



Minutes
1360th Regular Council Meeting
August 26, 2020
(TELECONFERENCE)

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1360th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m. via teleconference.

Roll Call

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

Staff Present: Police Chief Paul Bowden and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

Public Input

Mayor Poch asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak. With no response heard, the Mayor moved on to the next agenda item.

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

Councilman Fred Netzel asked for discussion time on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Consent Agenda

Dale Rey moved with Mervin Schmidt seconding to approve the consent agenda pending voucher review by Councilman St. Jeor. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – August 12, 2020

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
 Claim Voucher No.'s 39052 through 39066 and EFT's dated August 26,
 2020 in the total amount of \$ 68,248.83 .

Action Agenda

a. AB 2020-13, Fire Department Memberships

Two applications for Fire Department membership were presented to the council. Councilman Larry Hall had concerns over some potential issues with an applicant. After brief discussion over the need for further review, Dale Rey moved with Larry Hall seconding to defer any decisions until after an executive session is held and further information is received. Motion carried.

An executive session was scheduled for Friday, August 28, 2020 at 9:00am to review the

applications.

Discussion Agenda

a. Application process for private use of City owned property.

The council was provided written comments from Councilman Mervin Schmidt and Mayor Poch regarding the application process that was presented at the previous council meeting by Councilmen Rey and St. Jeor. Schmidt feels the requirements that were presented were too cumbersome, especially for a business such as a coffee shop. After brief discussion, the council suggested that the Mayor use the comments provided and work with the Clerk to draft an application form. Mayor Poch would like to have the form ready for council review and possible approval before the next council meeting stating that a Special Meeting can be held if needed.

Councilman Rey explained the reasoning as to why some items were included in the proposal and felt that a business plan and site plan should be required. Councilman Larry Hall felt that the application should be as simple as possible but still cover all the bases.

b. Comprehensive Plan

A very brief discussion took place on the status of the comprehensive plan. Mayor Poch explained that the plan has to go through a sixty day review process with the Department of Commerce. The Clerk was under the impression that the planner had already sent the plan off to Commerce to begin that process. Councilman Netzel showed concern over that. The Clerk stated that even though Commerce has begun a review, the town can still make changes if needed up until the time it is adopted. This was just to get the process going with the state so that it isn't delayed any longer. It was the consensus of the Mayor and Council to hold a special meeting for the sole purpose of discussing the Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Poch would like to accomplish that prior to the next council meeting.

c. Animal Control Ordinance

Fred Netzel stated that the animal ordinance that he and Dale Rey worked on several months ago did not include cats. Netzel and Rey would like to resume meeting on the subject and asked the council to provide any comments they had regarding the animal ordinance to them. Mayor Poch asked the council to provide written comments to Councilmen Netzel and Rey within the next week or two so that they can provide an update at the next council meeting.

d. Wastewater Treatment Plant Update

Fred Netzel had some concerns over the upcoming loan payments for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and if there will be enough funds to make the payments without doing an interfund loan. The Clerk stated that at the time the budget was adopted, the loans had not been completely finalized so the entire loan payments were not included in the budget. A budget amendment will need to be done, which she is hoping to have ready within the next month.

Councilman Dale Rey asked at what point is the Town going to require payment from Elmer City. Mayor Poch stated that we were waiting on final project costs so that it is known for sure what Elmer City's portion would be. Fred Netzel had questions regarding the amount remaining to pay out for the project asking "are we talking \$50,000 worth or work or

\$150,000” before the contract can be closed out. The Clerk did not have any figures in front of her at the time but thought it was still over \$300,000. Netzel seemed surprised with that figure. Discussion was held on the West Side Lift Station that is included in the entire project under USDA funding but is not part of the treatment plant project as far as billing Elmer City goes. Dale Rey felt that we should start moving forward with a resolution with Elmer City as soon as we close out the contractor for the treatment plant.

Mayor Poch had spoken with the engineer Daniel Cowger earlier in the day. There are a few items remaining for the contractor. The main issue is the final pieces of metal the rest is mostly cleanup. The metals should be shipped within the next day or two so the project should wrap up in the next month to month and half.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Police Department

Chief Bowden informed the council that the shrubs at the community building are causing a visibility issue on the corner of River Drive and Roosevelt Way. He would like the shrubs to be removed. He suggested that if the council would like to keep shrubbery in the area to go with something smaller that won't block visibility. Councilman Schmidt agreed that it is hard to see on that corner and that the shrubs should be eliminated on the corner. Councilman Rey asked how far back they would need to be cut. Chief Bowden was thinking the entire corner of the parking lot up until the pole of the big sign. Councilman Netzel stated he would prefer to put off a big landscaping project until the budget is done because it could be several thousand dollars. He doesn't want to be looking at a \$10,000 to \$15,000 landscaping project that wasn't part of the budget. Dale Rey suggested we look into what can be done short term. Larry Hall felt it could be done by the Public Works. Mayor Poch will talk with the Superintendent.

Committees

Dale Rey asked if the Mayor has received any confirmation as to when labor negotiations will begin which were originally planned for the end of September. Mayor Poch said he will look at getting a date nailed down. Rey feels that negotiations are better done with in-person meetings versus teleconference.

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.

Mayor 
Bob Poch

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden