

City of Grand Coulee
Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 16, 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, Officer Gilbert, Officer Kline, Sam Snead, SJ Environmental, LLC, Tim Andrist, NCI Datacom, Cheryl Hoffman, Jenny Miley, Jason Heavner, Mark Nash, attending via ZOOM: Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper, Nic Alexander, Centerline Development, and Jim

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

2. VISITOR INPUT:

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Fish reported that the ambulance has received 245 calls for service, this is an increase of 44 runs from 2022 at this time. The fire department has received 37 calls for service, this is also an increase from 2022 at this time. The brush trucks had some repairs made and have been put back into service. There are 7 Grand Coulee participants in the current EMT class, and 6 other participants from surrounding communities. One of the members of the fire department is participating in the State Patrol Academy.

Ms. Pearce said that Chief Tufts had given her the monthly report for police activity, and she had emailed it to council. Ms. Eylar and several other council members stated that they had not received the report, Ms. Pearce said she would email it to them after the meeting. Law Enforcement had responded to approx. 100 calls since the April 18th council meeting.

Ms. Pearce informed the council that she had received notice from Grant County Public Works that the city was the recipient of Grant County's STBG Funds grant in the amount of \$877,975. The city will be required to provide a 13.5% match. Ms. Pearce notified the engineers, G&O, and they will be applying to TIB for the matching funds. The total estimated cost of the project, which will reconstruct a section of Spokane Way, is \$1,015,000. Ms. Pearce then reminded council that candidate filing was currently open and closed on Friday, May 19, 2023.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Poplawski, Labor Committee, stated that no decision had been reached on job descriptions at this time.

Mayor Townsend asked if there had been progress made on code revisions that may need to be made. Ms. Pearce said that Code Publishing now offers review of code language, she has reached out to see what the fees might be.

Mr. Carriere, Planning Committee, said the planning agency had reviewed Ms. Hanke's variance request and does not see any reason why the variance should not be granted. Mr. Carriere noted that the platted alley abuts a steep drop off and developing that alley would not be feasible.

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5. **AGENDA REVISIONS:**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 6.1 Motion to approve Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2023
- 6.2 Motion to approve for Payment Vouchers, dated May 16, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and expense reimbursement claims, dated May 16, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.090, voucher numbers 42954 thru 42998 and EFT items in the amount of \$102,098.89.
- 6.3 Motion to approve Payroll Vouchers, dated January 31, 2023, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, vouchers numbered 42937 through 42952 and Direct Deposit and EFTs (no sequenced numbers) as listed on the Payroll register in the total amount of \$ 148,098.71.

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

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**

7.1 Jennifer Miley Request to Keep Third Dog: Ms. Miley stated that she has not received any violations since the previous meeting and that they have been looking into replacing the fence, but it is cost prohibitive. Mr. Heavner stated that they are looking into radio operated fencing. Mr. Poplawski stated that in 2021 Ms. Miley had received three letters from the city informing her she needed to rehome the dog. Ms. Eylar felt that since the city had not taken any action after the letters were sent, it constitutes approval. Ms. Eylar motioned to approve allowing Ms. Miley to keep the third dog on the condition that the containment of the dogs be addressed within the next five months, Ms. Dalton second, motion carried with Mr. Cain, Mr. Carriere, Ms. Eylar and Ms. Dalton voting yes and Mr. Poplawski voting no.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 SJ Environmental, LLC Proposal for Contract Services for the WWTF: Sam Snead, SJ Environmental, went over the services that they offer. Mr. Snead said that if the city was to decide they wanted full-time services, they have an employee that is willing to relocate to the area, the company would pay all of the associated wages and benefits of the employee. The city would be responsible for all day-to-day operation expenses and repairs. SJ Environmental also provided a proposal for part-time coverage, Mr. Snead would be the operator. SJ Environmental holds both water and wastewater certifications. The council thanked Mr. Snead for the information.

