

**CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON**  
**601 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Warden called the Regular 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 Aubrey, Taylor, Hamilton, Everett, Becken, and Elder were present. Council Member Ward requested an excused absence.

Others in attendance were City Clerk Shaw, Finance Director Mauras, Police Chief Giles, Public Works Director DaCorsi and City Attorney Saxton.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

John Hultberg, 172604 W Dogwood, expressed his concern with the business registration process and stated he approached the City several years ago with a proposal to open a hot dog stand and was denied. Mr. Hultberg stated he did not agree with the City allowing a pot store in town but denied him of a business registration for a less offensive hot dog stand.

Peggy Brown, 1323 Grant Ave., stated she wanted to clarify whether or not the City Council ever voted on the recreational marijuana item.

Mayor Warden replied no, there had not been a vote and further stated Council discussed the item at the April 22, 2014 City Council meeting and advised of how the City arrived at the decision.

Mrs. Brown stated her displeasure with the City's position and referenced the Attorney General's opinion letter issued by the State which stated individual cities had the authority to ban marijuana from their communities.

Dan Denchel, 325 Merlot Drive, said he wanted to publically come before the Council to apologize for his comments at the June 24, 2014 City Council meeting that were made toward Council and asked for their forgiveness. He further stated he misunderstood that the City had voted on allowing recreational marijuana in the community, and has since been advised otherwise.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Council Member Elder provided a status update on the Regional Fire Authority (RFA) at the Fire Board.

Council Member Everett further stated that a joint resolution approving RFA and the ballot language would be coming forward for Council's consideration at the next City Council meeting.

Council Member Taylor said he felt that it was bad taste for a citizen to speak poorly of Mayor Warden by calling him an atheist out in the community and said his behavior was very unchristian like.

Public Works Director DaCorsi provided a handout to Council regarding a request to use 2014 budget funds for an equipment purchase. Mr. DaCorsi explained that during the 2014 budget discussions, Council authorized, by approval of the budget, the purchase of a Fox Sander for snow and ice control operations in the amount of \$15,000. The equipment ended up under budget at a quoted price of \$3,100, leaving approximately \$11,900. Staff requested Council approve the use of the remaining funds for the purchase of a conveyer unit that will assist the Public Works crews in road patching operations.

Council expressed their appreciation for the request and authorized the use of the funds as requested.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Becken to approve Consent Agenda Items "A – D". Motion passed 6 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Ward).

- a. Approve Payment of Payroll Checks Nos. 600075 through 600118 in the Amount of \$40,545.00 and Direct Deposits in the Amount of \$97,783.86, for the Period Ending June 30, 2014
- b. Approve Payment of Claim Checks Nos. 10836 through 10847, in the Amount of \$61,140.83 and Electronic Payments in the Amount of \$51,286.94, for the Period Ending June 30, 2014
- c. Approve Payment of Claim Checks Nos. 10849 through 10901, in the Amount of \$152,323.33 and Electronic Payments in the Amount of \$472.03, for the Period Ending July 8, 2014
- d. Approve the USDA Outlay Report and Draw Request No. 32 in an Amount of \$14,905.16, for Costs Associated with the Northwest Prosser Water and Sewer System Improvements Project (Contract Addendum No.2) and authorize the Mayor to Sign the Documents

## **COUNCIL ACTION**

### **APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIM CHECK NO. 10848 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,925.20, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 8, 2014**

Council Member Hamilton recused himself due to a conflict of interest. A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Elder to approve payment of claim check no. 10848 in the amount of \$59,925.20, for the period ending July 8, 2014. Motion passed 5 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Ward), 1 ABSENTION (Hamilton).

### **CONSIDERATION OF HUIBREGTSE, LOUMAN ASSOCIATES, INC., AS THE CITY OF PROSSER'S ENGINEER FOR FHWA FUNDED PROJECTS (STP-OLD INLAND EMPIRE HIGHWAY-PHASE 2 IMPROVEMENTS & TAP - 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET ADA SIDEWALK RAMP IMPROVEMENTS)**

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded Council Member Becken to approve Huihregtse, Louman Associates, Inc., as the City of Prosser's Engineer for FHWA funded projects (STP-Old Inland Empire Highway-Phase 2 Improvements & TAP - 7<sup>th</sup> Street ADA Sidewalk Ramp Improvements). Motion passed 6 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABSENT (Ward).

## **ADD ON ITEMS**

### ***Vacation Accrual Modification, Police Unit***

Mayor Warden provided Council a draft memo addressed to the Collective Bargaining Unit requesting the Union amend the vacation accrual portion of the contract as a letter of agreement.

Police Chief Giles explained by amending the contract, the department and staff will have the flexibility necessary to schedule vacation with reduced impact to officer safety and department budget.

There was discussion regarding the current practice and subsequent impacts to the department. Council authorized staff to submit the letter to the Union.

### ***USDA Grant Opportunity***

Mayor Warden provided Council a handout related to a grant opportunity the City had recently been made aware of that would fund the purchase of two police patrol vehicles and asked for Council's authorization to submit a grant application.

There was discussion regarding the City's portion of the contribution and the need for extra vehicles.

Chief Giles stated in the request to purchase vehicles would have been proposed during the 2015 Budget discussions however this grant opportunity is a larger savings that the City would otherwise not have been able to recognize.

Council directed staff to move forward with the grant process.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Attest:

  
City Clerk Rachel Shaw



  
Mayor Paul Warden