



**CITY OF WHITE SALMON**  
**City Council Regular Meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 2020**  
**Via Zoom Teleconference**

**Council and Administrative Personnel Present**

**Council Members:**

Jason Hartmann  
David Lindley  
Jim Ransier  
Joe Turkiewicz

**Staff Present:**

Marla Keethler, Mayor  
Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer  
Ken Woodrich, City Attorney  
Russ Avery, Operations Manager  
Mike Hepner, Police Chief  
Bill Hunsaker, Building Official/Fire Chief

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Marla Keethler, Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. There were approximately 2 people in the audience (by video or telephone). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Roll Call**

Moved by Jim Ransier, Seconded by Jason Hartmann.  
Motion to excuse Ashley Post. Motion carried 4-0.

**3. Public Comment**

There was no general public comment.

**4. Changes to Agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**5. Presentation – Native American Heritage Month**

Colin Fogarty, Executive Director with Confluence made a presentation regarding the work Confluence does in the area. He said they have worked with the White Salmon Valley School District on projects in the past.

Jason Hartmann noted that his kids have gone through Confluence and it was a great program that provided a different perspective.

Council members thanked Fogarty for his presentation.

**6. 2021 Proposed Budget**

Marla Keethler, Mayor reviewed the proposed 2021 budget narrative noting that a number of priorities are funded while some items have been put on hold until the 2020 budget is closed. She said a budget amendment in 2021 may add in additional items. Keethler said the budget narrative items the city's priorities and how they are funded.

Marla Keethler, Mayor opened the public hearing on the 2021 proposed budget.

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer read four written public comments from: Erin Cunningham, Dalton Hedin, Sasha Bentley, and Kallie Kurtz.

Marla Keethler, Mayor closed the public hearing.

Council members discussed the proposed budget. Council members said they appreciate the layout of the budget narrative. The council discussed the proposed consulting contract for social services within the police department. Mike Hepner, Police Chief noted that he has been talking with agencies who actually have a full-time counselor on staff. He said the idea is for the person to provide pre and post work with someone who is in crisis.

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer said a final public hearing on the proposed 2021 budget is scheduled for December 2.

**7. 2021 Property Tax Levy, Resolution 2020-11-510 and Ordinance 2020-11-1067**

Jan Brending said by state law the city is required to adopt both a resolution and ordinance setting the 2021 property tax levy. She said the documents provide for a 1% increase in the property tax levy, as allowed by law.

*Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Jim Ransier.*

*Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-11-1067, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes to be Levied for the Year 2021. CARRIED 4-0.*

*Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by David Lindley.*

*Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-11-510, 2021 Property Tax Levy. CARRIED 4-0.*

**8. Ordinance 2020-11-1068, Amending WSMC 17.78, Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Facilities**

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer review the proposed amendments to WSMC 17.78, Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Facilities. She noted that the need for the amendments came about when a proposal for locating a telecommunications tower on city owner property on Strawberry Mountain came before the city council. Brending said the proposal has since been withdrawn. She said staff presented proposed amendments to the City Operations Committee who then forwarded them to the Planning Commission (WSMC 17.78 is part of the city's zoning code). Brending said the Planning Commission held a workshop on September 23, 2020 to consider the amendments and added additional amendments. She said a public hearing regarding the proposed amendments was held on October 28, 2020. Brending said the City Council has been provided with the meeting minutes of the public hearing, all public comments, and Planning Commissioner Michael Morneault's comments. She said the Planning Commission is recommending adoption of the proposed amendments.

David Lindley suggested that "planning director" be changed to "planning department."

**Moved by Jim Ransier to adopt Ordinance 2020-11-1068, Amending WSMC 17.78, Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Facilities changing “planning director” to “planning department.” CARRIED 4-0.**

- 9. **Acceptance of Water Line Easement Dedication, West Klickitat Community Housing**  
Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer said West Klickitat Community Housing is providing a water line easement through Rhine Village to provide a loop that will provide Skyline Hospital an alternative source of water if a water line needs to be shut down.

**Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by David Lindley.  
Motion to accept water line easement from West Klickitat Community Housing. CARRIED 4-0.**

- 10. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 4, 2020
  - b. Public safety Testing Subscriber Agreement
  - c. 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

Type	Date	From	To	Amount
Claims	11/18/2020	EFT	EFT	15,315.33
	11/18/2020	36577	36623	68,717.34
			<b>Claims Total</b>	<b>84,032.67</b>
Payroll	11/20/2020	EFT	EFT	68,455.72
			<b>Payroll Total</b>	<b>68,455.72</b>
Manual Claims				
			<b>Manual Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>
			<b>Total All Vouchers</b>	<b>152,488.39</b>

**Moved by Jim Ransier Seconded by Jason Hartmann.  
Motion to approve consent agenda. CARRIED 4-0.**

- 11. **Department Head and Council Member Reports**  
**Mike Hepner, Police Chief** said Josh Lewis will graduate next week from the academy. He said he will be training with himself and several other officers for the next three months. Hepner said that all of officers work by themselves and that the department cannot work with any less

officers. He said the officers are committed to the community and go above and beyond. Hepner said he is excited about contracting for a social services provider.

**Bill Hunsaker, Building Official/Fire Chief**

Bill Hunsaker, Building Official/Fire Chief said he attended a Tree Board meeting with a representative from Washington Department of Natural Resources. He said a presentation will be made to the city council regarding conducting a fire fuel break in Gaddis Park. Hunsaker said he is working on some code enforcement. He said if council members have any concerns regarding code enforcement to contact him.

**Russ Avery, Public Works Operations Manager**

Russ Avery, Public Works Operations Manager said Crestline has finished the work on Wauna and is working on the line at Rhine Village. He said public works staff is back to staggered shifts due to COVID19 and working on essential items including street sweeping.

**Marla Keethler, Mayor** said the county is seeing an increase in cases. She said it is important to be the example, be smart and mindful to limit interactions. Keethler said Jim Ransier and Jason Hartmann helped review the Business and Nonprofit Grant applications. She said everyone who applied is receiving funding. Keethler said this year's tree lighting will be virtual. Keethler said a meeting was held with Senator King regarding the Hood River Bridge project and that it went well. She said Russ Avery and Jan Brending will be working to get speed limit signs updated in the city based on the ordinance recently adopted. Keethler thanked staff and community members for getting the holiday decorations installed.

**David Lindley, Council Member** said he feels the Tree Board was support of the fire fuel break project. He said the Tree Board has been working on amendments to the tree ordinance that will be coming before the city council. Lindley also thanked everyone involved in getting the holiday decorations installed.

**Joe Turkiewicz, Council Member** said the Community Development Committee has been working on a climate change resolution and a housing rental policy that will be coming back to the city council. Joe Turkiewicz and Jim Ransier thanked Marla Keethler for providing information regarding advisory committees.

**Jason Hartmann, Council Member** said the Personnel and Finance Committee met to review budget reports and the proposed budget. He said the City Operations Committee meet and discussed how to move forward with moving the Loop Trail to unused Washington Department of Transportation right-of-way. Hartmann said the committee also discussed how to move forward with composting and some issue with recycling and that the next step is to schedule a meeting with Republic.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned 7:35 p.m.



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Marla Keethler, Mayor



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Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer