



Minutes
1368th Regular Council Meeting
February 10, 2021
(TELECONFERENCE)

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1368th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:03p.m. via teleconference.

Roll Call

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Mervin Schmidt, Dale Rey, Larry Hall and Keith St. Jeor.

Staff Present: Police Chief Paul Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden. Planning Commission Chairman Ben Alling was also in attendance.

Public Hearing

- a. Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update
Mayor Poch opened the public hearing at 6:04pm to take comments on the Draft Comprehensive Plan as required by the periodic update process under the Growth Management Act. SCJ Alliance Planner, Alicia Ayars, was unable to attend but Planning Commission Chairman Ben Alling was present to answer any questions. With no public comments received, Mayor Poch closed the meeting at 6:05pm.

Public Input

None

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

None

Consent Agenda

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

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Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
 Claim Voucher No.'s 39330 through 39349, and EFT's dated January 27, 2021 in the total amount of \$533,083.84

 Claim Voucher No.'s 39356 through 39381, and EFT's dated February 10, 2021 in the total amount of \$ 56,494.72

Manual Checks

EFT to DOL for CPL (Concealed Pistol License) dated January 4, 2021 in the amount of \$18.00

Bank Fees: January 20, 2021 Deposit Slips in the amount of \$61.47
January 2021 Invoice Cloud Fees in the amount of \$88.20

Payroll: Payroll Check No.'s 39350 through 39355 EFT's and direct deposits dated January 15th and 29th, 2021 in the total amount of \$90,953.82

Action Agenda

- a. AB 2021-01, Ordinance No. 792, Comprehensive Plan
(m/s Rey/Schmidt) to adopt Ordinance No. 792, approving the Comprehensive Plan update. Motion carried with four (Schmidt/Rey/Hall/St. Jeor) in favor and one (Netzel) opposed.
- b. AB 2021-02, Resolution No. 2021-01, RBOM 2021 Budget (corrected)
Mayor Poch informed the council of the error that was discovered in the resolution previously approved to adopt the 2021 RBOM Delano Transfer Station budget for 2021. The RBOM secretary, Peggy Nevsimal, included an email explaining the errors and the need for a corrected resolution. (m/s Schmidt/Hall) to approve Resolution No. 2021-01, adopting the budget for the Regional Board of Mayors for 2021. Motion carried.
- c. AB 2021-03, Selection of Engineer for Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project
Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) have been received from three qualified engineering firms for the Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project. WSDOT provided 100% funding for the project and one of their requirements was to solicit for Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering. The three SOQs received were from TD&H Engineering, Century West Engineering and Varela Engineering and Management.

Councilman Rey questioned why cost estimates weren't included in the SOQs. The Clerk explained that the RFQ did not request to have cost estimates included as it wasn't a requirement from WSDOT. The RFQ was to obtain SOQs from firms that would be qualified for the project, not a solicitation for bids. Rey stated he didn't feel he could make a decision without having cost estimates. Council asked the Clerk if estimates could be obtained. The Clerk stated that a new RFQ would have to be advertised to included language stating that cost estimates should be provided.

All three engineering firms submitting SOQs were very qualified for the project and all had some knowledge and/or experience working within the Town of Coulee Dam which made it very difficult for the council to make a selection. Varela provided assistance to the Town when obtaining funding for the project and has knowledge specifically related to the Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project which was the one of the main factors that "tipped the scale". Varela is also currently working on the wastewater treatment project. Councilman St. Jeor felt that since Varela was already working on another project within the town, that maybe some of the inspection costs could be shared or reduced. Councilman Rey's only concern with Varela is that the wastewater treatment plant is behind schedule. He realized it may not necessarily be at Varela's fault but he does have some concerns whether or not they could meet the deadlines

of the sidewalk project. The council asked if award of the project could be contingent on being able to meet specific timelines.

(m/s St. Jeor/Schmidt) to select Varela Engineering for the Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project.
Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

a. Animal Control Ordinance

Mayor Poch stated that councilman Netzel has spent a lot of time working on the animal ordinance. Netzel provided a cover sheet of changes to the councilmembers for review.

Councilman Rey thought it was good to incorporate the attorney's version into the version drafted by Netzel and Rey. Councilman St. Jeor had a problem with allowing four dogs. Four large dogs would be a lot for one person to handle. He felt it should be a maximum of two dogs or if not, maybe a weight limit should be imposed. Councilman Hall agreed that four dogs was too many. Councilman Schmidt feels it should state four animals but no more than two can be dogs, which is how the current ordinance reads. The Council came to a consensus to keep the number of animals as it was in the previously adopted ordinance which states four animals total, of which no more than two can be dogs.

Licensing and fees were discussed. The ordinance proposes a 3 year license that would coincide with rabies vaccinations. There were concerns regarding individuals that would not be able to afford vaccinations and then have a license fee on top of it. There were also concerns that if it was an annual license renewal, the Clerk's Office would be overwhelmed with renewals every January. The Clerk stated that she didn't think that would be a problem as it doesn't take a lot of additional time to process dog licenses.

Fines and penalties were addressed as well. The cost of writing each ticket is \$35 with Okanogan County. Police Chief Bowden feels the fines should be enough to at least cover the costs to the Town. The ordinance proposed a fine scheduled of \$100 for first offense, \$200 for the second and \$300 for the third and beyond.

Councilman Rey began making a motion to accept the ordinance when the Clerk interjected, reminding the Mayor that the Town Attorney had some comments and concerns regarding the animal ordinance. He has already agreed to attend the next council meeting to go over it with the council.

b. Sidewalk Repair by Private Property Owners

At the previous council meeting, Councilman Netzel requested the topic of town sidewalks being repaired at property owner's expense. He would like to see a policy in place to outline the process and requirements. Mayor Poch stated he talked with Superintendent Steffens and they both felt the process previously followed worked out well.

Councilman Rey has concerns with anyone but the public works crew dealing with city tree roots. Councilman St. Jeor feels that public works crew should do the work.

Netzel would like the Mayor and Superintendent to write a proposal outlining the procedures that were followed for the previous repair request.

Netzel didn't feel that repairing one section of sidewalk a year was enough. Rey asked for the Superintendent's opinion on the matter. Superintendent Steffens stated that the crew is working on sidewalk sections as they have time. Sometimes it is only one or two a year, other years it is more. It is all dependent on schedules.

Councilman St. Jeor stated he doesn't know why the process is trying to be changed. He feels it works well now and it should be between the Mayor and Superintendent on how to handle the requests. Schmidt agreed and stated the council shouldn't be getting involved in the matter.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Mayor

Mayor Poch thanked Nespelem Valley Electric for taking care of the recent power outage. The USBR is still working on some settings in the 11.95kv switchyard.

Public Input

Mayor Poch asked if there was anyone else on the line that would like to speak. No comments were heard.


Adjournment

Mayor Bob Poch adjourned the meeting at 7:24pm.

Mayor


Bob Poch

Clerk


Stefani Bowden