



City Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 21, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.  
Fire Department Training Room - 200 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois

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**Call to Order** Mayor Gary W. Manier called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with a quorum present.

**Roll Call** *Present:* Alderpersons Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
*Absent:* Alderperson McIntyre

**Also Present** Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, City Engineer Dennis Carr, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Police Chief Mike McCoy, City Treasurer Carol Crocker, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Attorney Derek Schryer and Press

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**Pledge of Allegiance** All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Manier.

**Audience Comments** Resident Jeff Labuz would like council to look at an ordinance for electric bikes and scooters. He expressed concerns for speed and fears an accident. Residents from Zinser Place shared that large trucks are driving through their yard. They have talked to the police. She wonders what she can put on the corner to keep semis off the corner. Mayor Manier offered to have Public Works look into the matter. They gave photos to Chief McCoy.

**Agenda** Nothing added or deleted at this time.

**Deletions/Additions**

**Consent Agenda** Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:

- A. Approve Minutes of the October 7, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting
- B. Health Insurance Renewal - Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative (IPBC)
- C. Payment Authorization for Nofsinger Realignment Pay Request #2
- D. Payment Authorization for WTP1 Chlorination Upgrade Pay Request #1
- E. Approve Bills & Payroll
- F. Approve Write-off of Uncollectible Accounts
- G. Approve Washington Commercial Building and Property Improvement Grant Program Pay Request - Brooks Accounting & Tax Service, Inc., 2165 Washington Rd
- H. Approval of TIF Subsidy Request - Washington Historical Society, 128 Washington Square
- I. Purchase Authorization - Road Salt
- J. Payment Authorization for 2024 UCM - Chip Seal and Fog Coat Pay Request

Alderperson Adams motioned to accept; Alderperson Brownfield seconded.

Alderperson Stevens asked for a breakdown of Item C. Alderperson Blundy asked about a refund check register. Finance Director Baxter shared that they are net water refunds when people move out. Ms. Baxter explained that the former city administrator's name appears in the register because he was a former customer. Alderperson Blundy shared that Mr. Snider's separation agreement goes until February 2025. Alderperson Blundy feels he should reside within the city until the end of his contract, based on language in the ordinance regarding city administrators. Attorney Schryer noted that the agreement did not require Mr. Snider to remain a citizen and council could direct the attorneys to look further into it. He also noted that council approved Mr. Snider's leave of absence. Attorney Schryer acknowledged Mr. Blundy's concern for a code violation and asked if other council members were concerned to which Alderperson Stevens feels this is a legal opinion, not a topic of discussion. Alderperson Blundy also requested a legal opinion.

7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

**City Administrator Communication** Alderperson Blundy asked what a final walkthrough of Trails Edge 9 and 10 means. Engineer Carr shared that when a contractor feels they are done with the road, staff walks it with them to see if any issues need to be addressed. He noted that they found items to be fixed before we will take over care of the road. Alderperson Blundy asked about Marlene Miller's property and Mr. Oliphant shared that we will enforce the International Building Code. Alderperson Blundy asked what happens when a resident makes a request for street sweeping and Mr. Rittenhouse explained that if it is not an emergency, it will be grouped with other items in that area and residents are not contacted when street sweeping projects are completed.

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*Phase 2B Trunkline Engineering Agreement* City Engineer Carr explained that this was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting and Strand will evaluate the proposed project compromise that incorporates adjacent properties. Strand suggested an agreement for \$15,700. Staff recommends approval. Alderperson Adams motioned to accept; Alderperson Smith seconded. Alderperson Blundy asked about the expenses incurred that will be billed at actual cost. Engineer Carr shared that this is standard in agreements and noted that since we are far away, they will have to pay their employee for all time and expenses to travel to us.  
7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Resolution:** City Engineer Carr presented the following resolution for consideration:  
*R-1420 (20-24) Resolution Approving S. Elm Street Ingress/Egress Easement Execution*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this resolution would allow for the formal acceptance of an ingress-egress easement that will enable the City of Washington to maximize the number of parking spaces at its parking lot on the real property identified by P.I.N. 02-02-24-109-005.  
**Title:** Resolution Approving S. Elm Street Ingress/Egress Easement Execution  
Alderperson Brownfield motioned to approve; Alderperson Smith seconded.  
7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Resolution:** City Engineer Carr presented the following resolution for consideration:  
*R-1421 (21-24) Approve 223 Property Farm Lease for the 2025 Crop Year*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this resolution would approve and authorize a Cash Rent Farm Lease with Aaron Vercler.  
**Title:** Resolution Approving the 223 Property Farm Lease for the 2025 Crop Year  
Alderperson Stevens motioned to approve; Alderperson Smith seconded.  
7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**First Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:  
*Approve Speed Limits for Freedom Pkwy., Dallas Rd., N. Cummings Ln., and W. Cruger Rd.*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would amend Chapter 52 of the Washington Municipal Code to establish maximum speed limits along portions of the new Freedom Parkway and Dallas Road and adjust maximum speed limits on N. Cummings Lane and portions of Dallas Road and W. Cruger Road.  
**Title:** First Reading Ordinance: Approving Speed Limits for Freedom Parkway, Dallas Road, N. Cummings Lane, and W. Cruger Road

