



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

Minutes
1269th Regular Council Meeting
August 12, 2015

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Wilder called the 1269th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Ken Miles, Gayle Swagerty, Ben Alling and Duane Johnson. Shawn Derrick was excused absent.

Staff Present were Public Works Acting Superintendent Mike Steffens, Police Sergeant Larry Hall and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ken Miles led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation – GCDA Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce President Peggy Nevsimal gave an overview of the 2015 Festival of America Celebration held over the Fourth of July weekend indicating that overall it was a success even with the unusually high temperatures. The beer garden, being the first year, was just shy of breaking even. Ideas were mentioned on what changes could be made for the future. Parking issues were addressed and suggestions were made on how to improve parking including the possibility of providing a bus shuttle service to and from the park. Citizens and councilmembers suggested that more signage to parking areas may help. Entertainment ideas were discussed with a suggestion to have some time for local talent to be showcased such as an “open mike” session. Even though the attendance count was down, the vendor count was up. Ms. Nevsimal stated that a different vendor was used for fireworks this year and has received many comments that the show was spectacular. The hope is that with some additional funding from local businesses and private donors that next year will be even better. A quilt show has been secured for next year’s festival.

Public Input

Carol Netzel asked where the money from the sale of the surplus fire truck went. Mayor Wilder explained that, as with any surplus sale, the money is receipted into the general fund. It is a council decision to allocate the money to different funds during the budget process.

Fred Netzel asked for a Wastewater Treatment Project update. Mayor provided a brief update on the status of the Rural Development funding application process. Elmer City is still proceeding

with their own analysis review. The past license agreement with the USBR for land use near the current facility is expired. An interim license agreement with is being worked out. There is a potential that the Town could acquire ownership of this land in the future.

Dave Schmidt gave a Parks and Natural Resources Board update stating that the board is meeting every Wednesday morning at 9:00am. They will be conducting a strategic planning session on August 26th and will be reviewing prior parks plans to update as appropriate. He stated the board is striving to improve parks and trees. The Tree City USA status has been achieved once again. They board requested to have the Tree City USA flag flown on the flagpole at Town Hall.

Agenda updates & modifications

Ken Miles requested a small revision/clarification to the previous meeting minutes under the Public Hearing for the Chicken Ordinance.

Consent Agenda

Ken Miles moved and Duane Johnson seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – July 8, 2015

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 35156 through 35173 , and EFT's dated July 22, 2015 in the total amount of \$67,199.00.

Claim Voucher No.'s 35183 through 35229 dated August 12, 2015 in the total amount of \$74,567.58.

Manually issued check No.'s 35181 in the amount of \$490.00 issued on July 29, 2015

Voided Checks: 33507 (Lost check. Reissued as check #35230)

Payroll: Payroll Voucher No.'s 35155, 35174 through 35180 , direct deposits and EFT's dated July 15, 2015 and July 31, 2015 in the total amount of \$ 90,43390.

Bank Fees: July 2015 in the amount of \$ 55.82 .

Action Agenda

A. AB 2015-022, Code Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Wilder proposed the creation and hiring of a Code Enforcement Officer.

Meetings were held with Electric City regarding their lien based enforcement

procedures. They pay their officer a flat amount each month based on 20 hours per

month and have indicated that the process is working well. Discussion was held between citizens, council and Police Sergeant Larry Hall regarding current enforcement issues. Our current process of issuing citations is not working and is ultimately unenforceable through Okanogan County. A lien process may be more effective. The issue of animal control was a huge concern. The code enforcement officer will not be able to enforce dog and cat issues. Animal control is difficult due to the Town not having the means to board animals and the veterinarian expense is too much of a burden on the Town. Councilwoman Swagerty asked how the Town's codes/requirements differed from the Tribes. Sergeant Hall provided some clarification stating that it is complicated when involving Tribal Trust Property.

Councilman Ben Alling said he would like to see a job description before a decision is made to hire a code enforcement officer. Swagerty asked "if it were a consultant, would they bring along their own job description"? Councilman Miles asked how would he (consultant) know a job description. Wouldn't he just follow the code?

