

City of Grand Coulee
Regular Meeting of the City Council
June 20, 2023

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

The following were:

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

Also Present: Clerk Pearce, Fire Chief Fish, Chief Tufts, Superintendent Dennis Francis, Mike Eylar, Randy Gumm, Linda Roberts, Shannon Liniger and Ron Beeler, attending via ZOOM: Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper, Travis Irwin, and Jim

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

2. VISITOR INPUT: Shannon Liniger, 215 Roosevelt Dr., asked why she had received a late fee on her utility bill when it had been paid prior to the 10th? Ms. Pearce said she would have to look into that because she was not aware Ms. Liniger would be at council. Ms. Liniger asked if she would be allowed to place a storage shed on the city right of way that abuts her property. Mayor Townsend asked the planning committee to review the request and bring a recommendation to the council in July. Ms. Liniger then asked the council if the city was going to do anything about the elm tree in the right of way. The tree is full of bugs and is beginning to lean.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Chief Tufts reported that the department had received 121 calls for service since the May meeting. Himself and Sgt. Holland participated in Koulee Kids Fest, handing out stickers and showing the patrol vehicles. Two of the kids voted the Chiefs vehicle as the winner of the car show.

Chief Fish reported that the ambulance had 79 calls for service and the fire department had 8 calls for service since the May meeting. The ambulance has responded 306 times to date. Chief Fish voiced concerns about trees interfering with powerlines, this has been the cause of several fire calls. The fire department also participated in Koulee Kids Fest; the kids enjoyed the trucks. One of the brush trucks is continuing to have mechanical issues that are being worked on, at this time the truck is not being taken out of town.

Superintendent Francis reported that the requested signage has been installed on Alcan Rd. The crew is planning to start patching potholes this Friday provided the weather cooperates. The park improvements are moving along, the smaller play pieces have been installed and work is continuing on the large piece of play equipment. The handicap parking area and access still need to be completed as well.

Ms. Pearce reported that the annual report had been submitted. The auditors were on site last week wrapping up the 2020-2021 audit. Ms. Pearce stated she expects the exit conference to be scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Street Committee: Did not meet. Will have a report in July.

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Planning Committee: Did not meet. Will have a report in July.

Labor Committee: Mr. Poplawski said that they have been working on job descriptions and would have drafts for the August meeting. The job descriptions do need to be reviewed and accepted by the union prior to them being approved by the council, this will have to wait until the current request for a change in representation is resolved.

5. AGENDA REVISIONS: Mr. Poplawski asked to add discussion of Ms. Liniger's request for tree removal to the agenda as Item 8.10.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 6.1 Motion to approve Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023
- 6.2 Motion to approve for Payment Vouchers, dated June 20, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and expense reimbursement claims, dated June 20, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.090, voucher numbers 43016 thru 43056 and EFT items in the amount of \$75,123.67.
- 6.3 Motion to approve Payroll Vouchers, dated May 31, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, vouchers numbered 42953, 42999 through 43015 and Direct Deposit and EFTs (no sequenced numbers) as listed on the Payroll register in the total amount of \$ 150,175.46.

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

7. OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 NCI Datacom Lease Agreement: Council asked that Ms. Pearce contact Mr. Andrist and ask to have the language in Section 4 revised to state this is an annual reduction in the cost for internet service provided by NCI Datacom to the city.

7.2 Centerline Development Agreement: Council was provided an email from Centerline stating that they agreed to the terms council proposed in regard to development fees incurred to date. Mr. Poplawski motioned to approve and accept the terms of agreement, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Allocation of Prop 1 Monies for he COPS and DARE Programs: Mr. Poplawski stated that funds can be drawn on annual basis for these programs. Ms. Pearce was asked if there was specific amount that the police department was requesting, Ms. Pearce stated that \$5000 to \$10,000 for this year is what she and Officer Gilbert had discussed. Mr. Poplawski asked for a firmer budget for each of the programs.

8.2 Request to close Midway Ave. Between Kimble and Morrison St. August 1, 2023: This request is for National Night Out between the hours of 4pm and 8pm. Superintendent Francis said that WDOT would need to be contacted as this is a state highway. Council asked if it would be possible to change the location to Main St., council has full authority to close Main St. This will be brought back in July.

8.3 Resolution 23-01 Accepting the Wastewater Facility Plan as Complete: Mr. Carriere motioned to approve Resolution 23-01, Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

8.4 Motion to Move Forward with Design Phase of WW Facility: Ms. Pearce told council that Electric City council had approved moving forward at their May meeting. Mr. Poplawski motioned to approve moving forward with the design phase of the wastewater facility; Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

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8.5 Code Publishing Quote to Review Municipal Code: Ms. Pearce said that due to the cost for this service she felt it would be something to look at during budget preparations for 2024. Ms. Eylar asked Ms. Pearce to look into the process of making the Grand Coulee Municipal Code available via MRSC's webpage.

8.6 Discussion of Longevity Pay for Transfer Station Employee: Mayor Townsend asked that this be on the agenda because Electric City is wanting to use transfer station money to make this payment to Mr. Gumm. The question was asked if Mr. Gumm is an employee of the transfer station or Electric City, he is an Electric City employee. Mr. Poplawski does not feel that this issue for Grand Coulee to be making a decision on since he is an employee of Electric City. Grand Coulee is not consulted on cost-of-living increases for this employee he is treated like all other Electric City employees. Mr. Gumm stated that Electric City has approved this and has heard that both Coulee Dam and Elmer City feel this should be paid. Mr. Poplawski agrees that it should be paid, but the other cities should not have to pay to make this up in the transfer station budget. Electric City is planning to use funds from the transfer station that have been placed in reserve for payment of transfer station workers upon leaving the employ of Electric City. Electric City should be responsible for payment, this should not impact the transfer station budget.

8.7 Ordinance 1092 Adopting the Revised Shoreline Management Plan: Mr. Carriere stated that the planning agency and council had both reviewed the draft plan and did not have any concerns. Mr. Carriere motioned to approve Ordinance 1092, Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

8.8 Chamber Request to Close Main St. the First Friday of Every Month July-October: Ms. Eylar motioned to approve the closure of Main St. the first Friday of every month July – October, Ms. Dalton second, motion carried.

8.9 Set Public Hearing for Closeout of Dept. of Commerce Grant – WW Facility Plan: By consensus council set the hearing date for July 18, 2023, at 6:00pm with the regular July council meeting to begin immediately after.

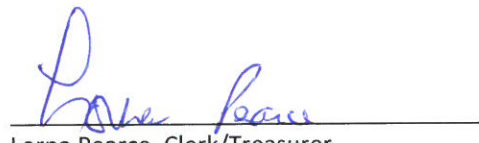
8.10 Discussion of Tree on McGovern St.: There was concern that the tree may fall over taking down powerlines and possibly damaging residences in the area. Superintendent Francis said that the tree probably should be removed. Mayor Townsend asked that he provide council with estimates for removing the tree for the July meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no objection, the mayor adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:55pm.



Paul A. Townsend, Mayor



Lorna Pearce, Clerk/Treasurer