

City of Grand Coulee  
Regular Meeting of the City Council  
April 18, 2023

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**MINUTES**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Townsend called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

The following were:

Present: Mayor Townsend, Council Members Anita Eylar, Tom Poplawski, Gary Carriere, Alan Cain and Ruth Dalton

Also Present: Clerk Pearce, Chief Tufts, Chief Fish, City Superintendent Francis, Nancy Wetch, Gray & Osborne, Tim Devries, Gray & Osborne, Mayor Diane Kohout, Brian Buche, Cheryl Hoffman, Travis Irwin, Jolena Ford, Jennifer Miley, Jason Hevener, attending via ZOOM Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper and Jim

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:**

**2. VISITOR INPUT:**

Jolena Ford said that her vehicle had been impounded and she was told that she could request assistance from the council to have the vehicle released. Mayor Townsend said that the council did not know the circumstances and would look into the issue.

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Chief Tufts informed the council that Kris Theisfeld had turned in her resignation and that a new Civil Service Secretary would need to be hired. The department responded to 46 calls since the previous council meeting. Officer Gilbert has submitted an application for a grant to assist with officer retention and a second grant for community education. Chief Fish reported that the fire department has had 29 calls to date. The ambulance service is currently averaging 45-50 calls per month. The new EMT class will be starting the first part of May, there are 7 people signed up for Grand Coulee and several others for surrounding communities. Rick Paris is working on the report for Medicare. Mayor Townsend asked Chief Fish if the response for law enforcement assistance from Coulee Dam had improved, Chief Fish said that it had improved. City Superintendent Francis said that the crew has been working on getting some of the playground equipment put back in the park, as well as, the picnic tables. The new park sign will be installed soon. Clerk Pearce told council that lodging tax dollars can be used to pay the overtime for employees assisting with the Colorama parade. There have been 4 code enforcement complaints, 3 have been issued infractions for non-compliance, the fourth has complied partially. These will all be revisited again to see if any progress has been made. Ms. Pearce stated that she has started on the annual report and the audit is winding down. The annual SLFRF report has been filed and the annual census information has been submitted.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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City of Grand Coulee, Washington  
Regular Council Meeting  
April 18, 2023

Street Committee: Ms. Eylar said that after researching the established speed zone the committee recommends that the speed stay at 20mph on lower Spokane Way and Martin Hill. Upper Spokane Way should be 25mph and a sign needs to be placed where it will be visible when entering the city.

**5. AGENDA REVISIONS:**

Mayor Townsend asked to add the speed zone change to the agenda as Item 8.5

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 6.1 Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2023
- 6.2 Motion to approve for Payment Vouchers, dated April 18, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and expense reimbursement claims, dated April 18, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.090, voucher numbers 42890 thru 42936 and EFT items in the amount of \$112,800.72.
- 6.3 Motion to approve Payroll Vouchers, dated February 28, 2023 certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, vouchers numbered 42873 through 42889 and Direct Deposit and EFTs (no sequenced numbers) as listed on the Payroll register in the total amount of \$ 143,795.49.

Mr. Poplawski motioned to approve the consent agenda, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**7.1**

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1 Nancy Wetch, G&O, WWTF Plan Update:** The draft plan has been submitted to Ecology for review, there have been a couple of comments received and had been addressed. The next step would be to acquire funding for the design of the facility updates. Ecology has stated that because Grand Coulee already has a funding package through them there would be no need to re-apply for additional funding through Ecology, it be an amendment to the current agreement. Ecology offers a 50/50 split grant/loan package for design.. There was discussion regarding the current WWTF agreement between Grand Coulee and Electric City. The current agreement references both entities' owning capacity but no ownership of the facility itself. The joint WWTF board will meet to discuss drafting a new agreement that clearly states ownership/capacity. Nancy feels that the two cities could benefit from attending the annual IACC conference and meeting with all possible funding agencies to see what is available and would be most beneficial to the cities. Nancy also mentioned lobbying for funds directly from the State Legislature. Nancy is unsure if both communities could receive funding for the project.

**8.2 G&O Consultant Agreement – Fortuyn Rd Project:** Mr. Poplawski motioned to authorize the Mayor's signature on the agreement, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

**8.3 Jennifer Miley – Request to Keep Third Dog:** Ms. Miley received a notice that she needed to reduce the number of dogs in her possession. Ms. Miley said that the dog was brought home when it was six weeks old, she had tried to rehome the dog at that time but was unsuccessful. The dog has been licensed in Grand Coulee for the past two years but she was unable to license the dog this year due to code enforcement issue. Ms. Miley stated that she had again attempted to re-home the dog after receiving notice she needed to reduce the number of dogs, but has been unsuccessful. She is asking that she be allowed to keep the dog. Ms. Miley said that she has had some trouble keeping her dogs in her yard and is looking at building a taller fence to keep them in. Mr. Poplawski said that dogs are a problem in town and that allowing Ms. Miley to keep the dog in this instance will be setting a precedence. Mr. Poplawski would like to look into this further

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City of Grand Coulee, Washington  
Regular Council Meeting  
April 18, 2023

before making a decision. Ms. Eylar said that the ordinance should be reviewed. Mayor Townsend asked the planning and licensing committee to review and bring their recommendation to council in May.

**8.4 Budget Review:** Ms. Eylar said overall the expenditures are in line for the quarter. Investment interest is very good at this time. Ms. Eylar would like to have a quarterly review of the budget.

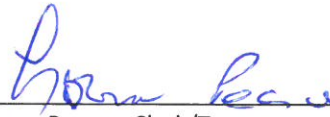
**8.5 Speed Zone and Signage:** The street committee recommends leaving the speed zone on lower Spokane Way at 20mph, increasing the speed zone on Martin Hill to 25mph, and placing a 25mph sign on upper Spokane Way at the city entrance near Alcan Rd. Ms. Dalton feels that Martin Hill should remain at 20mph due to the amount of traffic. Ms. Eylar motioned to place a city limit sign and a 25mph speed sign on Grand Coulee Hill Rd at the city limits, Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

As there was no objection, the mayor adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30pm.



Paul A. Townsend, Mayor



Lorna Pearce, Clerk/Treasurer