Councilman Duane Johnson wanted to take a moment to note that there appears to be some disagreement and accusations amongst councilmember(s)/Mayor and requested that those issues be kept amongst themselves and separate from council meetings.

Swagerty stated that she likes the idea of a Code Enforcement Officer. A Code Enforcer will bring a different type of energy than the police will to individuals being addressed. People may be less defensive to a code enforcer than they would be to a police officer and may respond better.

Miles asked how long the contract would be. Mayor stated it would only be for remainder of year. The future of the position will be addressed during the budget process.

Citizen Carol Netzel made the statement "the Devil is in the details". Herb Sherburn asked if Electric City had a job description. Clerk Stefani Bowden replied that she understood they did not and that they basically just used their code as the job description. Michelle Campoboso inquired about the possibility of the four towns sharing one full time Code Enforcement Officer. She also brought up a continued dog problem she has with her neighbor and the lack of action from the Police Chief, stating "nothing is being done". Fred Netzel voiced that the officer needs to know what codes are enforceable. That is why a job description is needed.

Councilman Johnson recommended that the Mayor move forward with creating the position of Code Enforcement Officer. Gayle Swagerty moved with Ken Miles seconding the Town create the position of Code Enforcement Officer to follow the code and direct the Mayor to fill such position for the remainder of 2015. Motion carried.

B. AB 2015-018(3), Ordinance No.733, Chicken Hen .

Mayor Wilder gave an overview of the proposed Chicken Ordinance and informed all in attendance that a small committee was formed and met to provide input on improvements and changes to the Ordinance. The committee consisted of two community members and two council members. Clerk Bowden reviewed and presented the revised Ordinance with the changes suggested by the committee. A citizen submitted a written question to councilmembers regarding the Ordinance conflicting with the current codes. Councilwoman Swagerty wanted to clarify that the Ordinance does state that it will amend the current code and add a new section to the code. After brief discussion regarding the revised Ordinance, Ken Miles made the motion to reject Ordinance #733 with Ben Alling seconding the motion. Motion carried with three votes (Miles, Alling and Johnson) in favor and one (Swagerty) against. Citizen Dave Schmidt stated he feels the motion was illegal. Clerk stated that she will check legalities but does think the motion and action stands.

C. AB 2015-023, Selection of Parks and Historical Resources Board Member

Mayor informed the council that a vacant position on the Parks and Historical Resources had been filled by his appointment of Darlene Morava and asked for council's confirmation of action. Gayle Swagerty moved and Ken Miles seconded to confirm the Parks and Historical Resources Board member appointment made by the Mayor. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

A. Street Parking issues near the school

Mayor Wilder gave brief review of the TIB grant application project for potential funding for streets around the school.

B. Riverview Lanes Bowling Alley Lease

Clerk stated that the 30 day notice to tenant is almost up. Contact will be made with Town attorney to move forward.

Staff, Council & Committee Reports

Mayor

Mayor received a letter requesting a change in the air conditioning at the Melody Restaurant. Ben Alling asked that the lease agreement be reviewed to determine who is responsible for the system before any further discussion on the issue.

Clerk

Clerk informed council that she will be out of the office for most of next week for training. Council packets will be out the following Monday.

Public Works

Mayor Wilder informed the council that Mike Steffens is serving as the Acting Superintendent. The job announcement has been placed online at AWC and Evergreen Rural Water and printed in the Star and Spokesman Review newspapers.

Police

Councilmembers

Gayle Swagerty asked the council if there were any written plans submitted on a splash park proposal from a few years ago. Councilmembers and Clerk will check past Council Agendas.

Executive Session

None

Public Input

Quincy Snow stated that the Comprehensive Plan does include the Tribe regarding some enforcement issue.

Adjournment

Councilmember Gayle Swagerty motioned with Councilmember Ken Miles seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1269 at 8:15p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor


F. Gregory Wilder

Clerk


Stefani Bowden