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Present: Mayor Maldonado, Councilmembers Levine, McMillan, Hill, and Weddle.

Staff: Pilkinton, Seydlitz, Johnson, and Danison.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance was given by all.

Roll Call was taken.

Public Comment:

- Dave Kester stated that he learned more about the Perfect Passage from the men doing the boring on Whitcomb than any Council member.

Motion to approve the agenda. M/Levine, S/McMillan. Carried 4:0.

Public Hearing: Mayor Maldonado opened the hearing at 6:07 pm. This meeting has been advertised as a Public Hearing to give the Community an opportunity to learn more about the project, preferred alternatives and any potential impacts, including impacts to existing utility rates. The Mayor introduced Nathan Hutchens from Varela and Associates. Nathan read the SERP/ Environmental Justice Public Meeting Requirements.

- Purpose of the US 97 / Whitcomb Ave Downtown Redevelopment Project (aka "Perfect Passage")
 - Flooding of existing buildings due to inadequate storm water facilities
 - Inadequate/inconsistent sidewalks and curb/gutter including ADA non-compliance and insufficient curb reveal.
 - Comprehensive public/private utility issues and upgrade needs (e.g. overhead power/poles, communications, conduits, lighting, water, sewer, etc.)
- Technical Issues
 - Transportation improvements alternatives were identified in the 2019 Redevelopment Master Plan. The City performed various public outreach programs throughout the 2019 Redevelopment Master Plan process.
 - Stormwater improvements alternatives consist of treatment alternatives previously identified in the City's 2021 Stormwater Plan in this SWP and included the following:
 - 1) Stormwater Improvement Alternative #1: Do nothing (includes no action on conveyance)
 - Least short-term cost, high maintenance and risk cost, possible action by ECY for discharges, possible liability by city for flooding
 - 2) Stormwater Improvement Alternative #2: Bio-infiltration swales
 - Lack of available land in area of the system and stormwater collection, cost of land, cost of construction, cost of maintenance, life cycle, could be used in localized areas
 - 3) Stormwater Improvement Alternative #3: Stormwater filters with media
 - Cost
 - 4) Stormwater Improvement Alternative #4: Hydrodynamic Separators (chosen alternative)
 - This is the selected alternative.
 - Swirl concentration and continuous separation, most cost effective
 - No land acquisition is required for the chosen utility or transportation improvement alternatives.
- Environmental Issues
 - Potential environmental impacts of the project include:
 - The city does not currently provide stormwater treatment. Improvement alternatives propose to retrofit stormwater treatment to improve the quality of water exiting the system.
 - The existing city stormwater system is almost entirely contained in existing rights-of-way and roads as will the improvement alternatives. Construction outside of rights-of-way and disturbance of natural areas is not expected.
 - The Project replaces existing water and wastewater utilities which are old and at the end of their useful life. The project will replace the old portion of the water / sewer mains in disturbed areas.
 - Transportation improvements includes installing new ADA ramps, curb extensions, and overhead pedestrian lighting.
 - The City is also in the process of completing NEPA and Section 106 review requirements for the project.
- Financial Issues
 - Implementation of the US 97 / Whitcomb Ave Downtown Redevelopment Project will result in rate impacts to City residents.
 - In order to mitigate and reduce the impact to the ratepayer the City has secured \$4,450,240 in grant funding and \$202,800 in low-interest state loans in order to reduce impacts on ratepayers. An additional funding application for \$808,400 is also in progress.
 - Implementation of the improvements are expected to result in:

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- business development through Tonasket's downtown core,
- sediment reduction entering area waterways,
- reduction or elimination of chronic flooding along Whitcomb Ave,
- increasing pedestrian safety, aesthetical upgrades of the downtown core, and
- maintaining reliable water, sewer, and stormwater services to the City residents.
- Potential social and economic impacts of the alternatives
 - Social impacts - Mobility and travel impacts during construction, otherwise invisible to the public.
- Discussion of the ratepayer (impacts of the project to rates)
 - The City has secured \$4,450,240 in grant funding and \$202,800 in low-interest state loans in order to reduce impacts on ratepayers.

Nathan turned the meeting back over to the Mayor for public comments and questions.

- Joanne Dagnon: How much will the project cost in total? How will it impact low-income residents?
- Councilmember Levine: The City has been collecting a fee for two years to help with the storm water part of the project.
- Councilmember Weddle: Approximately \$9.6 million but things are constantly changing.
- PUD Commissioner Jerry Asmussen: The PUD is out about two years on poles so make sure the City is in their que. Underground lines seem to have a shorter life expectancy.
- Planner Danison: Tonasket has one of the highest low to moderate income residences. It works good and bad because we will get more in grants and low interest loans, but it will have some impact on rates.
- George Hill: Underground lines take longer to fix and make a mess when digging into the roads.
- Kurt Holland: The underground lines will be for pedestrian lighting and PUD cross.
- Jinnie Bartholmew: Has the project gone out for bid yet? What are the start and end dates for the project?
- Councilmember Weddle: No, it hasn't gone out for bid yet. They are hoping to have phase one done by October.
- Ed Koonce: How old are the numbers that are being given?
- Kurt Holland: Council gets monthly updates, so the numbers are up to date. Everything is public knowledge. The project is 95% grant funded.
- Ed Koonce: Can the Perfect Passage updates be put on the website?
- Greg Gardinier: The updates can be put in a shared folder.
- Dave Kester: Would like to see a revenue/ expenditure report for the project.
- George Hill: Bulb outs are a nightmare to plow around.
- Kurt Holland: Bulb outs are for pedestrian safety and that is #1 since Tonasket has had pedestrian vs car accidents. They also can help with excess snow.
- Dave Kester: Business owners were told by the city to remove snow from sidewalks.
- Mayor Maldonado: Snow blower purchased.
- Ed Koonce: Asked about angle parking.
- Councilmember Weddle: Parking stays the same.
- Jinnie Bartholomew: Asked about plants on bulb-outs.
- Councilmember McMillan: Thought that the planters were out of the picture?
- Councilmember Levine: There have been multiple views and inputs about the planters and trees.
- Joanne Dagnon: Things just go round in these meetings, need to not keep making changes.
- Dave Kester: Budget for tree maintenance?
- Jinnie Bartholomew: Who makes the final decisions?
- Mayor Maldonado: The Council, Street Committee and Public Works will make the final vote and decision.

Kurt Danison Report

- Happy to be here to listen to the hearing. It is a long frustrating process, but people need to respect the officials they voted into Council.
- Was on vacation and then sick in February so not a lot got done.
- Planning Commission will have a public hearing on the Shoreline Master Plan in April. The deadline is June.
- Council needs to adopt the Floodplain Code so a public hearing should be scheduled for the first meeting in April.
- Sat in on the interviews for Economic Alliance.

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Public Comment:

- Dave Kester stated that he doesn't think that the kiosk is going to get many people stopping at it when they are flying through town.

Unfinished Business:

Motion to dissolve the Tonasket Municipal Court and contract with Okanogan County District Court for court services. M/Levine, S/McMillan. Discussion. Levine rescinded her motion.

Motion to keep the Tonasket Municipal Court. M/McMillan, S/Hill. Carried 4:0.

Gardinier Tech- Greg Gardinier gave an overview of what he does and supplies for his contract with the City.

Motion to approve continuing with the Gardinier Tech contract in the amount of \$20,100.00. M/Weddle, S/McMillan. Carried 4:0.

Interlocal Agreement with Okanogan County Tourism Council- Moved to March 28th meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Johnson

- Working on equipment.
- Cleaning parks.
- Working with the guys doing the boring.
- The pile at the Airport needs to dry up before they can clean it up.
- Building doors are being installed.

Attwood

- Not present.

Sheriff Budrow

- Not present.

Mayor/ Council/ Committee Reports:

Levine

- Went to the OCOG meeting last night, Brent Timm stated that TranGo is getting three new buses and they have a new service from Okanogan to Wenatchee.
- Talked to Josh Thompson and he said the County Shop starts construction on Friday.
- Thank you for taking down the COVID signs at the parks.

McMillan

- Talked to Jim Wiley about City Hall front doors. He looked at them and gave a verbal estimate of \$55,000.00 to replace them. He will be talking to another contractor he knows for a more specific quote. The City will receive a written quote for Slider doors also.

Hill

- Comancheros dinner Saturday @ The Eagles.
- Chamber meeting March 28th at Bean Addiction.
- Inquired about the cemetery property.

Weddle

- Perfect Passage public forum set for March 23 at 6:00 pm.
- Working on communication with the public; FaceBook, website, TextMyGov, openline.
- Learning about the origins of Tonasket with a local native, going to Penticton to the Enowkin Center.

New Business: None.

Miscellaneous and Correspondence:

- Request for statements of qualifications from consulting firms handout.
- Retreat reminder for March 25, 2023 at 9 am at City Hall.
- OPMA training with TranGo.
- TextMyGov flyer and short explanation from Utility Clerk Seydlitz.

Motion to approve the consent Agenda: the minutes of the previous meeting, the February Payroll \$50,663.15 (12140-12155 & Direct deposit 2-28-2023) and March Bills \$198,949.13 (12137-38, 12139,12157-12194 & EFT 1-2). M/McMillan, S/Hill. Carried 4:0.

There being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Joël Pilkinton, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

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