



Minutes
1361st Regular Council Meeting
September 9, 2020
(TELECONFERENCE)

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

In the absence of the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem Keith St. Jeor called the 1361st regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:01p.m. via teleconference.

Roll Call

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Dale Rey and Larry Hall.
Mayor Poch and Mervin Schmidt were excused absent.

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

Public Input

Mayor Pro-Tem Keith St. Jeor asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak and received no response.

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

Councilman Fred Netzel asked for discussion time on the animal ordinance.

Consent Agenda

Fred Netzel requested a small change regarding the submittal of comments on the animal ordinance. He asked that the Clerk add in that Mayor Poch requested comments be submitted to the Clerk prior to the next meeting. After review of the previous meeting recording, the Clerk clarified that Mayor Poch requested that council submit comments directly to Councilmen Rey and Netzel.

Keith St. Jeor moved with Fred Netzel seconding to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – August 26, 2020

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No.'s 39073 through 39097 and EFT's dated September 9, 2020 in the total amount of \$ 33,730.08 .

EFT dated September 3, 2020 in the total amount of \$ 71,483.00

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 39067 through 39072 , EFT's and direct deposits dated August 14 and 28, 2020 in the total amount of \$ 89,881.75 .

Action Agenda

a. Application for Private Use of City Owned Property.

Keith St Jeor commented that he thought the application form put together by the Clerk and Mayor looked good and felt it was an acceptable application. There was a brief discussion regarding the need for applicant to include long term profits and a projected income and balance sheet. Dale Rey felt that those should not be required as it would be hard for an applicant to provide those items. The Clerk stated that she and the Mayor used the suggestions and comments provided to them by councilmembers when drafting the application and those two items were submitted to them, in writing, to be included in the application. Dale Rey moved with Larry Hall seconding to approve the application with the removal of the requirements for applicant to provide long term profits and a projected income and balance sheet. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

b. Comprehensive Plan

Mayor Pro-Tem Keith St. Jeor reminded the council that a Special Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th to review the Comprehensive Plan. Dale Rey wanted it to be made clear that there will be no public discussion at that meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the posted notice highlighted that no public input will be heard.

c. Animal Control Ordinance

Fred Netzel was hoping to receive written input so that the council could begin working on the animal ordinance at this meeting and was wondering why the topic didn't make the agenda. No written comments have been submitted to the Clerk. Netzel asked the council "when are we going to tackle this thing". Netzel and Rey worked on the dog section of the ordinance a few months back and asked the council if they wished to include cats in it as well. A brief discussion took place regarding domestic cats, wild cats and the number of cats that will be allowed per household. Dale Rey requested the topic be put onto the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

d. Sidewalk Replacement request

Mayor Pro-Tem St. Jeor asked Superintendent Mike Steffens to provide any knowledge he had on a request that was received from a property owner to replace a section of sidewalk at the property owner's expense. Steffens stated he did not have much information on the matter but understood that a property owner spoke with the Mayor and requested to be allowed to replace a section of sidewalk at his own expense. Discussion took place regarding liability issues that could arise from it. The council asked that the Mayor contact the Town Attorney to find out what the liability issues would be. The council stated that it would have to be done to standard and specifications would need to be followed. Fred Netzel would like there to be language in an agreement that the work must be completed by a licensed and bonded contractor. St. Jeor requested the topic be put on the next council agenda.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Committees

Dale Rey stated that the Mayor was going to try to pin down dates for labor negotiations but

Rey hasn't heard anything back yet. He asked that the Mayor be reminded of that. The Clerk stated that some information has been received and it will be provided to the committee within the next day or two.

Fred Netzel told Mike Steffens that he ran into one of the local contractors and was asked to pass the word on to City Hall that he likes working here in town because the crew responds quickly and is very helpful.

Keith St. Jeor asked Steffens if he had received his message regarding a couple of trees on Holly Street. Steffens said that he had and will be working on it when they have some time unless it is something more urgent.

Dale Rey asked if there was any resolution on the shrub issue at the Melody. Mike Steffens said that the Mayor told him to add it to the list to remove them so they plan to remove the shrubs, lay landscape fabric and cover it with rock. Netzel voiced that he was not in favor of tearing the bushes out and had concerns over the costs. Steffens stated that the town owns the landscape fabric and rock so the only expense at this time would be labor hours. Netzel feels the shrubs are a nice piece of vegetation and doesn't want to see them removed if there is another solution. Steffens said he was told to remove them and if somebody doesn't want that done then they should probably clear it with his boss, the Mayor.

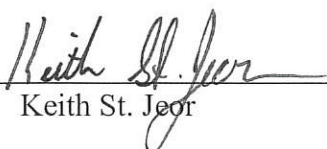
Fred Netzel motioned with Dale Rey seconding to put it on as a discussion item at the next council meeting. Discussion continued. Chief Bowden stated that the shrubs were a traffic safety issue. Netzel reminded the council that a motion and second were on the table and asked to take a vote. St. Jeor asked for more discussion on the issue. Netzel stated again that he is not in favor of taking the shrubs out. Rey asked the Chief Bowden if it will be an issue to defer the topic until the next meeting. Bowden reiterated that it is a major safety hazard. St. Jeor felt that if it is a safety issue, the hazard should be taken care of right away. Discussion was held on potentially trimming the shrubs. Steffens informed the council that they are trimmed on a regular basis. The issue is, to trim them enough to eliminate the hazard; you would be down to the stumps. Netzel withdrew his initial motion.

Dale Rey moved to include landscaping in the next fiscal budget. Motion died for lack of a second.

Keith St. Jeor moved with Larry Hall seconding to have the public works remove the shrubs and address the landscaping at budget time. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mayor Pro-Tem Keith St. Jeor adjourned the meeting at 6:41pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem 
Keith St. Jeor

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden