



**Town of Coulee Dam**  
*Green Oasis at the Foot of Grand Coulee Dam*

**Minutes**  
**1277<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**January 27, 2016**

**6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting**

Mayor Wilder called the 1277<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Due to lack of quorum, the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting had been cancelled.

**Swearing in of Councilmember**

Clerk Stefani Bowden administered the Oath of Office to Ben Alling, council position #4. Oath of Office was administered to Keith St. Jeor, council position #5, on January 13, 2016.

**Roll Call**

Council members present: David Schmidt, Gayle Swagerty, Duane Johnson, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor.

Staff Present: Police Sergeant/Interim Police Chief Larry Hall, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Tim Lynch and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ben Alling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentation – Colville Confederated Tribes Intergovernmental Agreement, Pete Palmer**

Pete Palmer of the Colville Confederated Tribes presented the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement between the tribe and cities/towns. Updates are being made from the 2006 agreement. The original agreement included Okanogan County, but the county has indicated that they would like to see a separate agreement between the tribe and cities. The new proposed agreement has taken Okanogan County out. Ms. Palmer reviewed the proposed changes and updates and is hopeful to have signing ceremony in the spring. The tribe would like to have collaboration with a town representative. Councilmember Gayle Swagerty volunteered to be Coulee Dam's representative. Mayor Wilder had questions regarding permitting agencies for building permits. Ms. Palmer stated that the agreement only covers the reservation side of the town and the tribe does work well with neighboring agencies.

**Public Input**

Fred Netzel asked about the status of the Fire Grants. The town has not received any notification of award or notification of denial as of yet. The Grants that were applied for appear to be on-going. Mr. Netzel also asked why all Ordinances have not been sent to State Archives to be made available online yet. The Clerk stated that the Ordinances will be sent to State Archives in batches as it is too costly to send one at a time. In the meantime, Ordinances can be obtained at Town Hall. Mr. Netzel asked about a specific Ordinance, No. 726. The Clerk reminded him that

he did view that Ordinance in Town Hall a couple days prior and was provided a copy at that time.

**Agenda updates & modifications**

The Clerk notified the Council that an Action Agenda item had been added to accept and approve the Regional Board of Mayor's actions. Mayor Wilder asked the council to take a moment to review the request make a decision before moving forward with remainder of Agenda.

David Schmidt moved with Duane Johnson seconding to approve the AECOM Memorandum outlining the scope of work for the Delano Landfill groundwater monitoring reports and permitting schedule and changes to the Post-Closure Plan as requested. Motion carried.

David Schmidt moved and Gayle Swagerty seconded to approve the cost change/increase of \$3000.00 for permit support related to changes to the Delano Landfill groundwater monitoring program. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda**

Gayle Swagerty moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – December 9, 2015

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 35492 through 35517 and EFT's dated December 31, 2015 in the total amount of \$ 97,547.91.

Claim Voucher No.'s 35527 through 35553, and EFT's dated December 31, 2015 in the total amount of \$55,237.03.

Claim Voucher No.'s 35554 through 35565 and EFT's dated January 13, 2016 in the total amount of \$17,296.88.

Claim Voucher No.'s 35568 through 35582 and EFT's dated January 27, 2016 in the total amount of \$97,813.07.

Manual Check: Claim Voucher No.'s 35567 dated December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$103.50.

Voided Checks: None

Payroll Vouchers: Payroll Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 35491, 35518 through 35526 along with direct deposit funs and EFT's dated December 15 and 31, 2015 in the total amount of \$72,721.17.

### **Action Agenda**

A. Selection of Mayor Pro-Tem

Council consensus to appoint David Schmidt as Mayor Pro-Tem January through June 2016 was made.

B. AB 2016-001, Resolution 2016-001, Equipment Rental Rates

After brief discussion and review, Keith St. Jeor moved and David Schmidt seconded to adopt Resolution 2016-001, setting Equipment Rental Rates for 2016. Motion carried.

### **Discussion Agenda**

A. Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mayor informed the council that there is currently a lot of administration work being done right now on the wastewater treatment plant project. Councilmember St. Jeor asked that the Ad Hoc meetings involving the engineers be held in Coulee Dam as it is difficult for his schedule to travel to Spokane. The Clerk reminded the council that a Public Hearing will need to be held to fulfill a Rural Development Funding requirement. Due to publication timing requirements the meeting cannot take place until the last meeting in February of the first meeting in March. The Mayor and Attorney have been working with the title company to clarify ownership of property around the treatment plant.

B. Bowling Alley Lease

Mayor advised the council that the State Auditor has suggested the Town develop a policy for factoring rental rates in the future. The final draft of the Bowling Alley Lease was prepared by the town's attorney and reviewed by the General Government Committee. Ben Alling moved with David Schmidt seconding to approve the agreement as written. Motion carried.

C. Melody Lease

The General Government Committee reviewed the Melody Lease. Their recommendations were given to the attorney to draft the final agreement. David Schmidt moved and Ben Alling seconded to approve the Melody Restaurant Agreement as prepared by the attorney. Motion carried.

