



**MINUTES
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL**

February 6, 2024

City Hall -- Council Chambers - 129 N 2nd Street, Yakima, WA

**4:30 Executive Session; 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting conducted in person and virtually via
Zoom**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Executive Session regarding collective bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to adjourn to Executive Session for one hour to discuss collective bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Present for Executive Session: Mayor Byers, Assistant Mayor Brown, and Councilmembers Berg (present at 4:40 p.m.), Deccio, Glenn (attending remotely), Herrera, and Roy.

Executive Session was held at 4:32 p.m. and adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

1. **Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Patricia Byers presiding; Assistant Mayor Matt Brown and Councilmembers Reedy Berg, Janice Deccio, Rick Glenn (attending remotely via Zoom), Danny Herrera and Leo Roy

Staff: Interim City Manager Dave Zabell, City Attorney Sara Watkins and Acting City Clerk Brandy Bradford

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Byers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Interpreter Services**

Mayor Byers introduced Jorge Villaseñor who announced interpreter services are available in Spanish.

4. **Public Comment**

David Macias, resident, AFSCME Local 1122 President and City Wastewater Division employee; Tim Sears, City Equipment Rental Division employee; Brian Dean, City of Yakima Corrections Officer; and Nathan Wallace, Transit Division employee, spoke regarding longevity, pay and benefit disparities amongst AFSCME represented City employees, working conditions, competitive wages, the City's inability to retain City employees, staff burnout and risk, and the impact to community event services such as the shuttle service cancellation for the Luminaria event.

John Cooper, President and CEO of Yakima Valley Tourism, presented the Yakima Valley Tourism 2023 Annual Report highlights.

Mark Petersen, non-resident, spoke on recently reported City personnel issues and asked Council to do a thorough review on City Manager candidates.

Corie Ratliff, resident and downtown business owner, showed appreciation to the City Council for the recent study session on downtown parking and expressed her view of positive changes with this new Council.

5. Open Discussion for the Good of the Order

A. Proclamations

i. Black History Month proclamation

Councilmember Herrera proclaimed the month of February 2024 as "Black History Month" and Reesha Cosby accepted the proclamation.

ii. Draft Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day proclamation

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to approve the proclamation. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. Council Reports

A. Upcoming Chamber State of the City event

Councilmembers Brown, Glenn, and Byers confirmed their availability to attend the Yakima Chamber of Commerce State of the City event on March 14, 2024.

B. Discussion on City Manager job description

Councilmembers reviewed a draft job description for the City Manager position and shared feedback regarding alternative qualifications for real world experience. After discussion, Council provided additional direction and requested salary comparisons.

C. Resolution extending the moratorium regarding parking violations within the downtown area of the City of Yakima

City Attorney Sara Watkins briefed the Council on the proposed resolution extending the downtown parking enforcement moratorium.

The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

MOTION: Brown moved and Herrera seconded to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-024, A RESOLUTION extending the moratorium regarding parking violations within the downtown area of the City of Yakima.

7. Consent Agenda

Mayor Byers referred to the items placed on the Consent Agenda, questioning whether there were any additions or deletions from Council members present. There were no changes. The City Clerk read the Consent Agenda items, including resolutions and ordinances, by title.

(Items on the Consent Agenda are handled under one motion without further discussion—see motion directly below.)

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

- A. Approval of minutes from the January 16, 2024 City Council regular meeting, January 22, 2024 special meeting and January 23, 2024 study session
- B. Project Completion and Contract Acceptance with Leslie & Campbell Inc for the Yakima Convention & Event Center Roof Replacement Project 2755
- C. Project Completion and Contract Acceptance with Central Washington Asphalt Inc for the Summitview Avenue Project 2566
- D. Resolution ratifying the declaration of an emergency and authorizing Professional Services Agreement with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. for the S. 2nd Avenue Waterline Project

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-025, A RESOLUTION ratifying the declaration of an emergency and authorizing Professional Services Agreement with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc.

- E. Resolution authorizing a contract agreement with Andrew Kottkamp for Hearing Examiner Pro Tem services

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-026, A RESOLUTION authorizing a contract agreement with Andrew Kottkamp for Hearing Examiner Pro Tem services.

- F. Resolution accepting an Agreement with KPG Psomas for Division & 3rd Ave Signal Installation Project 2598

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-027, A RESOLUTION authorizing agreement with KPG Psomas for the S 3rd Ave & Division St. Signalization Project 2598.

DEPARTMENT ITEMS

- 8. 2023 Vacant Building Safety Project 4th Quarter Report

Code Administration Manager Glenn Denman reported on the 2023 4th Quarter Vacant Building Safety Project implementation efforts. After discussion,

MOTION: Glenn moved and Brown seconded to add to a future study session, review of the City Code enforcement rules and language clarifications. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 9. Resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Annie Murphey Consulting LLC to serve as the domestic violence high risk team coordinator

Lieutenant Chad Janis briefed Council on the proposed resolution to hire a domestic violence high risk team coordinator.

The City Clerk read the resolution by title.

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-028, A RESOLUTION authorizing a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Yakima and Annie Murphey Consulting LLC to serve as the Domestic Violence High Risk Team Coordinator.

10. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission for funding a Law Enforcement Liaison

Captain Shawn Boyle briefed Council on the proposed resolution accepting funds from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission to assist in promoting the Target Zero program.

The City Clerk read the resolution by title.

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to adopt the resolution. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-029, A RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager of the City of Yakima to execute an Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Yakima and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission for funding a Law Enforcement Liaison.

11. Ordinance amending the City of Yakima Municipal Code Section 6.08.015 by adopting Revised Code of Washington 69.50.475, relating to penalties for sales of cannabis by cannabis retail outlets to persons under twenty-one years of age

Senior Assistant City Attorney Jeffrey Schaap briefed Council on the proposed ordinance.

The City Clerk read the ordinance by title.

MOTION: Deccio moved and Herrera seconded to pass the ordinance. The motion carried by a 6-1 roll call vote; Glenn voting no.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-002, AN ORDINANCE amending the City of Yakima Municipal Code Section 6.08.015 by adopting Revised Code of Washington 69.50.475, relating to penalties for sales of cannabis by cannabis retail outlets to persons under twenty-one years of age.

12. **Other Business**

MOTION: Brown moved and Berg seconded to add to a future study session the topic of zero based budgeting and zero based budgeting policy. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Interim City Manager Zabell spoke in response to public comments made regarding recent specific City employees, and stated that information may not always be accurate; commended staff with a professional presentation following difficult comments made during public comment. Mr. Zabell assured Council the City will act on what is known as personnel matters progress.

13. **Adjournment**

MOTION: Brown moved and Deccio seconded to adjourn to the next Council study session on February 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

