



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

Minutes
1314th Regular Council Meeting
May 9, 2018

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Price called the 1314th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m.

Roll Call

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Bob Poch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

Mayor Price presented a written public request from Frank Andrews. He would like to remove the grass from the parking strip at 806 Tulip and replace it with cement. Councilman Bob Poch referred back to a similar request that was granted several years ago and felt the council had made a mistake in granting it. Once the grass had been replaced by cement, the property owners used the area to park a large RV, blocking visibility for neighbors and traffic. Since this request is on a corner lot, Poch is concerned that it could cause traffic visibility issues and stated that he is not in favor of granting approval. Councilwoman Marcia Warnecke also voiced concerns over visibility. Councilmember Fred Netzel commented that he thought that as long as vehicles are licensed they could park on the strip. In councilmember Keith St. Jeor's recollection, the town had provided the parking lots for the use of people who live on the narrow strips to help avoid the parking on grass strips issue. Police Chief Paul Bowden stated that the only thing in the current Ordinance is that the vehicle has to be licensed. There is nothing prohibiting them from parking on the strips whether they are grass or cement. The council consensus was to table the issue for further discussion.

Agenda updates & modifications

None

Consent Agenda

Keith St. Jeor moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

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Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No.'s 37373 through 37393 and EFT's dated April 25, 2018 in the total amount of \$ 96,034.60 .

Claim Voucher No.'s 37407 through 37450 and EFT's dated May 9, 2018 in the total amount of \$ 75,149.40 .

Manual Claim Voucher No.'s 37372 and 37406, and EFT's 04.12.18 and 04.18.18.

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 37318, 37361 through 37371, 37394 through 37405 EFT's and direct deposits dated April 13th and 27th, 2018 in the total amount of \$ 92,058.94

Bank Fees: April 2018 Invoice Cloud fees.

Action Agenda

A. AB 2018-11, Resolution No. 2018-09, Employee HRA VEBA

Clerk Stefani Bowden explained the proposed HRA (Health Reimbursement Arrangement) VEBA (Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association) plan stating that it was a condition of the recently executed Labor Union Negotiation Agreement. Due to the termination of the previous medical plan that the Town was enrolled in, insurance premiums reduced for the Town but costs to the employees increased significantly. The VEBA, which the Town would contribute \$50 per month per employee into, is a way to help off-set those extra costs to the employees. Councilmember Keith St. Jeor asked if this is something that other entities are doing. The Clerk stated that it is becoming quite common amongst Towns and School Districts. There are several union represented Town's joining the VEBA. Councilman Poch stated he would like to see figures before approving. Clerk did not know exact figures but recalls the Town's saving on the new medical plan was roughly \$100 per employee. The \$50 VEBA contribution would still be a savings for the Town. Councilmember Marcia Warnecke felt that if the union had already required it through the new agreement, the Town didn't have much option other than to approve it. It would be very difficult to fight the union on it. Bob Poch moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to approve the HRA VEBA through Resolution No. 2018-09. Motion carried.

B. AB 2018-12, Ordinance No. 758, Town Hall Hours

Clerk presented a request to change the hours of Town Hall. The topic was discussed early last fall at which time the council was interested in pursuing. The proposed hours would allow the office to stay open an additional hour each day Monday through Thursday, 7:30am

to 4:30pm, and would close at noon on Friday. With the current hours, quite often customers need to come into the office before 8:00am and after 4:00pm due to USBR and Colville Tribal office hours. Clerk stated Friday afternoons are typically very quiet in Town Hall. Councilman St. Jeor asked about the Clerk's work hours and how that may affect Friday afternoon meetings. The Clerk stated that her hours are adjustable and can be flexible to accommodate meetings. Marcia Warnecke moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 758, establishing the Town Hall hours of transacting business. Motion carried.

C. AB 2018-13, Ordinance No. 759, Setting School Zone

In February, the school Superintendent, Paul Turner, along with a concerned parent, Amanda Burton, asked the Town to establish a section of River Drive as a School Zone. In order for the WSDOT to post signs and set speed limits, the town must have a formal Ordinance establishing the zone. At that time, the council agreed to move forward with the request. The proposed Ordinance would set a school zone of 300 feet south of the intersection of River Drive and Civic Way to 150 feet north of 12th Street. Discussion was held between councilmembers and the Police Chief as to types of signage and speed limits which will be set and installed by WSDOT. Once the school zone and speed limit are set, the Police Department will be strictly enforcing the speed limits in that area. Bob Poch moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 759, establishing of River Drive as a school zone. Motion carried.

D. AB 2018-014, Fire Department Membership

Bob Poch moved with Keith St. Jeor seconding to approve Fire Department membership for Quinn Piver. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

A. Varela & Associates – Project Updates

Daniel Cowger of Varela and Associates presented a slideshow of the progress of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. Councilman Fred Netzel had some concerns over project delay costs. Cowger stated that there is money in the contingency fund of the project to cover the additional costs but did want the council to know that the change orders are coming in lower than estimated which is saving the overall costs of the project.

A pre-construction meeting for the TIB Street Project by the school is set for tomorrow. A start date of May 21st has been set to begin with some of the prep work. Removal of the asphalt will begin as soon as school gets out for the summer.

Z-Engineers have provided a pre-design memo to replace the SCADA System at the Water Treatment Plant.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Councilmembers

Fred Netzel asked who does the Six Year Street Plan as he would like to be involved. The Public Works Superintendent prepares the Six Year Street Plan which is an annual report that is submitted to WSDOT. The Clerk typically enters the data provided by the Superintendent into the online reporting system.

Marcia Warnecke asked if the Council needs to address the tree removal requests submitted by the Casino. The Clerk will add it to the next council agenda.

Fred Netzel asked about the status of the Fiber Optic Survey. The Clerk has the results tabulated but did not have them readily available to share at the meeting. They can be obtained during office hours. Keith St. Jeor and the Clerk indicated that the response was favorable and the Town had received a good number of surveys returned.

Mayor

Mayor Price informed the council that the seasonal parks worker, Hunter Chapman, is back for the summer.


Clerk

The CIAW Facility Review report has been received. A copy is available in the Clerk's Office.

A request to close a residential street to hold a summer "block party" has been received. The Town has the authority to close streets at their discretion. If the council has no objections, the Mayor will authorize the closure when more details are received. No objections were voiced.

Mayor Larry Price adjourned Council Meeting #1314 at 7:15p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor


Larry Price

Clerk


Stefani Bowden