



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

**Minutes**  
**1286<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**July 27, 2016**

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

Mayor Wilder called the 1286<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Council members present: David Schmidt, Gayle Swagerty, Ben Alling and Keith St. Jeor. Duane Johnson arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Staff Present: Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Jo Wiebe filling in for Clerk Stefani Bowden who was on vacation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ben Alling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing**

None

**Public Input**

None

**Agenda updates & modifications**

Mayor Wilder informed the council there would be an executive session towards the end of the council meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

David Schmidt moved and Gayle Swagerty seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes                      Regular Council Meeting – July 13, 2016

Vouchers:                    Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 35974 through 35993 and EFT's dated June 27, 2016 in the total amount of \$82,413.51.

Treasurer's Report: 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Financial Report

## **Action Agenda**

- A. AB 2016-016, Casino Hold Harmless Agreement/Fire Flow Policy  
Ben Alling moved and David Schmidt seconded to approve the Casino Hold Harmless Agreement/Fire Flow Policy. Motion carried.
  
- B. Mayor Pro-Tempore selection  
Gayle Swagerty moved and Ben Alling seconded to reappoint David Schmidt as Mayor Pro-Tempore. Motion carried.

## **Discussion Agenda**

- A. USBR Police Services Solicitation  
Wilder stated that Council members Ben Alling and Gayle Swagerty both had a chance to review the agreement along with the town attorney and himself. Wilder said that he and the attorney both think “why bother, what is the point”. Council members are concerned the town does not have the police coverage now. Ben Alling was concerned about the hours required for the USBR police contract, being 24 hours per day and the response time of 5 minutes. Gayle Swagerty also believes that the town does not have the coverage we need now and doesn’t see how we can hire enough officers to fill the USBR contract by the deadline. Swagerty also stated to the council that she spoke with reserve officer Mike Sullivan about his experience with working the USBR contract the town had previously. Wilder stated communications about the contract should be with interim Chief Larry Hall. Council members stated that the contract would not benefit the town the same as it did the last time being we would have to supply all our own equipment. Mayor Wilder informed the council that we have more time to discuss this agreement and would need to look into all options and discuss further with interim Chief and council.

Gayle Swagerty mentioned looking into School safety officers to get the town more involved with the school and students.

- B. Employee Accrued Leave Liability  
Mayor Wilder would like to look into possible investment pools, savings account or some other way of setting these funds aside so it is not such a huge hit when we have to cash out an employee. David Schmidt had several suggestions and would like to develop a policy. Schmidt requested for a fact finding group to start the process. Greg appointed David Schmidt and Keith St. Joer to start the discussions and to request the union contracts. Wilder would like to discuss this further when clerk Stefani Bowden returns.

## **Staff, Council & Committee Reports**

### Mayor

Mayor briefly discussed the casino fiber construction. Casino wants to run fiber across the bridge through Douglas and end at Grant County. Wilder stated the town owned pole already has 12

pairs of fiber lines on it and the town does not know who owns the fiber lines. Wilder did a walk through with Grant County Utilities and both were surprised at how many there were that should be part of the franchise process. The town and the attorney are looking into the fiber and franchises. Wilder mentioned that it is a very difficult process and could become a Federal legal issue.

Mayor spoke about sidewalk repairs and stated we are waiting on some stop and caution signs before we can move forward. There is not much in the budget for repairs this year so he would like to discuss further to find other ways we can get the sidewalks repaired. The town will take care of highest priority first. More on this issue at a later date.

Wilder informed council that the Town will be reimbursing the Melody for the permit fee for the HVAC system.

The USBR easement near the wastewater treatment site quit deed was denied. The town has notified them about any digging for geological purposes. Before any digging was done they would need to provide notification to gas company, electrical company water etc. The USBR have been notified that they are in trespass. The town is still in discussions with USBR and Wilder hopes to have it resolved sooner than later and assured it will not delay the WWTP construction project.

The Mayor announced that Mike Steffens has accepted the Superintendent position as of August 1, 2016 and is very pleased about that decision.

The Police Chief Application process is moving forward. The Civil Service will be meeting on Friday to choose 3 or 4 applicants for the next process. The interviews will be similar to the last time and will begin soon. Civil Service is also in the process of changing the application process for lateral officers. Laterals will still have to do a written test but not the physical testing required by entry level officers. New ad out for a lateral officers next week and would like to hire 1-2 officers 3 if the town decides to take the USBR contract. Wilder mentioned once a Chief is hired the interim Chief Larry Hall will return back to the Sargent.

#### Clerk

The Town has received a liquor license renewal for Harvest Foods. Jo Wiebe asked if there was any objections or questions to notify Clerk Stefani Bowden when she returns on Monday.

#### Public Works

Mike Steffens mentioned the trees on power lines, and that the town needs to do some electrical trimming. Mike stated that electrical trimming will be the big budget item for next year but will have to use some emergency funds for the immediate problems.

Mike is excited about the new Superintendent position.

### Councilmembers

Gayle Swagerty, the Parks and Natural Resource Board met with Amanda Ward who represents Foster Creek Conservation District and did a tour. Received some good ideas on how to clean up Fiddle Creek and would like to develop a five year plan. The Washington Trail Association and the National Park Service will begin clean-up of Candy Point trail this fall. David mentioned the possibility of releasing the water back into Fiddle Creek and replanting some natural growth.

Keith St. Jeor talked about the abandoned car issue in all three towns. There is no place to store such cars. He asked if Greg could mention at the next Mayor meeting the possibility of storing the abandoned cars at a location all three towns could use until they could be destroyed. Possibly the Delano dump.

Keith also mentioned the possibility of re-writing some codes and ordinances, mainly regarding reoffenders and start fining the residents who continue to not follow the codes. Greg agreed and mentioned that he would like to see a total revamp of the codes. Would like to put a committee together to start the process.

Duane requested the rocks get cleaned up at Mason City Park.

### Executive Session

Wilder closed the public meeting for Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 section (f) at 7:40 p.m. for 15 minutes.

Wilder reopened the public meeting at 7:48 p.m.

### Public Input

None

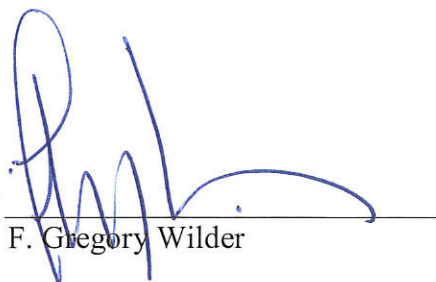
### Announcements

None

### Adjournment

Councilmember David Schmidt motioned with Duane Johnson seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1286 at 7:50p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor



F. Gregory Wilder

Clerk



Jo Wiebe, Assistant Clerk