



CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting – Wednesday, May 5, 2021
Via Zoom Teleconference

Council and Administrative Personnel Present

Council Members:

Jason Hartmann
 David Lindley
 Ashley Post
 Jim Ransier
 Joe Turkiewicz

Staff Present:

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

I. Call to Order, Presentation of the Flag and Roll Call

Marla Keethler, Mayor called the meeting order at 6:00 p.m.

All council members were present.

There were approximately 5 members of the public in attendance.

II. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Personal Services Contract, Community Connection Consulting – Race, BIAS & Dissonance Workshop (\$12,200)**
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2021**
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2021**
- d. 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 5th day of May, 2021.

Type	Date	From	To	Amount
Claims	5/5/2021	EFT	EFT	3,865.80
	5/5/2021	37042	37084	310,732.25
			Claims Total	314,598.05
Payroll	5/5/2021	EFT	EFT	104,848.91
	5/5/2021	37039	37041	994.42
			Payroll Total	105,843.33

Manual Claims	5/6/2021	EFT	EFT	1,773.65
			Manual Total	1,773.65
			Total All Vouchers	422,215.03

**Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Jim Ransier.
 Motion to approve consent agenda. CARRIED 5-0.**

IV. Public Comment

There was no general public comment.

V. Presentations

A. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Jim Ransier, Council Member said May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Ransier provided information to the City Council regarding Asian American hate crimes in Washington state and nationally.

The City Council watched two videos:

1. Constitutional Violations During the Japanese American Incarceration, PBS Learning Media – Asian Americans Collection
2. Women Advancing Equality, PBS Learning Media – Asian Americans Collection

VI. Business Items

A. Critical Area Heritage Tree Variance Request 2021-001, Andrew Chandler

Pat Munyan, City Administrator reviewed the request for a critical areas heritage tree variance submitted by Andrew Chandler for property located at 339 SE Oak Street. He said Chandler is requesting the removal 5 heritage trees and to be allowed to build within the tree protection buffer (setback).

Andrew Chandler thanked Pat Munyan and Erika Castro Guzman for their work on the application as he is facing a time constraint related to the purchase of the property. He said that originally he was seeking permission to remove 5 trees but based on the arborist’s report he would like to withdraw removal of tree #3 from his request. Chandler said that he has been searching for property in White Salmon for five years and was specifically looking for property with trees. He said it his intent to work closely with the arborist to ensure that trees are protected during construction. Chandler said he wants to nestle the homes within the trees using a semi-wild natural landscape.

Ashley Post, Council Member said it her understanding that tree #3, an oak, and tree 18 are not included in the request for removal.

Chandler said that is correct.

Ashley Post, Council Member asked if there are any concerns with the stability of the bluff.

Pat Munyan, City Administrator said the proposed removal of trees does not have any impact on the stability of the bluff bank.

Chandler clarified that the trees he is requesting to be removed are trees 1, 7, 8 and possibly 5.

Council members and the city attorney discussed the need to allow reasonable use of the property when implementing the city's codes. It was noted there is currently a house located two legal parcels with home straddling the property line. Andrew Chandler intends to remove the home and build two smaller homes on each of the legal lots (after lot segregation is completed with Klickitat County). Council members discussed if it was necessary to consider two applications for a variance versus one application. Council members noted that the application and fee collected should cover both parcels as it was not noted when the application was submitted that there might be a need for two applications.

Jason Hartmann, Council Member asked if a tree for each tree removed could be planted.

Chandler said that he would do that and will likely plant more trees.

Ashley Post, Council Member noted that in a previous heritage tree variance request the need to plant replacement trees was removed from the requirements.

Moved by Jason Hartmann. Seconded by Joe Turkiewicz.

Motion to critical areas heritage tree variance request submitted by Andrew Chandler allowing the removal of trees 1, 5, 7, and 8 and to allow construction within the tree buffer protection areas with the following conditions:

- 1. the nonconforming use/structure must be removed;***
- 2. lot segregation must be established through Klickitat County; and***
- 3. an arborist must establish and monitor a construction plan.***

CARRIED 5-0.

VII. Reports and Communications

A. Department Heads

Mike Hepner, Police Chief said the 2021 legislative session in Washington as been completed. He said there are a lot of new laws that will require him to work on policies and update how things work within he police department. Hepner said he would be glad

Ashley Post, Council Member said the Tree Board Committee will meet on Monday. She said she would like to discuss the replacement of park equipment in Rheingarten Park. Post asked where the city stands on the park plan update.

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer said the Request for Proposals for updating the park plan will be released next week.

Marla Keethler, Mayor noted that if the desire is to replace the park equipment that currently exists in Rheingarten Park then it could be addressed without waiting of the park plan update. She said that if it is the intent to revise the type of playground then it should be addressed in the park plan. Keethler said staff will follow up with Post about the necessity of updating the park plan.

Joe Turkiewicz, Council Member noted that the city's restaurants are struggling to find seasonal workers.

David Lindley, Council Member said he has been working on a draft tree ordinance that the Tree Board will be reviewing next week.

Jason Hartmann, Council Member noted that the City of Olympia's tree ordinance provides having a certain number of tree units per square foot of property.

C. Mayor

Marla Keethler, Mayor said a thank you letter is going out to Senator King for his work in helping to appropriate \$5 million to help keep the bridge project moving forward. Keethler said she made a presentation to the Washington Trade Board regarding the bridge project.

Keethler said businesses are experiencing problems in hiring seasonal workers as expressed by Joe Turkiewicz. She said there is also a problem with providing affordable housing for seasonal workers. Keethler said staff and administration have proposed to the planning commission that some land use designations be changed in the comprehensive plan update to address help provide more opportunities for diverse housing stock.

Keethler said AWC's 2021 conference will be held virtually and encouraged council members to attend if possible.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Marla Keethler, Mayor



Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer