



**MINUTES**  
**Budget Workshop**  
**November 29, 2023**  
**5:30 p.m.**

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**THOSE PRESENT**

Mayor Bob Poch  
Councilmember Kevin Black  
Councilmember Merv Schmidt  
Councilmember Dale Rey  
Councilmember Larry Hall (via teleconference)  
Councilmember Keith St. Jeor

Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden  
Police Chief Paul Bowden

Mayor Poch opened the workshop at 5:32 p.m.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

The Clerk stated that all funds have been reviewed and discussed and a complete document was provided for final review.

A letter requesting lodging tax funds was received from the Chamber of Commerce. The new executive director told the Clerk that she intends to focus on more activities in Coulee Dam but is requesting the funds to cover advertising and event costs for the Festival of America event. The council expressed some concerns about the lack of support that has been shown from Chamber in recent years for Coulee Dam and would like to hear from the Chamber of Commerce as to the specifics of what the funds will be used on.

Coulee Corridor has requested \$400 to replace a Scenic Byway sign in Coulee Dam. The Ridge Riders have asked for \$15,000 to promote their events and the Okanogan Tourism Council is asking for a percentage of lodging tax revenues to promote the area in their tourism guides.

After all expenditures and reserves have been allocated for the town, the remaining funds available to distribute to other is \$6000. The Council suggested awarding \$400 to Coulee Corridor and the remaining \$5600 to the Chamber of Commerce. Final decision will be made once the budget has been adopted.

The Clerk brought up an issue with the water rates to the council's attention. The town has one service line that is located outside of the city limits. The current rate schedule only charges for usage in 100 cubic feet increments, which only equates to around \$10 on some months. There is no base rate established for this type of service. Discussion was held on the meter size and how much to charge for outside city limit service to be fair to all rate payers. Discussion with the Public Works Superintendent and more research is needed before the new rates can be determined.

No decisions were made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Budget Workshop meeting was adjourned at 5:55p.m.

Mayor Robert A. ... Clerk Alyson Bawden