8.2 NCI Datacom Lease Agreement – Tim Andrist: Mr. Andrist said that there would not be much change at this point in time, but they would like the option of installing a mini tower in the future. Mayor Townsend asked if a new power supply would need to be provided, Mr. Andrist said that yes if a tower were to be put in NCI would need to run a new power source at their expense. Ms. Eylar asked if the agreement had been sent to the attorney for review, Ms. Pearce said no but she would send it to her for review. Ms. Pearce asked if the internet speeds to the various city locations could be increased prior to the agreement being signed, Mr. Andrist said that yes, and he would send the information. Mayor asked that this be brought back in June for council decision after review by the attorney.

8.3 Centerline Development Proposed Agreement: The finance committee met with the mayor and the clerk to review the fees incurred to date for the proposed Centerline subdivision. Centerline had made an offer to the city in March, that none of the fees to date be required to be reimbursed and that moving forward fees would be paid. To date the city has paid SCJ Alliance \$12,625.55 for multiple reviews of the project. The finance committee's proposal to Centerline has the city paying \$4,647.12 of these with Centerline being responsible for the remaining \$7,978.43. Nic Alexander, Centerline Development was asked if he thought Centerline would accept this proposal. Mr. Alexander said he felt that if

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the city was willing to agree that this amount was inclusive of the application fees Centerline would accept the proposal. Mr. Poplawski motioned to propose to Centerline that the \$7,978.43 would include the application fees and that any future outside services required would be the responsibility of Centerline, Ms. Eylar second, motion carried. Ms. Pearce was asked to draft a letter with the council's proposal. Discussion of changing the code as it pertains to application fees was asked to be placed on the June agenda.

8.4 City Limits Sign on Alcan Rd.: Ms. Eylar would like to have an "Entering Grand Coulee city Limits" placed on Alcan Rd. at the city limits (UGA) boundary. The council thought that this had been discussed at the April meeting, it had, but no decision had been made. Ms. Eylar motioned that a "Entering Grand Coulee City Limits" sign be placed on Alcan Rd., Mr. Cain second, motion carried.

8.5 Crosswalk Sign at Federal Ave. and Main St.: Cheryl Hoffman, said that the crosswalks in that area are not very visible when coming up Main St and Federal Ave. due to the hill and is asking that council consider crosswalk signs at the intersection. The Senior Center is on Federal Ave. and a lot of the patrons park on the other side of Federal Ave. and cross over; it is becoming hazardous for the older people to cross. Mayor Townsend suggested a four way stop at the intersection. There was discussion about other intersections that should be reviewed. Mr. Carriere motioned to make the intersection of Main St. and Federal Ave. a four way stop, Mr. Cain second, motion carried. Mayor Townsend asked the street committee to review several other intersections and bring their recommendation to the council in June.

8.6 Sale of City Parcels – Sample Resolution: Ms. Pearce said that there have been several inquiries made about the parcels the council decided to sell. Ms. Pearce reached out to the city attorney to see if she could provide a sample resolution for the disposal/sale of city parcels. The sample that was received references a specific parcel of property. Ms. Pearce asked that the council reach a decision as to how they want to go about disposing of the properties, listing with a realtor, auction or a bid process. Mayor Townsend asked the planning committee to review the various options and make a recommendation to the council in June.

8.7 Hanke Variance Application: Ms. Pearce said this was really information only for the council. The public hearing will be Friday, May 19, 2023, at 2pm and she thought that council may be interested in attending since this is the first time that the hearing examiner service has been utilized in the twelve years that she has been employed with the city. Mr. Carries said that the planning agency had reviewed the application at the May 10th meeting and could not see where there should be any issues.

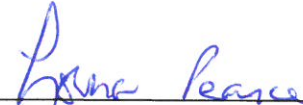
Officer Gilbert asked the council to consider a request for funds for community policing events and the DARE program. Officer Gilbert would like the department to participate in National Night Out, which is scheduled for August 1, 2023. Ms. Pearce said she thought that Prop. 1 money could be used for this as they are both new programs within the department. Officer Gilbert was asked to provide a request to the council in June for the funds needed. Ms. Eylar commended Officer Gilbert for the work has been doing on trying to get the community more involved and his work on grant applications.

Mr. Poplawski said that he was approached by a citizen asking that the council reconsider their decision on allowing vehicles to be parked in yards. The council was not interested in discussion on the subject.

ADJOURNMENT

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


Paul A. Townsend, Mayor


Lorna Pearce, Clerk/Treasurer

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