



Minutes
1421st Regular Council Meeting
October 25, 2023

5:00 p.m. Executive Session – Estimated 60 minutes

Mayor Poch opened the executive session to order at 5:03pm under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The Clerk announced a 5-minute extension at 6:00pm. Executive Session adjourned at 6:05pm.

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Poch called the 1421st regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:12 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Kevin Black, Dale Rey and Keith St. Jeor (via video conference). Merv Smidt and Larry Hall were excused absent.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Dale Rey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

None

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

Mayor Poch requested to add the approval to retain attorney to the Action Agenda. The Clerk requested to add solar installation to the Action Agenda.

Consent Agenda

(m/s Rey/Black) to approve the consent agenda contingent upon review of the vouchers by the finance committee. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – October 11, 2023

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No. 41186 through 41206 and EFTs dated October 25, 2023 in the total amount of \$ 45,760.73.

Action Agenda

- a. Retention of Attorney
(m/s Rey/Black) to retain the law firm of Etter, McMahon, Lamberson, Van Wert & Oreskovich. Motion carried.
- b. Resolution No. 2023-06, Amending Moratorium of Short-term Rentals
(m/s Rey/Black) to approve Resolution No. 2023-06 extending the moratorium on short-term rental enforcement to allow time for the planner to continue review on code adoption. Motion carried.
- c. Solar Installation – Patrick Miller
The Town has received an application from Solgen to install solar power for Patrick Miller. The council feels this decision can be made by the Mayor and Town staff and does not require council action.

Discussion Agenda

- a. Budget
Budget workshops and budget meetings schedules were discussed. The Police Chief presented a few requests for consideration for the 2024 Budget. The Police Department has an opportunity to implement a K9 unit. One of the Police Officers is a certified k9 handler and owns the dog. The dog is federally certified so he would need to be evaluated by the state. There will be some costs for installation of the cage in the patrol car, ballistic vests, equipment and mandatory 1 hour per day overtime to the handler for K9 care. Councilman Rey had some concerns over funding and questioned whether there was enough of a need for it. One citizen present was very much in support of it and wanted the council to understand the benefits it could provide for the area as a whole. Chief Bowden has talked with the school and they indicated they would be willing to help fund the program. Electric City was also in support. There are many grants available to help fund the program but a program has to be in place first. Many departments receive full funding from the community for their K9 programs. It would be nice if there were community members that would be willing to take this on. Councilman Rey would like more research done before agreeing to implementing a K9 program.

Chief Bowden also presented an opportunity to obtain some automated license plate readers through a grant. They would be stationary solar-powered units. 4 units are being applied for through the grant. Bowden asked that the council consider including 1 unit in the budget should the grant not get awarded. The council felt it was worth pursuing.

Staff, Council & Committee Report


Clerk

The accountability portion of the audit is almost complete and an exit conference is

being scheduled for November 9th. The council was provided a copy of the 3rd Quarter Financial Report.

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:56pm

Mayor 
Bob Poch

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden