



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

Minutes
1324th Regular Council Meeting
November 14, 2018

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Poch called the 1324th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Fred Netzel, Bob Poch, Marcia Warnecke, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor. Mayor Price is on an leave of absence.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Fred Netzel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hearings

a. 2019 Ad Valorem/Property Tax Revenue

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Poch open the public hearing to receive public comments regarding Ad Valorem/Property Tax Revenues anticipated for 2019 at 6:01pm. Clerk gave a brief review of the anticipated dollar amounts. With no comments, the hearing closed at 6:02pm

b. 2019 Preliminary Budget

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Poch open the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the 2019 Budget at 6:03pm. It was noted that some minor changes to the presented figures are anticipated. With no public comments, the hearing closed at 6:04pm

Presentations

Assistant Fire Chief Judah Pope provided the council with information on Fire Hazard Mitigation. He referenced several areas around town that are potential fire hazards and are in need of underbrush clearing. Some areas of concern include the old railroad behind the Credit Union, Fiddle Creek, USBR Land west of Highway 155, the Tilmus Street loop, and the Lower River Road. The council wanted to make it clear that several of these properties are owned by the USBR and that permission and plans would need to go through them. Pope agreed and has already been making contact with them. Ben Alling moved and Marcia Warnecke seconded to authorize the Fire Department to pursue a plan and report back to council. Motion carried.

Public Input

None

Agenda updates & modifications

Two Agenda Bills were added to the Action Agenda including a budget amendment and the first reading the 2019 Budget Ordinance. The Credit Union transformers were added as a discussion item.

Consent Agenda

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

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – October 24, 2018
Budget Workshops – October 24, 2018, November 5, 2018, November 13, 2018

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No.'s 37821 through 37859 and EFT's dated November 14, 2018 in the total amount of \$59,680.57.

Manual Vouchers: Claim Voucher No.'s 37809 through 37810 dated October 25, 2018 in the total amount of \$1,410.45.

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 37811 through 37820, EFT's and direct deposits dated October 15th and 31st 2018 in the total amount of \$ 86,543.47.

Bank Fees: October 2018 Invoice Cloud and Bank Fees

Action Agenda

- a. AB 2018-30, Ordinance No. 765, Setting 2019 Salaries and Wages
Marcia Warnecke move with Keith St. Jeor seconding to adopt Ordinance No. 765, setting the salaries and wages for 2019. Motion carried.
- b. AB 2018-31, Ordinance No. 766, 2019 Ad Valorem/Property Tax
Keith St. Jeor moved and Marcia Warnecke seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 766, 2019 Ad Valorem/Property Taxes. Motion carried.
- c. AB 2018-33, Ordinance No. 767, 2018 Budget Amendment
Ben Alling moved and Marcia Warnecke seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 767 amending the 2018 Budget. Motion carried.
- d. AB 2018-32, Ordinance No. 768, 2019 Budget First Reading

Ben Alling moved with Keith St. Jeor seconding to accept the first reading of Ordinance No. 768, 2019 Budget. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

a. 2019 Budget/Utility Rates

Draft Resolutions for setting Electric and Sewer Rates were provided to the council for consideration and review. These rates show an increase in sewer by \$11.00 and an increase of \$3.93 in the electric base rate. A KWH rate increase of .01 was also included. The general consensus of the council was that increases are necessary in order for the town to keep up with rising costs due to the sewer treatment plant project and the increase in electrical rates imposed by Bonneville Power. Garbage rates were also discussed with the possibility of an increase as well as Sunrise Disposal is requesting a rate increase.

b. Credit Union Transformers

Bob Poch asked the council for permission to seek bids and estimates from engineers for the replacement of the transformers located in the basement of the Credit Union. Ben Alling moved and Marcia Warnecke seconded to proceed with seeking bids. Motion carried.

c. Wastewater Treatment Plant Updates, Varela Engineers

Engineer Daniel Cowger provided the council with an update on the progress on the wastewater treatment plant project. He has been discussing the need for additional funds with USDA Rural Development (RD) to install the needed lift station pumps to accommodate Elmer City's waste. The discussions have been positive and there could be a potential for a large amount of grant funds. RD has encouraged the town to apply for the supplemental funding. Ben Alling moved and Marcia Warnecke seconded to authorize the Mayor/Mayor Pro-Tem to work with the engineer to apply for Rural Development funds.

A brief discussion was held on delay costs which could result in approximately \$150,000 shortfall in funds if an extension is granted to the contractor.

Cowger provided a slideshow of pictures showing the progress of the project.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Clerk

A liquor license renewal request has been received for Coulee View Food and Fuel. If there are any objections to the renewal, they need to be provided to the Clerk as soon as possible.

Public Works

Superintendent Mike Steffens asked what to do with all the Christmas Lights that have been dropped off at his shop. The Parks Board had asked for donations of lights to decorate the trees in Douglas and Mason Parks. Steffens was not aware of it and asked if his crew was expected to hang the lights. None of the councilmembers knew anything on the matter.

Councilmembers

Ben Alling and Fred Netzel will be meeting with the Fire Chief to go over budget requests.

Marcia Warnecke asked about the ownership status of the Melody Restaurant as she heard it had changed owners. The Town has never been officially notified. The Clerk will look into it and check with the attorney.

Executive Session

None

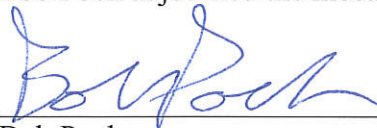
Public Input

None

Adjournment

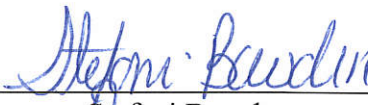
Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Poch adjourned the meeting at 7:05pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem



Bob Poch

Clerk



Stefani Bowden