

City of Grand Coulee
Regular Meeting of the City Council
March 15, 2022

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Townsend called the meeting to order at approximately 6:04pm.

ROLL CALL:

The following were:

Present: Mayor Townsend, Anita Eylar, Mike Horne, Alan Cain, Mr. Poplawski, Mr. Carriere

Also Present: Clerk Lorna Pearce, Ryan Fish, Fire Chief, Officer Gilbert, GCPD, Jacob Wagner Star Newspaper, Travis Irwin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

2. VISITOR INPUT:

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Chief Fish informed council that there have been no fire calls to date, the ambulance has been called out 100 times to date. Chief Fish updated council on the progress of the ambulance, Braun is waiting for a couple of parts and have pushed the completion date to the end of April, first of May. The tank exchange on the brush truck is complete and all brush trucks have been serviced and ready for the season. Chief Fish will be attending the local chiefs meeting the week of March 21, 2022.

Ms. Pearce told council she is close to completing the annual report, she is waiting for information from Electric City for the RBOM. Ms. Pearce updated council on the municipal court, Ms. Pfifer has been working with AOC to clear up some of the old citations. Ms. Pearce and Ms. Pfifer had a conference call with Ms. Norton, city attorney, regarding a possible amendment to the agreement for court services with Grant County. Ms. Norton will be contacting Grant County Prosecutor to discuss the issues and then hold a conference call with the prosecutor, the City and AOC to find the best solution. Ms. Pearce let council know that this past month there were only twelve utility accounts that remain delinquent, the delinquent balance was \$6,162.26 as of March 15, 2022.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

5. AGENDA REVISIONS: Mayor Townsend asked that Spring Cleanup be added to the agenda as Item 8.10.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

6.1 Motion to approve Regular Council meeting minutes of February 15, 2022.

6.2 Motion to approve for Payment Vouchers, dated March 15, 2022, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as

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required by RCW 42.24.080, and expense reimbursement claims, dated March 15, 2022, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.090, voucher numbers 42074 through 42116 and EFT items in the amount of \$114,136.86. Voucher 42073 was Void due to a printing error.

- 6.3** Motion to approve Payroll Vouchers, dated February 28, 2022, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, vouchers numbered 42057 through 42072 and Direct Deposit and EFTs (no sequenced numbers) as listed on the Payroll register in the total amount of \$145,106.36.

Mr. Cain motioned to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 NCWU Utility Tax: NCWU had asked that council forgive the 12% penalty on the delinquent utility tax owed for 2020 and 2021. Ms. Pearce provided council with the amount of the penalty, \$229.06. Ms. Pearce also informed council that NCWU may have more active connections than the current agreement allows, council asked to have the number of connections verified. Mr. Cain motioned to allow forgiveness of the penalty fee due to it having accrued during the COVID pandemic, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried with Councilmembers Poplawski, Cain, Horne and Carriere voting yes and Ms. Eylar voting no.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Resolution 22-05 Establishing Fees Related to Water Services: Mr. Poplawski motioned to adopt Resolution 22-05, Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

8.2 Discussion of Amending Section 13.40.506 of the Municipal Code to Include Fees for Use of the Sewer Jetter: Mr. Poplawski does not feel the City should be maintaining private side sewers. Mayor Townsend had concerns about liability if there was damage. The consensus of the council was not to offer this service.

8.3 Authorizing Mayor's Signature on WWTF Application for Lease Renewal with USBR: Mr. Poplawski motioned to authorize the Mayor's signature on the USBR lease renewal application for the WWTF, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried.

8.4 Discussion of Utilizing MACC Dispatch as Sole Source for Police Response: Mayor Townsend explained that at this time calls are coming into a city cell phone that the on-duty officer answers, his concern is if the officer is on an active call, he is unable to answer the cell phone. There is also concern about officer safety when responding to a call that has not gone through dispatch. Mayor Townsend requested a policy be drafted requiring all police and EMS calls be routed through MACC dispatch. Mr. Poplawski motioned to have policy language drafted for council review at the April meeting, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried.

8.5 Discussion of Reviewing City Owned Properties for Needs to the City: Ms. Pearce said that this had previously been brought to council and there was discussion, but no action taken. Ms. Pearce let council know that she had reviewed some of the parcels and had found that some are streets and should be designated as ROW. Ms. Eylar asked if a map could be produced with the parcels marked during the review process. Ms. Pearce said the City does not have the capability to produce a full-size map and the cost to have one made by SCJ Alliance, is cost prohibitive. Ms. Eylar offered to assist in producing a map as did Mr. Cain. The initial review will be done by the Planning Agency with their recommendation coming back to council for final decision.

8.6 Request for Matching Funds on the Federal Ave. TIB Project: Ms. Pearce updated the council on TIB's decision to not require any matching funds at this time but, due to possible cost increases for supplies there may be change orders involved with the project. TIB would like council to know that any additional funds would have to come from the City. Ms. Pearce informed council that there is currently \$281,392.57 in the Transportation Benefit District fund. Mr.

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Carriere motioned to authorize the Mayor's signature on the Updated Cost Estimate of the project and to authorize the bid to be awarded contingent on TIB's confirmation of the additional \$124,096.00 requested, Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

8.7 Request/Discuss Shared Garbage Services: Ms. Pearce stated that the clerk's office had audited the utility accounts and found that there were thirty some accounts with water/sewer that did not have garbage attached. GCMC requires all active accounts to have garbage service whether it is used or not. A letter was sent to these account holders, the code section was included and a current rate sheet. The letter asked them to notify city hall which cart size they would prefer, it also stated that if the city did not hear from them the smallest cart available would be delivered and beginning with the billing cycle that starts March 21, 2022, they would be charged for the service. The office had several requests for a single owner of two properties to be allowed to share one garbage container. Mr. Cain motioned to maintain the current code language requiring each property to have its own cart, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

8.8 Resolution 22-06 Declaring Surplus Property: Mr. Cain motioned to approve Resolution 22-06, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried.

8.9 Guidance for Planning Agency Review of Municipal Codes: Mr. Cain asked what the Planning Agency was being tasked with, eliminating code, re-writing code? Ms. Pearce said there are sections of the code that are very outdated, some code violations are still sited as being misdemeanor offenses. Officer Gilbert said there is code referencing prostitution that is no longer viable. The Planning Agency is being asked to review the code and bring to council any they feel need to be updated or possibly eliminated.

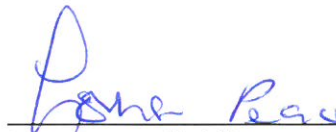
8.10 Spring Cleanup: Mayor Townsend informed council that the RBOM did not receive the grant funds to pay for the hauling of the debris to the Ephrata landfill for 2022. In the past Grant County has allowed each municipality up to four containers to be taken to the landfill at no charge, they are no longer doing this. Mayor Townsend asked Jacob Wagner, The Star, if he would put something in the paper letting the public know there will be no pick-up and no free yard waste disposal in 2022. Jacob asked if there had been anymore discussion of the RBOM acquiring a woodchipper, Mayor Townsend said he was unsure after there had been discussion about the liability involved.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no objection, the mayor adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:20pm.



Paul A. Townsend, Mayor



Lorna Pearce, Clerk/Treasurer