

City of Grand Coulee
City Council
April 15, 2025

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

The following were:

Present: Mayor Dalton, Council Members Tom Poplawski, Tim Snead, Gary Carriere and Mark Nash.

Also Present: Clerk Lorna Pearce, Chief Fish, Ruth Olmstead, PWD, Officer Hopper, Dr. Marlene Poe, Janet Christy, Terri Billups, Renata Rollins, Linda Roberts, Krystal and Jill Fillis, Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber, and Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

2. VISITOR INPUT:

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department: Chief Fish informed the council that there had been 8 fire calls since the last meeting, one was at the Dam and it is a billable fire, he will be submitting an invoice to the USBR for the crew and equipment. The newest fire truck acquired from DNR is in the station and outfitting of the truck will begin. Chief said that DNR also awarded the department \$26,000 to assist in converting the truck for our use. Chief Fish has submitted two grant requests, one for \$25,000 for use to upgrade communications and one for \$100,000 to assist with the conversion of the newly acquired truck. The Chief is working with the Public Works Director to provide information for the upcoming Wa. State Rating Bureau survey and onsite visit scheduled for June 26, 2025. The Structure truck will be out of service for repairs, time frame is unknown at this time.

Public Works: PWD Olmstead said the crew is removing the grass in front of city hall in preparation for river rock to be put down. The report came back on the loader, it was not the radiator, it needs new glow plugs. Vortex is still in town continuing with the sewer video.

Finance Department: Ms. Pearce provided an update on the repairs at city hall.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Committee: Mr. Snead said that Dr. Poe had attended the planning meeting and shared their vision for the large animal facility they would like to construct. The planning agency is recommending that changes to the code necessary to allow the facility be included in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update that will begin later this year.

WWTF Committee: The JBO is waiting for SJ Environmental to reach an agreement with Teamsters so that a new contract can be entered into for the operations of the WWTF. The next meeting of the board is scheduled for July 3, 2025.

5. AGENDA REVISIONS: Mr. Poplawski asked that discussion of a Town Hall meeting regarding implementing a vacant business ordinance be added to the agenda as Item 8.6

6. CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Snead motioned to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Nash second, motion carried.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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8. NEW BUSINESS:

8.1. Chamber Request to Close Main Street: The Chamber asked to close Main Street for Koulee Kids Fest on June 14, 2025, and Trunk-or-Treat on October 31, 2025. Mr. Snead motioned to approve the request, Mr. Carriere second.

8.2 Confirmation of Police Chief Appointment: Mayor Dalton said that an offer had been made and accepted by Matthew Ponusky. Mr. Nash motioned to approve the Mayor's appointment of Matthew Ponusky as Police Chief, Mr. Poplawski second, motion carried.

8.3 Consideration of Letters of Interest for Council Position #1: The city received a letter of interest from Janet Christy. Mr. Poplawski motioned to appoint Ms. Christy to council position #1, Mr. Snead second, motion carried.

8.4 Discussion of Axon Quote – Police Dept. Body Cameras: Mr. Poplawski motioned to approve the agreement with Axon provided that the cameras were not put into service until the department policy had been updated to include language for the cameras, Mr. Snead second, motion carried.

8.5 Request for Relief of Late Fee on Accts. 1047.0-1047.9, 2586.0, 2587.0, 1442.0, 1496.0, and 1896.0: Ms. Pearce told council the accounts are all owned by one entity, this was the first time in over 25 years that these accounts have been delinquent. Mr. Poplawski motioned to approve relief of the late fee, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

8.6 Request for Town Hall Meeting: Mr. Poplawski would like to have a town hall meeting to give business owners and citizens the opportunity to provide their input on the implementation of an ordinance regarding vacant buildings in the Central Business District. By consensus there will be a town hall meeting on May 20, 2025, beginning at 5:00pm with the regular council meeting immediately following.

Mayor Dalton informed council that Renata Rollins had been appointed to the Planning Agency.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no objection, Mayor Dalton adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:00pm.



Ruth Dalton, Mayor



Lorna Pearce, Clerk Treasurer