D. Trees

A request to repeal the council's previous action to remove trees on Stevens Ave was submitted. It has been recommended by Municipal Research (MRSC) attorneys to "start

from the beginning” and following the Town’s proper procedures for the process of tree removal. Mayor Wilder asked the council for a motion to repeal the action.

David Schmidt stated that he was one of the signatures on the initial letter requesting the tree removal. However, he feels he was misled when signing. The trees that Schmidt had physically reviewed with Bruce Bartoo were not the trees indicated in the letter. Mr. Schmidt stated that he and Mr. Bartoo looked at trees on Stevens, which were in need of removal but those were not the trees that Mr. Bartoo listed in the letter. Schmidt apologized to the council for his oversight and stated that he would have never agreed to sign the letter had he known they were different trees.

Councilmember St. Jeor stated that he would like to look at the whole picture of trees and sidewalks and suggested a public meeting to get the public’s opinion. Gayle Swagerty reported that the Parks and Natural Resources Board is working on a questionnaire. David Schmidt said that the committee is working weekly on the questionnaire and agreed that a public meeting would be good.

~~Duane Johnson expressed his thoughts on the process that was taken to approve the tree removal and agreed that all the facts were not presented before the decision was made.~~

Duane Johnson stated that he had re-evaluated his previous support of the actions after administration informed council of some laws or ordinances that the council was not following, including interfering with administrative business. Johnson states prior council action was to allow city to remove trees and was not a directive, and therefore did not cross the line between council and administration or city workers. He also stated that the tree board needs to be revisited so that situations that arise as emergent can be addressed quickly by the board.

Gayle Swagerty moved and David Schmidt seconded to repeal the council’s previous action of tree removal on Stevens. Motion carried with 3 in favor (Swagerty, Schmidt, Johnson) and 2 against (Alling, St. Jeor).

## **Staff, Council & Committee Reports**

### Mayor

Mayor Wilder gave an update on the status of the Police Department, which currently consists of three sworn officers. Sergeant Larry Hall has been appointed as Interim Police Chief. Larry Hall reviewed the reasoning for not accepting the USBR contract, stating that it would have ended up costing the town more money and would have been a financial burden. Hall gave an update on the status of the department and stated that there is a great working relationship between Grand Coulee and the tribe. Mayor provided comparisons of Police Departments of similar size. Most departments of similar size have 2 to 3 full time officers. Prior to obtaining the USBR contract, the Town of Coulee Dam was a 3 officer department and is now back to that same standing.

Mayor asked for council's concurrence of his appointment of Larry Curtis to the Parks and Natural Resources Board. David Schmidt moved with Duane Johnson seconding the Mayor's appointment of Larry Curtis to the Board. Motion carried.

A request has been made by a private company to install underground Fiber Optics through the Town of Coulee Dam. The Mayor and Public Works have some concerns and would like to hold discussions prior to any action.

The Casino is doing some remodel and expansion of a new restaurant. Mayor Wilder would like to meet with them to make sure all potential issues are addressed such as the additional load that may be caused to the sewer system.

#### Clerk

The Clerk reminded the council that the audit is still taking place. Councilmembers will be notified as to when the exit conference will take place. Duane Johnson asked if the exit conference could be scheduled later in the day to accommodate work schedules.

Councilmembers were reminded that if there is a quorum, proper public meeting notification must take place.

#### Councilmembers

Gayle Swagerty stated that she and Duane Johnson had previously attended OCOG meetings in Omak but neither has attended any in quite some time. OCOG has stressed the importance of Coulee Dam having a representative attend the meetings. Duane will attempt to attend more meetings.

David Schmidt apologized for not making prior council meeting. He was unable to return from personal appointments in time due to weather.

David Schmidt feels the council should be proactive in preserving the community church building. Ben Alling inquired as to the Town acquiring the church building for use as a convention center using stadium funds. Mayor and council felt it was a great idea but would need community involvement and commitment. Someone would need to take the lead to research the possibility.

#### Executive Session

None

#### Public Input

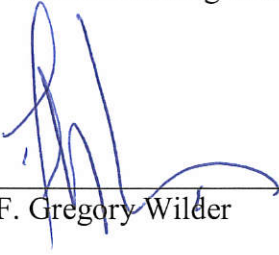
Quincy Snow asked about interim funding for the Wastewater Treatment Project and voiced his concerns regarding interfund loan from the Electric Fund. He feels it would drop the fund too low.

Bob Poch feels that the preservation of the community church building should be a community minded project, not just the Town of Coulee Dam.

#### Adjournment

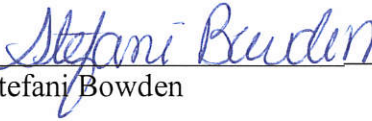
Councilmember Gayle Swagerty motioned with Councilmember Duane Johnson seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1277 at 8:12p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor



F. Gregory Wilder

Clerk



Stefani Bowden