



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

Minutes
1311th Regular Council Meeting
March 14, 2018

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Price called the 1311th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Bob Poch, Marcia Warnecke, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Firefighter Judah Pope led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

Ed Bartley asked council to do more thinking on the Fiber Optics before making any decisions. He feels studies should be done and doesn't want the city to be put into tremendous debt.

Agenda updates & modifications

Councilmember Fred Netzel requested to talk about the Fiber Optics, tree management, Parks and Recreation Grant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant project overruns. Mayor said that these items could be addressed during discussion time.

Consent Agenda

Fred Netzel moved with Keith St. Jeor seconding to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

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Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No.'s 37253 through 37288, dated March 14, 2018
in the total amount of \$60,144.89.

Manual Claim Voucher No. 37252, dated March 1, 2014 in the amount of
\$235,646.23

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 37228 through 37236 EFT's and direct deposits dated
February 14th and 28th, 2018 in the total amount of \$91,005.11

Bank Fees: February 2018 Invoice Cloud Fees

Action Agenda

A. AB 2018-06 Fire Department Membership

Mayor Price asked Firefighter Judah Pope to present the new membership request for Meaghan Ayers. Ben Alling moved and Bob Poch seconded to approve fire department membership for Meaghan Ayers. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

A. Employee Wellness Program, WellCity Award

Clerk Stefani Bowden explained the Employee Wellness Program to the new councilmembers. The Clerk implemented the program in 2014. Since that time, the program has met all the requirements set by the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and earned the WellCity Award for the 4th consecutive year now. The WellCity Award provides for a 2% reduction in employee medical insurance rates. The council thanked the Clerk and expressed their appreciation for the program.

B. Fiber Optics

Councilmember Fred Netzel wanted to know when the council will be faced with making a decision on the Fiber Optic System. Mayor Price along with councilmembers St. Jeor, Alling and Warnecke stated that we are in the process of collecting information. It is too soon to say. Surveys went out with the last utility billing a week and a half ago. Several councilmembers said that they will need to wait for the full billing cycle to receive responses back.

Councilmember Keith St. Jeor asked each councilmember individually if they used internet and/or email, pointing out that it is difficult to "sell" the idea of fiber optics to people who don't use internet at all. St. Jeor provided a detailed history on technology and the advancements that have been made over the years. Interference with signals can be a problem with satellite internet and television in the Coulee Dam area. Several years ago Grant County PUD installed fiber throughout the entire county. Microwave repeaters are used but have to be in the line of sight. St. Jeor stated that he cannot convince the council to install fiber if they don't even have an email address. He will try his best to represent the citizens of the Town if fiber is what they want. High speed and internet television could be available with the use of fiber. St. Jeor feels that until the council receives the feedback from the citizens, it would be foolish to make a decision.

Fred Netzel would like the attorney at the next council meeting. The majority of the council felt that there is no need for the attorney to attend just yet and that most questions could be taken care of by telephone.

Discussion was held regarding holding public meetings. St. Jeor could get a presenter to come in but would cost approximately \$2500.

It was agreed upon to present the results from the survey responses at the April 11th council meeting and wait until May to hold a public meeting. Council agreed to end discussion on the topic of Fiber Optics until after survey results have come in.

Citizen Ed Bartley voiced his concern about the costs that will be imposed on the citizens for the Fiber Optic system. He was told that a potential lien could be placed on his property for the fees. St. Jeor asked him to explain what fees he was referring to. No liens or assessments have been discussed or proposed and were never intended to. Only the people who would be using the fiber would be charged a fee. The people who don't want it, will not pay for it. St. Jeor asked him where or who he was getting the false information from. Bartley said that he would talk with him after the meeting. Councilman Netzel firmly reminded the council that they had decided to end the discussion of Fiber Optics.

C. Community Assistance Grant

Councilmember Fred Netzel passed out a copy of the 2017 Community Forestry Assistance Grant Proposal Form that was submitted to the Washington Department of Natural Resources in December of 2016. He was concerned about what funds have been spent and where the funds came from. He also wanted to know where the funds will come from for a future grant proposal.

Netzel reported on the recent activities of the Parks and Recreation Committee. They are working on the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan, specifically areas that were not included in the Colville Tribe's Plan.

Netzel requested that the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan be put on the next council meeting. The Clerk stated that the Parks and Natural Resources Board Chairman has already requested to present the plan at the March 28th council meeting.

D. Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Councilmember Fred Netzel wanted to know how much the project extension is costing. Mayor Price stated that the approximate \$120,000 is budgeted in the project contingency fund.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

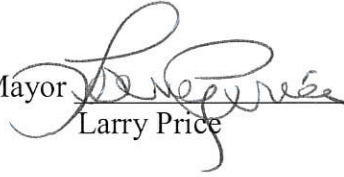
Councilmembers

Fred Netzel asked about the status of the surplus of the Fire Truck again. Mayor, Clerk and Police Chief, in unison, stated that we are still waiting on the lost title.

Police

Police Chief Paul Bowden stated he was intending to give the council an update on the fire truck surplus, but since that was just addressed by a councilmember there is no need to.

Councilmember Ben Alling motioned with Keith St. Jeor seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1311 at 6:59p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor  _____
Larry Price

Clerk  _____
Stefani Bowden