



Minutes
1341st Regular Council Meeting
August 28, 2019

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1341st 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: Police Chief Paul Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

Pledge of Allegiance

Marcia Warnecke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

Lynda Zernick and Gayle Hardin asked the council to consider adding lines for Pickleball on the tennis courts at Cole Park. They have the dimensions needed and feel the lines could be painted in a way to not interfere with the tennis lines. Councilman Merv Schmidt stated that costs would need to be known prior to the council making a decision. Zernick and Hardin will obtain some cost estimates.

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

Mayor read a list of additions to the agenda which included:

Action Items

- Application for Fire Department Membership
- Grant Approval for Chelan-Douglas Transportation Sidewalk Improvement Project
- Energy Efficiency Funds
- Barbara Durnil Tree Trimming request

Discussion Items:

- Okanogan County Emergency Management meeting – Maurice Goodall
- Public Works Committee – setting date

- Comprehensive Plan Update

Councilman Fred Netzel also requested that a Dangerous Dog Issue be added as well.

Consent Agenda

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

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – August 14, 2019

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No.'s 38398 through 38418 and EFT's dated August 28, 2019 in the total amount of \$85,823.89.

Manual Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No. 38397 dated August 30, 2019 in the amount of \$300.00

Action Agenda

- a. AB 2019-15, RBOM AECOM Contract Amendment
Mayor Poch asked Councilman Netzel what questions he had regarding the contract amendment. Netzel had some questions regarding potential additional costs that were referenced in the contract. Mayor Poch stated he is not aware of any additional costs. That language needed included in case something arose. Ben Alling moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to approve the AECOM Contract Amendment. Motion carried.
- b. CCT Letter of Support – Roadways
The attorney has reviewed the request and advised the town it would probably be in the Town's best interest to sign it. It could lead to potential federal grant funding assistance in the future. Ben Alling moved with Marcia Warnecke seconding to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter of support. Motion carried.
- c. Fire Department Application
An application to the Fire Department has been received from Victor Landeros. Background checks have not been complete yet. Marcia Warnecke moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to accept the membership pending passage of background checks. Motion carried.
- d. Chelan-Douglas Transportation Grant Acceptance
Merv Schmidt moved with Keith St. Jeor seconding to accept the Chelan-Douglas Transportation grant offer in the amount of \$120,000 for Ferry Avenue sidewalk improvements and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement. Motion carried.
- e. Energy Efficiency Funds – BPA
The Town is in receipt of some energy efficiency funds from BPA as a result of the direct mailer of lightbulbs to every residence. Mayor Poch asked the council how they would like to

use to funds. Keith St. Jeor would like to see the funds used for something “energy efficient”. It was also suggested to put the funds into the Electric Reserve Fund for future needs. Mayor Poch asked the council to think about it and make a decision at the next council meeting.

f. Tree Trimming Request – Barbara Durnil

Barbara Durnil has requested to trim the town trees in front of her residence. She is hiring a tree trimmer to do some work on her own trees and would like to have them trim the dead limbs from the Town trees while they are there. She would cover the expense of it. There were no objections from the council.

Discussion Agenda

a. Public Works Committee meeting

Varela was planning on attending this meeting but was unable to make it. They would like to schedule a meeting with the Public Works Committee next week. Councilmembers Netzel and St. Jeor serve on that committee. It was determined to set the meeting for Friday, September 6th at 8:00. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the scope of work for the West Side Lift Station.

b. Planning Commission

Mayor Poch stated that he is having a difficult time finding willing volunteers to serve on the Planning Commission. The Town’s planner has suggested that maybe a council committee could serve in place of the commission. Mervin Schmidt and Marcia Warnecke volunteered to serve along with Mayor Poch.

c. Credit Union Transformer Project

Mayor Poch has stated that he is getting close to accepting a bid for the transformer replacement project. The Credit Union wants to complete some updates at the same time and are waiting to coordinate the projects with the Town.

d. 2020 All Class Reunion

The Mayor has received a request to open Town Hall for the 2020 All Class Reunion on a Sunday next summer to allow individuals to tour the building. The Mayor has volunteered to open the building. There were no objections from the council.

e. Tree Removal Form

Councilwoman Marcia Warnecke worked with the Clerk to re-write the tree removal request form and presented it to the council for approval. Councilman Netzel questioned the term “street tree”. The definition only addresses the trees located between the streets and sidewalks. It doesn’t define the trees in areas where sidewalks do not exist. Warnecke will work with Clerk to get the definition clarified on the removal form.

