

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Norm Childress called the Committee-of-the-Whole special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present were: Mayor Childress and Councilmembers Gay Brewer, Mike Everett, Gloria Mendoza and Bill Moore.

Councilmember Joan Souders arrived at 6:05 p.m. Councilmember Javier Rodriguez arrived at 6:10 p.m.

Absent was: Councilmember Dennis McDonald.

**On motion by Councilmember Mendoza, second by Councilmember Everett, Council excused Councilmember McDonald from the meeting.**

Staff present were: City Administrator/Public Works Director Cus Arteaga, City Attorney Quinn Plant, City Treasurer Matt Cordray and City Clerk Anita Palacios.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Technical Assistance Contract No. 010118GV with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments**

City Clerk Palacios explained that each year, the City contracts with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) for technical assistance to include planning activities and grant applications on an as needed basis as requested by the City. YVCOG has the expertise and capability of assisting the City with planning activities and projects. The maximum amount of compensation and reimbursement to be paid by the City to YVCOG under this Technical Assistance Contract was \$5,000. When assistance was requested by the City, YVCOG would prepare a scope of work and cost estimate. YVCOG would invoice the City based upon actual expenses incurred. This amount was appropriated in the 2018 planning budget under professional services.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Everett, second by Councilmember Mendoza, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Technical Assistance Contract No. 010118GV with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments to a regular Council meeting for consideration.**

**B. Resolution amending Section 7.03 of the Grandview Personnel Policy Manual: Sick Leave, to eliminate the sick leave cap and provide a limitation on the number of sick leave hours that may be carried over each year**

City Clerk Palacios explained that in November 2016, Washington's voters approved Initiative 1443. The initiative increased the minimum wage and mandated that employees in Washington were entitled to paid sick leave. The initiative delineated the circumstances in which sick leave may be taken and the procedures by which an employer may verify that an employee's use of sick leave was proper. Implementing regulations were being developed and, when finalized, would be adopted at chapter 296-128 WAC. The requirements of Initiative 1443 went into effect on January 1, 2018. On December 12, 2017, Council approved Resolution No. 2017-51 amending Chapter 7 of the Personnel Policy Manual relating to sick leave to comply with Initiative 1443 (paid sick leave). The final rules adopted by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries implementing the requirements of Initiative 1443 clarified that employers could not impose a cap on the accrual of sick leave. However, an employer could implement a limitation on the number of sick leave hours that an employee could carry over from year to year. Staff presented a resolution amending Section 7.03 of the Grandview Personnel Policy Manual – Sick Leave to eliminate the sick leave cap and provide a limitation on the number of sick leave hours that may be carried over each year.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved a resolution amending Section 7.03 of the Grandview Personnel Policy Manual: Sick Leave, to eliminate the sick leave cap and provide a limitation on the number of sick leave hours that may be carried over each year to a regular Council meeting for consideration.**

**C. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board Relight Washington Grant Agreement S-E-183(002)-1 for the LED Streetlight Conversion**

City Administrator Arteaga explained that the City submitted a proposal to the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and the City was selected for the Relight Washington Grant Program in the amount of \$203,678. The program aims to reduce streetlight operating costs while saving energy and renewing dated infrastructure. The City would benefit from lower rates after installation. The project would convert existing street lights to energy efficient LED street lights. In order to receive reimbursement for streetlight conversion, the City would need to enter into a Relight Washington Grant Agreement with TIB. The grant award would fund conversion of City-wide street lights. The grant was 100% with no match requirement.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Mendoza, second by Councilmember Moore, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board Relight Washington Grant Agreement S-E-183(002)-1 for the LED Streetlight Conversion.**

**D. Economic Development Presentation Follow-up**

City Administrator Arteaga explained that at the December 12, 2017 C.O.W. meeting, he presented an introductory presentation regarding economic development. At that meeting, the following questions and/or comments were made during the presentation:

- A comparison between the City of Sunnyside and the City of Grandview was made. For example, the City of Sunnyside's City Manager attends a national commercial trade show in Las Vegas each year.
- Council was cautioned about using City funds for private benefit and how it could violate the public gifting laws.
- A comment was made as to how the City Administrator was accounting for the \$20,000 budget appropriation in the 2018 economic development budget.
- Following the presentation, the City Administrator asked for written questions from Council by the first of January so he could address all concerns in a follow-up presentation. As of today, he had not received any follow-up requests from any of the Councilmembers.

He advised that staff would continue the existing economic development practices to include:

- Improving the City's appearance such as street sweeping, maintaining city entrances and improving the downtown business core.
- Improving the partnerships with the Grandview Chamber of Commerce, Port of Grandview and Grandview School District.
- Working with the industrial and commercial businesses and helping them expand with the goal of creating new jobs.
- Working with neighboring cities and local regulatory agencies.

In addition, a private business group known as the Lower Valley Business Network Group had been started and City staff were asked to be part of the group as they move forward with looking for ways to add and/or improve commercial business opportunities.

Discussion took place which generated the following items for staff to research:

- Cost of an electronic reader board to be constructed on the east entrance.
- Cost to attend the RECon Global Retail Real Estate Convention in Las Vegas.
- Creation of a public corporation/commission/authority for economic development activities.

**On motion by Councilmember Souders, second by Councilmember Rodriguez, the C.O.W. directed staff to prepare a budget amendment for the City's attendance at the RECon Global Retail Real Estate Convention.**

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Yakima County Development Association**

Mayor Childress reported that he attended the Yakima County Development Association (YCDA) Board meeting on January 18, 2018. He noted that YCDA's "2017 Accomplishments" included the successful recruitment of Henningsen Cold Storage in Grandview.

**B. Department Director Staffing Requests**

City Administrator Arteaga requested direction regarding the 2018 budget appropriation requests for additional staffing for the Police, Fire and Library. Following discussion, the C.O.W. agreed to have the three departments present their additional staffing requests. The Police Department would be scheduled for the February 27<sup>th</sup> C.O.W. meeting

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The C.O.W. meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Mayor Norm Childress

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Anita Palacios, City Clerk