

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warden called the Special Meeting of the Prosser City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Rainer, Elder, Everett, Taylor, Troemel, Hamilton, and Becken were present.

Also present were City Clerk Shaw, City Planner Zetz, Finance Director Mauras, and City Attorney Saxton.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Hamilton reported there has been a continued increase of semi-truck traffic on Paterson Avenue.

Council Member Taylor stated perhaps it was related to confusion with Global Positioning Satellite (GPS).

Council Member Troemel stated there was a spillage on the roadway on Bennett Avenue near Milne Fruit.

Additionally Council Member Troemel stated he recently read an article in the Tri-City Herald regarding a Council Candidate's statements about City Hall's lunch hour closure. Council Member Troemel reported he had previously brought up his concerns with City Hall being closed during the lunch hour to the former Interim City Administrator and expressed his sentiments at the time were disregarded.

Mayor Warden stated due to changes in staffing levels, Finance Director Mauras is looking into the possibility of whether or not City Hall can remain open during the lunch hour and will report back her findings.

Council Member Everett reported the Fire Board recently heard the results from the consultant hired to put together a strategic plan for the Fire District. The results will be coming forward at the September City Council Work Session for Council discussion. The three areas the Community Task Force identified and recommended the Fire Board address is Governance, Finance, and Administrative Operations. Benton County Fire District No. 3 Board would like to get a consensus from City Council as to the City's position on the District's Governance; particularly related to the District's consideration of annexation, Regional Fire Authority or

amending the current Interlocal Agreement. The Fire District expressed an interest in pursuing the option of annexation.

Mayor Warden stated he would like to further discuss this item later on in the agenda after the City Planner's presentation. Council concurred.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Sign Code Changes

Steve Zetz, City Planner explained at the February 14, 2012, City Council meeting, Council adopted Ordinance 12-2761 adopting a new Sign Code. Based on staff's interaction with business owners, citizens, and sign manufacturers, the Planning Department would like Council to consider making minor changes to the Sign Code. These changes will address concerns and complaints that have been brought forward as staff began implementing and enforcing the new Sign Code.

City Planner Zetz provided Council with a Site Review hand-out and discussed the differing procedures based on the permit applications. There was discussion regarding the types of applications and how the process is handled.

Council directed staff to draft the ordinance with the proposed changes and bring back at a future City Council meeting for consideration.

Fire District Governance Discussion Continued

Mayor Warden inquired as to the Council's preference of the Fire District's governance.

Council Member Taylor stated he was in favor of the Regional Fire Authority (RFA) because it best represents the people.

Council Member Everett stated the RFA is the best way to.

Council Member Elder said doing nothing was most appealing so there is no raise in taxes.

Council Member Rainer echoed Council Member Elder's concern with raising taxes however stated the RFA is the best route for better long term planning.

Council Member Troemel stated he would support whatever decision the Council appointed Fire Board representatives and Fire District made.

Council Member Hamilton stated he was in favor of annexation because it is the cleanest way to go, however he would support the RFA.

Council Member Becken stated he favored the RFA.

Mayor Warden said the City would proceed down the RFA route.

Council Member Rainer stated the Fire District will be holding a Special Fire Board meeting on August 19, 2013 to discuss this matter along with other topics.

Mayor Warden stated this item will come back for further discussion at the September City Council Work Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Becken removed Item "C" from the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Becken to approve Consent Agenda Items "A & B". Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT.

- a. Approve the June 25, 2013 Meeting Minutes
- b. Approve the July 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Council Member Becken stated the minutes for the July 9, 2013 meeting needed to be amended to state that Ben Franklin Council of Government (BFCOG) was cancelled not Ben Franklin Transit. A motion was made by Council Member Becken, seconded by Council Member Taylor to approve Item "C" as amended. Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT.

- c. Approve the July 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes

COUNCIL ACTION

RESOLUTION NO. 13-1427 APPROVING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE SWIM TEAM AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Becken to adopt Resolution No. 13-1427 approving the Second Amendment to the Prosser Swim Team Agreement. Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Special Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



Mayor Paul Warden

Attest:



City Clerk Rachel Shaw

