



**Minutes**  
**1390<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**March 23, 2022**

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Keith St. Jeor called the 1390<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m.

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Public Input**

None

**Updates and Modifications to Agenda**

The Interlocal Agreement with Okanogan County PUD was removed from the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

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

Minutes                      Regular Council Meeting – March 9, 2022

Vouchers:                      Claim Vouchers and Checks:  
   Claim Voucher No.'s 40041 through 40057 and EFTS dated March 23,  
   2022 in the total amount of \$ 112,821.87.

**Action Agenda**

- a.    Application for Solar Power Installation – 1113 River Drive  
(m/s Rey/Schmidt) to approve the application for solar power panel installation for 1113 River Drive. Motion carried.
  
- b.    AB 2022-04, Resolution No. 2022-03 – Surplus Property  
Police Chief Paul Bowden is requesting to surplus some old tasers. He has been in contact with a company that will purchase the old tasers and cartridges to recycle them. (m/s Rey/Hall) to approve Resolution No. 2022-03, to dispose of excess tasers, including holsters and cartridges. Motion carried.

## Discussion Agenda

a. Varela Engineering – Project Updates

Engineers Daniel Cowger and Kurt Holland were present to provide an update to the council on the Wastewater Treatment Plant/West Side Lift Station Project, TIB 6<sup>th</sup> Street Repaving Project, Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project and the TIB 2022 Chip Seal Project. A memo containing the updates was prepared and provided to the council as well.

Cowger told the council that the contractor, MSI, has agreed to the town's proposal and has signed the substantial completion for the Wastewater Treatment Plant but they have not initiated the process with the state agencies in order for retainage to be released to them such as proof that taxes and prevailing wages have been paid.

Cowger stated that there have been some changes in staff with USDA. Varela will be meeting with Rick Rose of USDA Rural Development (RD) on April 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss options of getting the closeout finalized.

Bids for the West Side Lift Station construction came in high last year and no contract was awarded. RD indicated that they would like the treatment plant project wrapped up before subsequent funding for the lift station would be considered. An additional \$300,000 to \$500,000 is needed to complete the lift station project due to increased construction costs.

Councilman Rey asked if there is an imminent failure concern on the lift station. Varela indicated that there is. Discussion was held on how costs could be cut. Rey asked if the project could be trimmed down. Superintendent Mike Steffens stated that the project had already been trimmed back as far as it could be.

Attorney Mick Howe was in attendance via teleconference but due to a poor connection, he was unable to give any comments or advice. He asked that the Mayor call him to discuss the project and the information provided during the meeting.

Daniel Cowger congratulated the Town on receiving the TIB grant for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street repaving project. Varela had assisted the town in making the application. Cowger stated that they would love to be able to do the project and asked the council for consideration.

The Ferry Ave Sidewalk Project is moving forward and it should go out to bid for construction soon.

The TIB 2022 Chip Seal Project was bid out in 2021 but bids came in much higher than anticipated. TIB was unable to increase funding but they proposed an alternate solution. The change in project would allow the town to crack seal all streets up to the approved amount. The remainder of the initial project would be considered for a County chip seal and fog and striping. The Bid Authorization Estimate form was received from TIB in March for the crack seal.

**Staff, Council & Committee Report**

Police

Chief Bowden informed the council that National Night Out is scheduled for the first Tuesday in August. It has been a couple of years since the department has been able to participate and he would like to plan for it this year.

Council

Dale Rey wanted it to be on record that he had spoken with the Mayor, as had most of the other councilmembers, in regard to the hiring of a full-time parks maintenance employee. Advertisement for the position has gone out. Rey stated that he wanted it known that if funding became a factor, there will be a reduction in staff.

**Public Input**

None

**Adjournment**

(m/s Rey/St. Jeor) to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Mayor Keith St. Jeor  
Keith St. Jeor

Clerk Stefani Bowden  
Stefani Bowden