

City of Grand Coulee  
City Council  
April 21, 2026

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**MINUTES**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

The following were:

Present: Mayor Dalton, Council Members Andrew Dobson, Tim Snead, Mark Nash, Eric Ahlem and Gary Carriere.

Also Present: Clerk Lorna Pearce, Chief Fish, Ruth Olmstead, PWD, Crystal and Jillian, Chamber of Commerce, Nichole Ahlem, Nic Alexander and Scott Hunter, Star Newspaper

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:**

- 2. Visitor Input:** Nic Alexander asked council to consider a request for a reduction to the February and March sewer charges for the property located at 17 Midway Ave. There was a break in the water line outside the building that has since been repaired, the extra water obviously did not go into the sewer. Ms. Pearce let council know that this was on the agenda as Item 8.2.

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Fire Department: Chief Fish reported that the department had received a 50/50 grant for equipment. MACC is offering upgrades to EMS vehicles and will pay to install Starlink and Wifi in our vehicles, the ambulance and fire vehicles are already in the process of the upgrade. The police dept will be eligible with the next round of upgrades. The department will have a wildland fire refresher course this month.

Public Works: The new public works employee has started he is doing a great job. The crew replaced the radiator in the parks truck, installed a new water service at 443 Partello. Ms. Olmstead reported that all of the water reservoirs had been cleaned and inspected and will be placed on a five-year schedule for cleaning and inspection.

Finance: Ms. Pearce let council know that the repairs at city hall are progressing, still waiting to see if the clerks office carpet will be removed and replaced. Nancy Wetch, G&O, is wanting to schedule a meeting to review the WWTF design, it is now 75% complete. A request for quotes to paint the exterior of city hall will be published and sent to registered contractors on our small works roster. Ms. Pearce has been talking with both Centurylink and Spectrum about changing the phone service for the city. There could be a significant savings to the city if we switch.

Mayor: Mayor Dalton apologized that at the March meeting she had given incorrect information about Spring Clean Up, Grand Coulee will be picking up yard waste. The dates are April 2 – May 1.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**WWTF Committee:** Mr. Nash reminded council that the next JBO meeting would be on May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm.

**5. AGENDA REVISIONS:**

- 6. CONSENT AGENDA:** Mr. Nash motioned to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Snead second, motion carried.
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**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**7.1 SJ Environmental 5 Year Service Agreement:** Mr. Snead recommended that the Wastewater Committee review and discuss.

**7.2 Discussion of Vacant Commercial Properties:** Mr. Snead said that he and Mr. Ahlem met with Nancy Zimmer and Solveig Chaffee and discussed having volunteers inspect and photograph the condition of commercial properties and report to the city. The current ordinance, 1105, only pertains to commercial properties located in the Central Business District, there was discussion of amending Ordinance 1105 to include the Commercial Highway District also. Mr. Nash motioned to amend Ordinance 1105 to include the Commercial Highway District, Mr. Snead second, motion carried.

**8. New Business:**

**8.1 Request for Relief of Late Fee on Acct. 1792.0 – this is a first request:** Mr. Dobson motioned to approve the request to remove the late fee from Acct. 1792.0, Mr. Carriere second, motion carried.

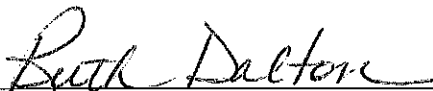
**8.2 Request for a Reduction in the Sewer Charges on Acct. 2439.0:** Ms. Pearce had provided council with an average of the previous sewer bills, and the base monthly rate for sewer, Ms. Pearce recommended a reduction in the amount of \$364.94. Mr. Snead motioned to approve a reduction of \$364.94 in the sewer charges, Mr. Dobson second, motion carried.

**8.3 Discussion of New ADA Requirements for the City Website:** Ms. Pearce informed council that the state has set requirements for city website to become ADA compliant by April of 2027. The deputy clerk has been maintaining the city website but it is not compliant. Electric City utilizes a company by the name of Revize that maintains their website, the initial setup fee was around \$10,000 with an annual fee of \$2,300. Mr. Ahlem asked if there were grants available to help offset these costs, Ms. Pearce said she was unsure but would look into it. Mr. Ahlem offered to research options to setup and maintain the website to keep it in compliance. Mr. Nash motioned to take the website down at this time and research potential funding assistance, Mr. Dobson second, motion carried.

**8.4 Discussion of Service Agreements for Ambulance Services:** The Grand Coulee ambulance services the outlying communities and portions of Douglas, Lincoln and Okanogan counties, currently Grand Coulee pays for all of the repairs, maintenance, supplies and replacement of vehicles. Current fees charged for the ambulance service cover everything except the replacement of vehicles. Mr. Carriere would like to see the fees for the ambulance cover all costs. Mr. Fish told council that a new ambulance, at this time would cost \$275,000. Currently the city does not receive any payment for non-transport calls, the city is still charged the dispatch fee and pays the attendants. Mr. Ahlem asked Mr. Fish to provide a break down of the calls for service by entity, and if possible, the dollars attributable to those calls at the May meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no objection, Mayor Dalton adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:40 pm.

  
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Ruth Dalton, Mayor

  
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Lorna Pearce, Clerk Treasurer

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