f. Okanogan County Emergency Management Meeting – Maurice Goodall

Maurice Goodall of Okanogan County Emergency Management is scheduling a meeting on the 10th of September and would like representation from Coulee Dam present.

g. Comprehensive Plan Update

An updated schedule of the Comprehensive Update process was provided. The planner also

sent a request for the council to review sections of the plan and answer some questions he had. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future to go over the status of the project.

h. Dangerous Dogs

Councilman Fred Netzel began the discussion saying that we have a dangerous dog situation and asked if the owner of the dog in question should be issued a dangerous dog certification. He continues with saying that Chapter 6.10 of the codes says that they must be issued a certification of dangerous dog. Police Chief Bowden stated that the dog was issued a "Potentially Dangerous Dog" certification.

Bowden stated that the owner of the dog is complying with the requirements, including the insurance. Netzel said the signage isn't correct. The sign has to read "Dangerous Dog" and the sign that is posted reads "Beware of Dog". Bowden said that he has been working on getting the correct sign. It was the only sign available locally and he will get the proper signage once he can get into a city to purchase one. Citizen Tim Lynch then waved around a sign and said "Amazon in two days". Councilman Schmidt said that the proper signage should have been up before a certification was issued. Schmidt stated that the dog owners have been an issue and we need to find a way to deal with them and get them out of town.

Netzel questioned Bowden on the required enclosure. Bowden stated that they have a portable dog kennel and the house also qualifies as a proper enclosure. Netzel recited CDMC 6.10.040, which states the dog can be confiscated if not in the enclosure. Lengthy discussion continued and several references were directed to the Chief about not properly following through and doing his job.

Councilmember Warnecke told Bowden that this issue has gone on too long and asked why he has taken so long to make them comply. Warnecke and Netzel want the Dangerous Dog sign up immediately but advised Bowden to issue a letter to the owners stating that if the signage wasn't up and the dog was outside his proper enclosure, it will be confiscated as of 4:00pm on Tuesday, September 3rd. Warnecke asked Bowden to recite exactly what he was just told to include in the letter.

Councilmember Keith St. Jeor stated that it will be difficult for the Chief to prove the dog is outside the enclosure unless he sees it. He advised the neighbors to take photos and videos to serve as proof.

Netzel asked if the owner was given notice of the appeal process. The Chief said that notice was given at the time of the potentially dangerous dog notice. Netzel questioned the Chief on his form of notice and asked if he needs to be notified in writing.

Citizen Tim Lynch voiced that he wants the dog confiscated when it is loose inside the owner's backyard. The backyard is fenced and several councilmembers discussed the condition of the fence and that it does not meet the enclosure requirements. Lynch states that the dog runs loose in the backyard every time the owners leave.

Councilmember St. Jeor stated that it sounds like the issues go beyond a dog issue.

Lynch continued to speak regarding a no-contact order and wants the Police Chief to arrest

them for violation of no contact order. Lynch claims that the Police Chief has not done anything to help them. He and two neighbors had to obtain a no-contact order themselves. Chief Bowden attempted to explain to council that the no-contact order was due to a civil issue which he could not enforce. Bowden stated that the report from Lynch regarding a violation to the no-contact order has been filed with the county prosecutor. Lynch and Netzel both questioned Bowden as to why it is taking the Prosecutor so long. Bowden told them it is the Prosecutor's decision and is out of his hands once he sends it to them. Netzel advised Lynch to contact the prosecutor himself, which he has already done. Schmidt asked if the Chief can contact the Prosecutor within the next day or two and followed with "but I suspect you already know what their response is" at which Bowden nodded. Chief Bowden stated he will not risk making a false arrest. Fred Netzel turned to Lynch and told him that since the Chief won't do anything, next time call Okanogan County Sheriff.

Citizen Archie Dennis is an adjacent neighbor to the dog in question and stated that the dog has chewed through his side of the fence. Dennis has taken measures to secure his side.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Mayor

Mayor Poch reported on attending an Economic Alliance meeting and is looking through a grant application that is currently open. It was suggested that maybe funds could be applied for to do some upgrades and repairs to the theater.

Public Works

Superintendent Mike Steffens has obtained a few quotes for the roofing at the community building stating they range from \$140,000 to \$400,000.

Police

Chief Bowden is still working on a body camera policy and dog ordinances. All are still under review with the attorney and labor union.

Councilmembers

Keith St. Jeor has been in contact with Charter Communications. They are looking for suggestions on community outreach.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

Mayor



Bob Poch

Clerk



Stefani Bowden