the White Salmon Transportation Benefit District must be the same as the City Limits for the Council to be able to assume powers of the district. White Salmon has been considering a TBD since 2012, recent legislation has allowed the council to implement funding by Council Manic vote. The street fund is funded by property taxes which have not kept up with inflation due to the 1% cap.

Public Hearing - Ordinance 2023-02-1124 Imposing an Additional 0.1% Sales Tax for the Transportation Benefit District

Mayor Keethler opened the Public Hearing at 6:41pm.

Kate Bennett, White Salmon Resident

Noted she is excited about the sales tax opportunity that is shared with tourists. Glad that the revenues are restricted and can make a major impact on outstanding capital projects for transportation, especially the multi-modal transportation needs.

Peter Wright, White Salmon Resident

In support of the sales tax. Would like to see the city how we can help increase the sale tax revenue.

Mayor Keethler closed the Public Hearing at 6:46pm.

Staff clarified that the supplies for potholes will not be covered, however it would cover larger projects. The additional revenue available for larger projects would open up more street fund funding for smaller projects like pothole repair.

Mayor Keethler noted that the current chip sealing project to be completed in 2023 required a match of \$15,000. That match has left the street fund at the required minimum balance.

There was a city council consensus to table the action for Ordinance 2023-02-1124 0.1% Sales Tax until after the public hearing for Ordinance 2023-02-1125 Annual Vehicle Licensing Fee.

B. Public Hearing - Ordinance 2023-02-1125 Imposing a Additional Vehicle Licensing Fee for the Transportation Benefit District.

Mayor Keethler opened the Public Hearing at 7:03pm

Peter Wright, White Salmon Resident

In favor of the annual vehicle licensing fee. It is one of the only tools the city can implement to invest directly back into the community. He was shocked at how little property taxes come back to the City of White Salmon.

Jeff Cooper, White Salmon Resident

Not in favor of the annual vehicle licensing fee. Asked how we get compliance from those not registered in the city that live there.

Kate Bennett, White Salmon Resident

In favor of the annual vehicle license fee.

Mayor Keethler closed the Public Hearing at 7:06pm.

Marla Keethler, Mayor identified the results of the online poll sent out via the Voyent Alert System.

Jim Ransier, Council Member noted support for a fee between \$10 and \$20.

Patty Fink, Council Member noted that she has heard from residents that transportation is a priority for the community. Council Member Fink said she support both the and the annual vehicle licensing fee and the 0.1% sales tax.

Council Member Fink noted that those in the community who do not own cars would be unfairly taxed if the vehicle license fee was not implemented as well.

Jason Hartmann, Council Member noted that this is the first public hearing he recalls having community support. He believes that speaks to the need in the community.

Ben Giant, Council Member noted he is supportive of both fees. Council Member Giant noted that he would like to see the vehicle license fee start lower due to the impact it will have on residents.

David Lindley, Council Member noted that road need to be a priority. Council Member Lindley said he is comfortable with the sale tax. He would like to see the vehicle licensing fee lower to start out.

Moved by Ben Giant. Seconded by Patty Fink.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-02-1124 Imposing an Additional 0.1% Sales Tax for the Transportation Benefit District. CARRIED 5-0.

Moved by Jim Ransier. Seconded by Jason Hartmann.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-02-1125 Imposing an Additional Vehicle Licensing Fee for the Transportation Benefit District amending the annual fee amount to \$15. CARRIED 5-0.

C. Ordinance 2023-02-1126 Creating WSMC 3.24.125 Street Construction Fund

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer presented the ordinance related to creation of a designated fund for the Transportation Benefit District Funding. It was noted that this separate fund is required by state law.

Council Members agreed that the fund should be named “Transportation Improvement Fund”.

Moved by Patty Fink. Seconded by Jason Hartmann.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-02-1126 Creating WSMC 3.24.125 amending the fund name to Transportation Improvement Fund. CARRIED 5-0.

D. Transmission Main Replacement Project - Phase I 2022 Bid Results and Award

Stephanie Porter presented information for the results of the bids for the Transmission Main Replacement Project - Phase I 2022 project that were received and opened at City Hall on February 2, 2023. The City of White Salmon received seven bids total.

There were two bid options for the base bid: **Bid Option A** - installation of ductile iron (DI) pipe and **Bid Option B** - installation of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe.

The two lowest bids were: **Bid Option A** from North Cascade Excavating, LLC and **Bid Option B** from James Dean Construction

The lowest apparent bidder was North Cascade LLC with a bid approximately \$232,000 lower than the bid from James Dean Construction.

The apparent low bidder for all 3 additive alternates was North Cascade Excavating, LLC.

If the City were to award **Bid Option A** and any or all the Additive Alternates, then North Cascade Excavating LLC would be considered the apparent low bidder at \$3,607,259.26.

If the City were to award **Bid Option B**, and any or all of the Additive Alternates, then James Dean Construction would be considered the apparent low bidder at \$3,956,370.88.

Both bid prices are within the current construction budget of \$4.087 million. In addition to the construction budget, there is a contingency budget of \$760,400, which can be used to address changes to the project and other increased costs such as higher interim financing and construction administration costs.

Ken Woodrich, City attorney confirmed that for this project the city is required to go with the lowest responsible bidder.

Moved by Jim Ransier. Seconded by David Lindley.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to issue Notice of Award, after the Public Works Board Contract agreement is approved by all parties, for the Transmission Main Replacement Project Phase 1 for bid option A with additive alternates 1, 2 and 3 to North Cascade Excavating, LLC as the verified low bidder in the amount not to exceed \$3,607,259.26. CARRIED 5-0.

E. Ordinance 2023-02-1122 Amending WSMC 10.24 Stopping, Standing and Parking

Mike Hepner, police Chief reviewed the ordinance presented. He noted that it cleans up the code and makes it more enforceable by setting fines more specifically.

Moved by David Lindley. Seconded by Jim Ransier.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-02-1122 Amending WSMC 10.24 Stopping, Standing and Parking. CARRIED 5-0.

F. 2023 Budget Options - Second E/V Charging Station Presentation and Grant Writer Presentation

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer presented the council with funding option for a grant write, that would need to be majority funded by the current expense fund and the second E/V charging station that would be funded by the street fund.

The potential funding needed to contract a Grant Writer ranges between \$2,000 – 35,000 depending on the scope of work requested and size of the grant. The city does have assistance available through their membership with MCEDD.

The potential funding needed for a Second E/V charging station is \$9,559.92 upfront costs (including the \$492 for underground infrastructure) and \$ 950.00 annually for Operating and maintenance.

Council came to a consensus that staff should move forward with the funding for the 2nd E/V charging station contingent on the receipt of all pledged donations in the amount or \$8,600 no later than February 24, 2023.

Council came to a consensus to move \$1,000 from the Sweet Gum Tree Improvement line item in the street fund to cover the remaining fund needed for the E/V Charging station.

VII. Reports and Communications

A. Department Heads

Mike Hepner, Police Chief

Thanked Officer Gunnyon for his service to the City of White Salmon. He will be moving to Goldendale.

Chief Hepner noted that he will be down 2 officers in July due to approved leave. He has not identified a replacement for Officer Gunnyon as the candidate pool in Washington State is limited right now.

B. Council Members

David Lindley, Council Member

The Tree Board will have a booth at the Underwood Conservation District Annual TreeFest in Rheingarten Park on March 18, 2023.

Would like to locate the Tree Inventory that was completed and have it input into GIS when that is initiated.

Jim Ransier, Council Member

The movie “Elemental” was sold out, but will be having a second showing in May.

Patty Fink, Council Member

Community Clean up will be happening April 21, 2023. Potential for a Community Yard Sale the weekend before.

C. Mayor

Childcare has been added and identified as a need in our community in the Klickitat County Economic Development Plan.

ARC will be conducting the site visit for the Community Center Feasibility Study. They will be looking at 3 properties to identify their potential.

WSVPMPD is for \$3.7million in funding for the pool.

Administration is working to clarify with WSDOT whether the 141 paver is moving forward in 2024 and if so, will the city need to pave Jewett in 2023.

VIII. Executive Session

No executive session needed.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31p.m.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer