

**Minutes**  
**1338<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**July 10, 2019**

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

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1338<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m.

**Roll Call**

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Mervin Schmidt, 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**

Ben Alling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Poch opened the public hearing at 6:02pm to take public comment on the 2020-2025 Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Public Works Superintendent gave a brief summary of the requirement to submit the plan annually to Washington State Department of Transportation. With no public comments received, the hearing closed at 6:03pm.

**Public Input**

None

**Consent Agenda**

Keith St. Jeor moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to approve the consent agenda. Councilman Netzel asked for clarification on the June 26<sup>th</sup> minutes regarding “the agreement” with Elmer City. After Clerk provided verbal clarification, Mr. Netzel stated that he was satisfied and did not request changes to be made. Motion carried.

Minutes                      Regular Council Meeting – June 26, 2019

Vouchers:                      Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 38297 through 38329 and EFT's dated July 10, 2019 in the total amount of \$47,203.50.

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 38291 through 38296, EFT's and direct deposits dated June 14 and 28, 2019 in the total amount of \$ 88,148.74.

Bank Fees: June 2019 Invoice Cloud Fees

### **Action Agenda**

a. AB 2019-12, Resolution No. 2019-07, Six Year Street Plan 2020-2025

Councilman Netzel had concerns over the dollar figures presented in the proposed plan stating that they did not line up with the scopes of work. Superintendent Mike Steffens explained that the figures are irrelevant at this point and don't make a difference according to WSDOT for the submittal of the plan. The Town's engineers reviewed the plan and felt that the figures were good and the plan was well put together. Most towns/cities of comparable size don't submit as detailed of a plan that Coulee Dam does. Netzel stated that he had a hard time believing that an engineer would have found the plan to be good because the plan is "riddled" with errors. Steffens informed the council that prior year plans are used in drafting new plans. Information, figures and dates are just updated unless a particular street has had improvements completed or are in the process. When the Town submits for funding of particular streets, more accurate figures are obtained at that time. Keith St. Jeor moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to approve Resolution No. 2019-07, approving the 2020-2025 Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Netzel continued to have concerns. The Clerk and Superintend both stated that the plan can be amended if needed. The Town is under a deadline to get the plan submitted. Motion carried.

Councilman Netzel volunteered to review the plan and seek more accurate figures so that the Town can amend the plan as seen fit in the future.

b. USDA Rural Development Grant/Loan Subsequent Funding

Mayor Poch asked to add the USDA Grant and Loan subsequent funding to the "Action Agenda". Poch informed the council that Rick Rose of Rural Development will be bring paperwork to the Town this coming Friday to obtain signatures. The proposed Grant to Loan offer is coming in at 75% Grant (\$909,000) and 25% Loan (\$304,000). The Mayor is asking for the council's approval to sign the initial paperwork to get the Grant and Loan process moving forward. This is not obligating the Town to accept the award at this time. A resolution will be required in order for the Town to officially accept the offer. Ben Alling moved with Merv Schmidt seconding to allow the Mayor to sign the initial paperwork. Motion carried.

### **Discussion Agenda**

a. Sewer Plug on Central Drive

Mayor and Superintendent informed the council of a sewer plug on Central Drive. The

blockage is in the lateral sewer line. Councilmember Marcia Warnecke asked Mike Steffens if he felt it was a city issue. According to the Ordinance the Council adopted at the previous council meeting, Steffens feels the responsibility lies on the City. Councilmember Merv Schmidt feels the owner should bear the cost of relining the lateral line. Discussion took place between all councilmembers as to the interpretation of the Ordinance. Several councilmembers felt that the Ordinance put the responsibility on the town. The Ordinance states that the town will maintain the lateral lines from the property line to the main. Schmidt recalled the town owning a sewer auger years ago and asked what happened to it. Superintendent Steffens stated that he has not seen it in the time he has been here. Schmidt and Netzel feel the town should look into getting an auger.

Merv Schmidt moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to reimburse the property owner \$269.75 for Ephrata Plumbing bill. Motion carried.

Council gave Superintendent Mike Steffens the okay to run the sewer camera through the lateral line to try to determine location and extent of the blockage. Council also asked Steffens to begin looking into costs of a new sewer auger.

## **Staff, Council & Committee Report**

### Councilmembers

Fred Netzel asked if any volunteers have come forward to serve on the Planning Commission. The Clerk stated that no applications have been received and no inquiries have been made. Netzel feels the council should move quickly in making a decision to change the Ordinance to use an employee in lieu of a planning commission.

Ben Alling relayed a complaint that he had received regarding a noisy air compressor that turns on and runs during early morning hours and is disturbing people's sleep. It was suggested to send a letter to the property owner. Mayor asked the Police Chief to make contact. Fred Netzel feels the town should modify the noise ordinance to provide specific decibel levels.

### Police

Chief Bowden has been reviewing and looking into drafting changes to the dog ordinance to present to council in the near future.

### Public Works

Superintendent Mike Steffens stated the roofing contractor was here earlier in the day and will get back to him with some dollar figures soon on the Community Building roof. Estimates are anticipated to range from \$200,000 to \$400,000 and beyond.

## **Public Input**


Scott Hunter recalls Electric City trying to adopt a similar ordinance regarding noise decibel levels but doesn't know what happened with it. People were complaining that with the levels proposed, they would not be able to operate basic equipment such as drills and lawnmowers.

He also inquired about a tree being planted on his property to replace a tree that was removed several years ago.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.

Mayor   
Bob Poch

Clerk   
Stefani Bowden