



Minutes
1406th Regular Council Meeting
February 8, 2023

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1406th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Kevin Black, Merv Schmidt, Dale Rey and Keith St. Jeor. Larry Hall was excused absent.

Staff Present: Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Police Chief Paul Bowden.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dale Rey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

None

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

None

Consent Agenda

(m/s St. Jeor/Schmidt) to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – January 25, 2023

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 40674 through 40703 and EFTs dated February 8, 2023 in the total amount of \$ 75,054.37.

Manual Vouchers: Claim Voucher CPL02.02.23 and CPL2.7.23 in the total amount of \$54.00.

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 40638 through 40644, EFT's and direct deposits dated January 13 and 31, 2023 in the total amount of \$ 110,208.04.

Voided Checks: Check No.'s 40645 through 40673 (unusable due to printing error).

Action Agenda

a. Coulee Dam Fire Department – MACC Dispatch, Ryan Fish

Multi Agency Communications Center (MACC) Dispatch Advisory Board Chairman, Ryan Fish asked to speak to the council in regards to dispatching service for the Coulee Dam Fire Department. Currently, the Fire Department uses Okanogan County for dispatching service. The Coulee Dam Police Department is in the process of transitioning to from Okanogan to MACC due to the newly acquired Electric City contract. Fish strongly encouraged the Fire Department to do the same to avoid any delays while MACC transfers fire calls to Okanogan as all 911 calls for Coulee Dam will automatically go to MACC. Transitioning to MACC would require the renumbering of trucks and personnel.

Fish also stated that he would like the town to consider consolidating with Grand Coulee and Elmer City and become a fire protection authority.

b. TIB 6th Street Improvement Project – Construction Bid Award

TIB has awarded the Town additional funds to cover the higher than anticipated construction bids. This is a 100% grant with no matching funds required from the Town. (m/s Rey/Schmidt) to award the construction bid to the lowest bidder, Rudnick and Sons LLC, for the 6th Street Project.. Motion carried.

c. WSDOT/CDTC Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project – Construction Bid Award

WSDOT approved a budget increase for the construction phase of the Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project with 100% grant funding due to increase in construction cost and higher than estimated bid amounts. (m/s Schmidt/Black) to award the Ferry Avenue Sidewalk Project construction bid to the lowest bidder, JM Pacific Construction, Inc. and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract. Motion carried.

d. USDA Rural Development (RD) Funding for WWTP/West Side Lift Station Project

Daniel Cowger of Varela Engineering joined the meeting via video conference to provide the council with an update on the funding application process with USDA RD for the completion of the WWTP and West Side Lift Station Project. As of now, USDA has not provided the town with an official offer. Due to passing the February 6th date, all federally funded projects must follow the Buy America Build America Act (BABAA) which will increase the construction costs. Cowger is waiting for guidance on the new requirements and the Town will most likely have to re-bid the construction for the project to include the new BABAA rules. Bids for construction also expired on February 6th but the lowest responsible bidder, Strider Construction, has provided the Town with a written agreement to extend their bid for an additional 2 weeks.

Dale Rey had some questions and concerns and asked “what if we can’t get the parts in the U.S.”? Cowger stated that usually there is a waiver of some sort when parts are not available but he won’t know any details until guidance has been released from USDA.

Discussion Agenda

a. BPA Energy Efficiency Incentives (EEI)

The Town has \$86,437 available to use for energy efficiency projects. \$50,000 of that can be carried over to the next rate period but \$36,437 must be used by the end of September. Mayor mentioned several ideas that are currently being considered such as roof insulation on the Community Building and updates to heating and air at the shop. The transformer replacement project at the credit union is also being considered for rebates.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Council

Dale Rey asked “should we be talking to the casino about contributing” in regards to the Fire Department and other town services. Mayor Poch mentioned that Airway Heights is having similar issues with a casino.

Police Department

Chief Bowden updated the council on the status of the MACC dispatching switch over process which should be completed the week of February 13th.


Public Input

None

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:38p.m.

Mayor 
Bob Poch

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden