



Town of Coulee Dam
Green Oasis at the Foot of Grand Coulee Dam

Minutes
1289th Regular Council Meeting
October 12, 2016

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Wilder called the 1289th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Gayle Swagerty, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor.

Excused Absent: David Schmidt and Duane Johnson

Staff Present: Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ben Alling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

None

Agenda updates & modifications

Clerk added Agenda Bill AB-2016-019 to the Action Agenda.

Consent Agenda

Gayle Swagerty moved and Ben Alling seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – September 28, 2016

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 36121 through 36165 and EFT's dated October 12, 2016 in the total amount of \$48,383.00

Payroll Vouchers: Payroll Voucher No.'s 36054, 36095 through 36103, Direct Deposits Runs and EFTs dated September 15, 2016 and September 30, 2016 in the total amount of \$69,067.65

Action Agenda

A. AB 2016-017 (2) , License Agreement to Utilize USBR Land for Trails, Resolution No. 2016-010

The council had approved the signing and executing of a 25-Year License Agreement with the USBR at the previous council meeting. The USBR is requiring that the agreement be formally accepted through a resolution. Councilman Alling stated that he is in favor of the agreement but does not want the agreement to include inspections of the Tunnel which is what the presented agreement states. Councilman St. Jeor agreed with Alling. The Clerk stated that she could ask for clarification from USBR whether that requirement would be in effect if the Tunnel were blocked off and posted with signage. Since the acceptance action was taken at a previous meeting with other councilmembers in attendance, Mayor suggested the council table the item until a full council is present. Ben Alling moved and Keith St. Jeor seconded to table Resolution No. 2016-010 until a full council is present and further information is obtained. Motion carried.

B. AB 2016-019, Regional Board of Mayors 2017 Budget, Resolution No. 2016-011

Ben Alling moved and Gayle Swagerty seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2016-011, accepting the 2017 Regional Board of Mayors Budget. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

A. Casino Update

An update on the Casino project was given by the Mayor. A lengthy discussion was held with the tribe earlier in the day regarding project issues. Fire flow policy, billing for utility connections and water model were discussed. The tribe will not pay/reimburse any sales tax that the Town incurs for work related to the Casino. Clerk will check with the Department of Revenue regarding the laws and rules relating to sales tax.

B. Sidewalks

Ben Alling stated that we need to “fix the bad ones”. Superintendent Mike Steffens is getting estimates on flat work. The crew will work on lifting, repairing, cutting roots and resetting of the good sections. Mayor inquired about possibly removing some of the sidewalks and laying gravel until the crew is able to finish repair in the spring. Citizen Larry Price liked councilmember Keith St. Jeor’s idea of hiring temporary extra help to work on sidewalk repair.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Clerk

Clerk asked the council what their thoughts were on the hanging flower baskets. It is time for pre-order if the town wishes to purchase them for next spring. Consensus was to order the set-in style for the park and left it up to the Clerk to decide.

Mayor

Interviews for an Entry Level Police Officer were conducted and the applications have been narrowed to two candidates. A consensus amongst the interview panel was not reached and a decision has not been made at this point.

The gas theft issue is still ongoing as well as items being stolen from unlocked cars. Police Department is looking into video systems and costs are being researched.

Fiber Optic Franchise Agreement is being drafted by the tribe to include dark fiber service for the Town.

Mayor is looking into Police Department salary that would be competitive with Grand Coulee. A short-term Interim Police Chief is an option that the Mayor is looking into with Public Safety Testing to provide the department with some reshaping, training and updating of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

Public Works

Superintendent Steffens has been receiving many complaints regarding lights being out on the bridge. It is not a bulb issue. The conduit and wires are severely damaged due to weather and winter de-icer being sprayed on them. The Washington State Department of Transportation has had it on a repair project for a few years, but the dates keep getting pushed back.

The Superintendent asked if the Council had any thoughts on the idea of having the electrical crane auctioned off. The crane has not been used and is very costly to maintain. The Clerk will prepare a surplus resolution for the next council meeting.

Councilmembers

Councilmember Swagerty reported on the activities of the Parks and Natural Resources Board. Discussion was held regarding the tree planting Arbor Day Event. More research is being done on types of trees and the use of tree wells to force roots to grow down. The Arbor Day Event will be a focus on tree care, trees will not be planted. Superintendent Mike Steffens had some concerns about the location that was presented for tree planting. Issues could be caused to the irrigation system and sidewalks.

Announcements

None

Executive Session

None

Public Input

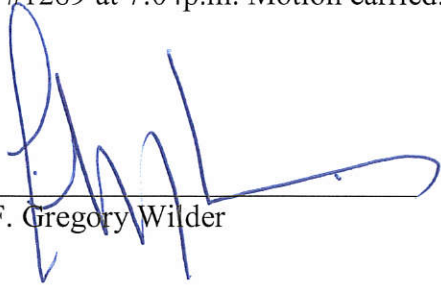
Fred Netzell asked if anything had been found out about the EWU student updating the comprehensive plan. Mayor is working with Professor Dohrn.

Adjournment

Councilmember Ben Alling motioned with Gayle Swagerty seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1289 at 7:04p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor

F. Gregory Wilder



Clerk

Stefani Bowden

