

**CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the City Council  
Tuesday, February 22, 2022**

**1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Worthington called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken by the City Clerk as follows:

Councilmember Keel	Present
Councilmember Wood	Present
Councilmember McCluskey	Present
Councilmember Flemming	Present
Councilmember Belleci	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa	Present
Mayor Worthington	Present

Staff Present: City Manager Sugg, City Attorney Kaser, Executive Director/ACM Faison, Engineering and Capital Projects Director Ecklund, NPDES Coordinator Smith, Public Works, Parks & Facilities Director Cooper and City Clerk Genetia.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Keel led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** By Mayor Worthington, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, to pull Item 6C on the Consent Agenda for continuation to the March 7, 2022 agenda.

**The motion carried.**

**MOTION:** By Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Belleci, to approve the amended agenda.

**The motion carried.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – The following individuals provided comments: Carl Palmer and Steve Thorndill

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** By Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Belleci, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A.** Approve the minutes of the January 22, 2022 and February 7, 2022 Council meetings as submitted.
- B.** Receive and File: Claims dated 01/21/22, 01/24/22, 01/31/22 and 02/04/22.
- C.** Approve the Professional Service Agreement with EMC Research for community public safety survey.  
**(PULLED-TABLED FOR THE 03/07/22 MEETING)**

**The motion carried.**

## **7. CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL COMMENTS/REPORTS**

City Manager Sugg reported that the City has hired a firm to determine the City's pavement condition and will begin its inspection of all 88 miles of streets starting next week. Director Cooper provided an update on the Homestead Park project, saying that the project is on track to go out to bid in mid-April. He also updated Council on the selection process for the gateway art part of the project and the plan for the artist presentation.

Councilmember Wood thanked Director Cooper for all the work he has done for the City of University Place. He also shared his insight on SB-5919 and SB-5841 and encouraged his colleagues' support of those bills.

Councilmember McCluskey commended Director Cooper's many years of service and contributions to the City.

Councilmember Flemming gave a shout-out to Director Cooper and the Public Works crew for doing a stellar and impressive job of maintaining and repairing City roads.

Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa reported that he attended the Pierce County Regional Council meeting where he was appointed to serve as an alternate to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Board and was also appointed to serve as a member of PSRC's Economic Development District Board.

Councilmember Belleci shared a letter she received from the Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board congratulating the City for winning the 2021 EDB Excellent 10 Award. She congratulated Council and City staff for winning the award.

Mayor Worthington shared information he gathered from the Cities and Towns meeting he attended; he also shared various position opportunities for Council or members of the community to help in regional boards and commissions – Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Board of Directors and AWC Benefits Board.

## **STUDY SESSION**

### **8. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Engineering and Capital Projects Director Ecklund, along with NPDES Coordinator Smith, presented the annual updates to the City's Stormwater Management Program (SWMP). As a condition of the City's NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit, the City is required to develop, implement, and annually update its Stormwater Management Program. The program lists the components that are required to be addressed and identifies the stormwater related actions and activities that need to be conducted by the City to meet its requirements under the NPDES Municipal Stormwater permit. The changes in this year's update are minor and consist of updating the dates of public comment period and Council meetings; removing references to 2021 milestones and deadlines that have already been completed; and including additional information to Section 1 (Stormwater Planning) regarding the current Stormwater Comprehensive Storm Plan update.

Director Ecklund stated that the proposed update to this program has been posted on the City's website since February 16. The public comment period for the program update will run through March 7, 2022. The proposed update has been reviewed and is in conformance with the City's obligations under its NPDES permit. Its adoption helps the City ensure continued compliance with the Department of Ecology's requirements.

Input was provided with regards to educational outreach and educational topics for 2022.

### **9. ARPA EXPENDITURES RESOLUTION**

City Attorney Kaser provided an overview on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. He went over ARPA's regulatory context; timelines (Treasury Department's release of interim and final rules as guidance regarding the use of ARPA funds, first and final distribution of funds, and deadlines to obligate and expend ARPA funds); the four main uses of the ARPA funds; federal prohibitions under the ARPA rules; and State

Constitutional limitations. He discussed two of the allowed uses of ARPA funds: (1) expenditure of lost revenue on governmental services and (2) sewer infrastructure. He reminded Council that the City received approximately \$9.5 million in ARPA distribution and indicated staff's recommendation to make the \$10 million standard deduction for revenue loss. As sewers has been the primary area that Council has talked about in terms of ARPA expenditure, Attorney Kaser explained the definition of allowable sewer investments and provision of government services under the ARPA rules.

Executive Director/ACM Faison provided the following recommendation for ARPA expenditures as expressed in the proposed resolution to be forwarded to Council for consideration at its March 7 meeting:

Sewers	\$6,500,000
IT Expenses	\$ 495,000
Police Contract	\$1,805,852
Reserved for Future Use	\$ 700,000
Total:	\$9,500,582

Discussion ensued with regards to the allocation of \$1.8M funds for public safety services; interest for the City to find ways/go through potential federal funding/grant resources (BIL funding) to craft a tapestry of funds to benefit the needs of the City; there was support in the consideration of hiring a temporary grant writer to go through the various funding programs/opportunities; reporting to Council any adjustments made to the proposed ARPA expenditures; obligation date and spend by date of ARPA funds; the need to find a way for side sewers to make it more affordable to residents/businesses to connect; and also the need to become familiar with local government funding programs, in part by linking-up/engaging with congressional and senatorial delegations.

There was consensus to moving the proposed resolution forward for consideration.

**10. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. No other action was taken.

Submitted by,

Emy Genetia