
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

The following were:

Present: Mayor Eylar, Council Members Anita Eylar, Tom Poplawski, Gary Carriere, Ruth Dalton and Mark Nash

Also Present: Clerk Pearce, Chief Fish, Chief Tufts, Dennis Francis, City Superintendent, Mellissa Little, Sage Hachey, Linda Black, Dennis and Nancy Carlson, Paul Townsend, Janet Clark, Linda Roberts, Lee Seekins, Nic Alexander, Officers Gilbert, Martin and Hopper, Renata Rollins, and Mr. & Mrs. Hueval, attending via ZOOM Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

2. VISITOR INPUT: Nic Alexander, Reel Recreation, asked if the entity had been granted any LTAC funds for 2024, he was told yes.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Dennis Francis reported that the crew had repaired two main water line breaks, potholes and patching will take place once things dry out a bit, the C St. booster station pump would be going in for repairs.

Chief Tufts reported that the dept. had assisted Grant County with serving search warrants, Kris Theisfeld submitted her letter resignation, this leaves the police department without a police clerk and the Civil Service Commission without a secretary/examiner.

Chief Fish said that he had spoken with Electric City regarding a regional EMS service.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Committee: Mr. Carriere said that he had not been in contact with the realtor regarding the possible cost to the city to sell parcels of property. The committee will report back in March.

Library Committee: Committee members attended the Friends of the Library meeting and the Library Board meeting in January.

Finance Committee: Public Safety funds can be used to fill the vacant police officer position, the second vehicle that has been ordered will be canceled and the remaining funds needed to fund the officer position will need to come from the general fund reserves.

5. AGENDA REVISIONS:

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

6.1 Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2024.

- 6.2 Motion to approve Special Council Meeting minutes of February 8, 2024
- 6.3 Motion to approve Council Minutes of February 12, 2024, Council Retreat.
- 6.4 Motion to approve for Payment Vouchers, dated February 20, 2024, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and expense reimbursement claims, dated February 20, 2024, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.090, voucher numbers 43501 thru 43548 and EFT items in the amount of \$144,748.95.
- 6.5 Motion to approve Payroll Vouchers, dated January 31, 2024, certified by the City Clerk/Treasurer as required by RCW 42.24.080, vouchers numbered 43490 through 43500 and Direct Deposit and EFTs (no sequenced numbers) as listed on the Payroll register in the total amount of \$131,226.59.

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

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

8. NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 Grand Coulee Library Board-Update to Council: Linda Black gave council some history on the library and introduced Lee Seekins, President. Ms. Seekins said that she is very excited to be working with the library board and the city on improvements to THE library itself and the services provided.

8.2 Grand Coulee Friends of the Library – Update to Council: Ms. Carlson, President, provided council with background on the Friends group and gave information on some of the projects they have partnered with NCR Library to provide a better experience when visiting the library.

8.3 Introduction of Chamber Director Nancy Zimmerman-Boord, Executive Director: Ms. Zimmerman-Boord stated that the purpose of the Chamber was to increase business profitability. The Chamber organizes several community events each year. The Chamber depends on funds from three counties and LTAC contributions from local cities. Mayor Eylar asked for a formal motion for Grand Coulee to join the Chamber. Mr. Poplawski asked that it BE placed in committee for further research. Mayor Eylar asked the finance committee to review and make a recommendation to the council at the March meeting.

8.4 Resolution 24-01 Surplus Property: Mr. Carriere motioned to approve Resolution 24-01, Ms. Eylar second, Mr. Poplawski said that per state law this will need to be handled through a licensed FFL agent. The city will need to receive market value for the handgun. Mayor Eylar asked Mr. Poplawski and Mr. Nash to review the state law. The motion to approve Resolution 24-01 passed.

8.5 Request for Relief of Late Fee on Acct. #2443.0: Ms. Pearce told council that was not the first time the customer had made this request. Ms. Eylar motioned to deny the request, Ms. Dalton second, motion carried.

8.6 Discussion of Adopting Guidelines for Council Procedures: Ms. Eylar believes it would be beneficial for new council members to have guidelines. Mayor Eylar asked Ms. Eylar and Ms. Dalton to draft the guidelines for council review in March.

8.7 Consideration of Having Two Council Meetings a Month: Mayor Eylar has concerns with topics having to be repeated for several months before a resolution is reached. The thought is that the second meeting would be more of a

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workshop. Ms. Pearce said that if they go to two meetings a month an ordinance will need to be drafted reflecting the change. At this time council will call a special meeting if the need arises for additional meetings.

8.8 Discussion of Interlocal Agreements with Surrounding Entities for Ambulance Service: A Regional EMS District would require a vote of the people within the district boundaries, this would require a special ballot. This could be done either in the fall or February. The maximum amount that could be levied would be .50 per thousand assessed value. A separate fund would need to be set up specifically for these revenues. Electric City and Coulee Dam are both willing to provide funding assistance at this time, as long as, the money is not placed into Grand Coulee’s general fund.


8.9 Discussion of Creating a Regional Fire Authority: Chief Fish stated that creating a Regional Fire Authority is a more involved process. There would need to be representatives from all entities involved and would be a stand-alone entity.

8.10 Review of Draft Ordinance 1096 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GRAND COULEE, WASHINGTON, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 12.12 TO THE GRAND COULEE MUNICIPAL CODE TO REGULATE USE OF AND ENROACHMENTS IN RIGHTS OF WAYS IN THE CITY; CONTAINING A SEVERABILITY PROVISION; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE: Ms. Eylar and Ms. Dalton did not have any issues with the draft. Ms. Pearce said the Mr. Francis had noticed that the distances referenced in Section 12.12.080 under the maintenance of trees in or overhanging streets and ROW’s should be changed from eight feet for both streets and sidewalks to nine feet above a sidewalk and twelve feet from the street. Ms. Pearce will ask Ms. Norton, City Attorney, to make the correction and ask if she will be available for the March meeting.

Mayor Eylar told council that there had been discussion at the February RBOM meeting of the four communities holding a joint town hall meeting. Mr. Poplawski made a motion in support of all four councils holding a joint town hall meeting, Mr. Nash second, motion carried. Mayor Eylar said that the RBOM would work out the details.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no objection, the mayor adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:54pm.



Michael Eylar, Mayor



Lorna Pearce, Clerk/Treasurer

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