**First Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:  
*Regulating Public Camping*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would regulate public camping within corporate boundaries and other actions in connection with the City of Washington.  
**Title:** First Reading Ordinance: Regulating Public Camping in the City of Washington

**First Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:  
*Approve Services and Compensation Agreements with the Washington Fire Department and Rescue Squad*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would approve and authorize the execution of an agreement between the City of Washington and the Washington Volunteer Fire Department regarding services and compensation for the provision of fire and ambulance services and equipment purchases for a period of May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2027.  
**Title:** First Reading Ordinance: Approving Services and Compensation Agreements between the City of Washington and the Washington Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. (request to waive second reading)  
Alderperson Martin motioned to waive the second reading; Alderperson Adams seconded.  
7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Alderperson Adams motioned to approve; Alderperson Smith seconded.  
7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**First Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:  
*Request by Joshua and Shealah Biagioni to Annex 1123 Dallas Rd.*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would annex a parcel at 1123 Dallas Road totaling 1.17 acres into the City of Washington corporate limits and zone it to R-1A.  
**Title:** First Reading Ordinance: Request by Joshua and Shealah Biagioni to Annex 1123 Dallas Road

**First Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:  
*Community Solar Program*  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would enter into an agreement with Ampion, PBC, a Community Solar Provider, to purchase electric utility bill credits at a 10% discount during the term of the agreement.  
**Title:** First Reading Ordinance: Community Solar Program (request to waive second reading)  
Alderperson Adams motioned to waive the second reading; Alderperson Brownfield seconded.  
6 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith  
1 Nays: Stevens  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

Alderson Brownfield motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.  
Alderson Martin shared that he didn't want to tear down trees to put up a solar farm but this is being put on a landfill which is a good use of space. He also shared that the panels are made in the USA. Alderson Stevens doesn't understand why we are waving the second reading. She supports solar but feels this is too quick. Mr. Oliphant explained that the request was made because there is limited capacity across our state and another community could take our place and get these terms if we don't commit. Alderson Stevens noted that Peoria offers a residential program with Ampion. Mr. Oliphant shared that we have not yet been offered that and that program is for low to moderate income residents. Mayor Manier noted that there is no cost to our residents and it wasn't brought to the Peoria City Council for a vote of their agreement. Alderson Stevens feels it will cost our city but doesn't understand it. She stated that she can't vote either way. Ms. Baxter shared that we get credits, and we don't pay unless the credits apply so not cost is incurred. If there aren't credits that are passed on, we don't pay. Alderson Stevens feels there is a situation where we could be paying.

6 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith

1 Nays: Stevens

Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Second Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:

*3551 (32-24) WACC Agreement Amendment* **Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would amend the use agreement between the City of Washington and the Washington Area Community Center relating to use and modification of Banquet Room A for city meetings.

**Title:** Second Reading Ordinance: WACC Use Agreement Amendment

Alderson Adams motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.  
Alderson Stevens noted that city staff is responsible for set up and tear down, unlike the previous agreement.

7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Second Reading Ord:** City Engineer Carr presented the following ordinance for consideration:

*3552 (33-24) Adopt New Code* **Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would adopt and enact a new code for the City of Washington; providing for the repeal of certain ordinances not included therein.

**Title:** Second Reading Ordinance: Adoption of New Code for the City of Washington

Alderson Smith motioned to approve; Alderson Brownfield seconded.

7 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, Smith, Stevens

0 Nays:

Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Alderson Comments** Alderson Stevens shared that Mayor Manier spoke with her in the hall and stated that questions for staff need to go through him. She shared that after visiting city hall, there were complaints that she pestered staff. She apologized to staff that feels she pestered them. Alderson Blundy asked about an amphitheater on the 223 property and noted a requested feasibility study. Mayor Manier assumes it will be in November.

**Adjournment** At 7:00 p.m. Alderson Smith moved to adjourn; Alderson Brownfield seconded. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk