



**Minutes**  
**1343<sup>rd</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**September 25, 2019**

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

Mayor Bob Poch called the 1343<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m.

Mayor Poch announced that a letter of resignation has been received from Councilmember Marcia Warnecke. Poch expressed that she will be missed.

**Roll Call**

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Mervin Schmidt, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor.

Staff Present: Police Chief Paul Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden. Attorney Mick Howe was also present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mick Howe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input**

None

**Updates and Modifications to Agenda**

Mayor Poch added the Credit Union Transformer project to the Discussion Agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

Keith St Jeor moved with Ben Alling seconding to approve the consent agenda with revisions to the minutes. Motion carried.

Minutes                      Regular Council Meeting – September 11, 2019

Vouchers:                      Claim Vouchers and Checks:  
   Claim Voucher No.'s 38456 through 38470 and EFT's dated September 25, 2019 in the total amount of \$662,214.46.

**Action Agenda**

a. Tree Removal Requests

A tree removal request has been received from Larry and Judy Curtis, stating the tree is causing damage to sewer lines. Discussion was held regarding the condition of tree and a couple of the council members stated that it is a beautiful tree and don't want to see it go. The

Curtis' also submitted an invoice for auguring the sewer line due to the tree roots. Attorney Mick Howe stated that if it is the Town's tree causing the issues, the Town is probably liable for the bill. Ben Alling asked if it would be possible to have Larry Curtis attend a council meeting to provide more details. After more discussion, Ben Alling moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to approve the removal of the tree located at 1021 Central Drive. Motion carried.

A tree removal request was also submitted by Charles Teitzel of 1025 Central Drive. This request did not include the removal of a tree, rather it requested trimming of a tree. Superintendent Mike Steffens indicated that he had no objections to trimming the tree. Mervin Schmidt moved with Fred Netzel seconding to allow the tree at 1025 to be trimmed. Motion carried.

b. Ordinance 775, Speed Limit on Highway 155/River Drive

Ordinance 775, reducing the speed limit on Highway 155/River Drive, was presented for a second time. Mayor Poch stressed that he would like to get the approval on it so that the Washington State Department of Transportation can proceed with installing signs and moving school zone signs. Mervin Schmidt moved and Ben Alling seconded to adopt Ordinance 775. Motion carried.

## Discussion Agenda

a. Animal/Cat Ordinance.

A draft Cat Ordinance was prepared for council review and consideration. Fred Netzel asked if the Town has a cat problem and "what is driving this ordinance". Discussions were held regarding definitions of domestic and wild cats, live trapping of cats, relocation of trapped cats and licensing requirements. Fred Netzel was concerned about what constituted a "suitable location" for relocating cats and questioned again "who is the animal control authority".

b. Melody Roof

Mayor Poch and Superintendent Steffens continue to obtain quotes and bids for the repair of the roof over the Melody Restaurant. The figures continue to come in much higher than hoped for. Local contractors want engineered specifications to ensure that the building will hold the weight of a pitched roof. Estimates for a pitched roof are coming in at \$400,000 and higher. Mayor asked the council if it is a possibility to sell the building. Keith St. Jeor inquired about a membrane roof. The USBR recently had a membrane roof done on one of their buildings so St. Jeor will see if he can find out more information from them.

Steffens provided a couple of estimates that were obtained from Leopps to install flooring in the walk-in cooler. One estimate was for a temporary fix and the other was for a more permanent solution. The council consensus was to go with a more permanent solution and authorized the Mayor to move forward.

c. Credit Union Transformer Project

Mayor Poch stated that 2 bids have been received for the transformer replacement in the Credit Union. The Attorney has reviewed both bids. Mayor asked the council for permission

to move forward with the project. The plan is for the work to be done over Columbus Day weekend to minimize disruption to the Credit Union's business. Ben Alling moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to accept the lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to move forward with the project. Motion carried.

**Public Input**

None

**Staff, Council & Committee Report**

None

**Executive Session**

6:43pm, Mayor Poch recessed into executive session under *RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) Litigation that has been specifically threatened to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party;* Estimated for 15 minutes. No decisions will be made.

6:58pm, Mayor Poch extended the executive session for an additional 15 minutes.

**Regular Council meeting reconvened**


7:15pm, Poch called the regular meeting back to order.

**Announcements**

Mervin Schmidt asked how the council plans to go about getting a new councilmember. Attorney Mick Howe reminded the council that it was stated to the public that no other business will take place following the executive session.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 7:17pm.

Mayor   
Bob Poch

Clerk   
Stefani Bowden