



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

Minutes
1267th Regular Council Meeting
June 10, 2015

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Wilder called the 1267th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Ken Miles, Gayle Swagerty, Shawn Derrick and Ben Alling. Duane Johnson joined the meeting at 6:05pm.

Staff Present were Public Works Superintendent Barry Peacock and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden.

Pledge of Allegiance

Shawn Derrick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

Micah Seekins of Coulee Internet asked the council to consider allowing his business to place equipment on town owned power poles which would enable him to provide better internet service to residents of Coulee Dam. Superintendent Barry Peacock stated that he has looked into a few locations and there doesn't appear to be any issues. Mayor, Superintendent Peacock and Mr. Seekins will meet sometime next week to begin discussions of drafting a rental/lease agreement.

Agenda updates & modifications

None

Consent Agenda

Ken Miles moved and Shawn Derrick seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – May 13, 2015

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:

Claim Voucher No.'s 35004 through 35032 and EFT's dated May 27, 2015 in the total amount of \$81,097.43.

Claim Voucher No.'s 35036 through 35077 and EFT's dated June 10, 2015 in the total amount of \$64,306.75.

Manually issued check No.'s 34996 in the amount of \$300.00 , 35034 in the amount of \$466.58 and 35035 to replace lost check #34843 issued on March 25, 2015

Voided Checks: Check No. 35018 in the amount of \$3079.46, 35029 in the amount of \$100.26, and 34843 (lost check – replaced with 35035).

Payroll: Payroll Voucher No.'s 34995, 34997 through 35003 , 35033 , direct deposits and EFT's dated May 15, 2015 and May 29, 2015 in the total amount of \$ 85,387.14.

Bank Fees: April 2015 in the amount of \$ 2.00 .

Action Agenda

A. AB 2015-018, Ordinance No.733, Chicken Hens – First Reading .

Draft Ordinance No. 733, which would allow Chicken Hens to be kept within the town, was introduced for first reading. Mayor and Clerk both stated that it is a very simple ordinance. It would allow up to 4 chicken hens, no roosters, with one clipped wing. Permits would be required and regulations set for noise and odor control, coops and hours in which chickens can be outside of coops. Police would be required to enforce the code.

Duane Johnson suggested that the ordinance specifies a minimum square footage of land per chicken. Ken Miles asked that the council not take any action on ordinance until the July 8, 2015 due to his excused absence of the June 26th meeting. He would like to have a vote concerning the issue. Gayle Swagerty was very much in favor of the idea as was Shawn Derrick. Derrick feels there should be some requirements for disease control.

Citizen Jan Williams was not in favor of allowing chickens in town. She stated she could potentially be surrounded by having 5 very close neighbors. They could attract predators, cause odor and noise problems and feels that there will be no enforcement. Keith St. Jeor asked if the chickens will be classified as “pets” or a “business”. He is also concerned about enforcement of the code and odor. Sherry Snow asked who would be enforcing the code stating that there are already problems with the dog and cat enforcement. She said she is very much against allowing chickens.

Councilmember Ben Alling feels that enough citizens are not aware of this ordinance proposal and would like to hear from more of them before any action is taken.

The Clerk will schedule a public hearing for the July 8, 2015 council meeting to take public input on the subject.

B. AB 2015-019, Land Purchase Acknowledgement

Mayor Wilder informed the council and public that a land purchase has been finalized for a 2.03 acre parcel adjacent to the wastewater plant. The purchase price of \$8000 was well below fair market and assessed value. The additional area of land will be beneficial in the construction and expansion of the wastewater plant. Another parcel of interest is a section owned by the USBR which could potentially be leased. The USBR has several drainage wells in the area. In the process of researching the surrounding parcels, it was discovered that the town already owns one parcel adjacent to the plant.

Quincy Snow asked who the town purchased the property from and if the area is buildable. The sellers were part of a family trust of Suppiger/Meyer. Most of the area is steep, but there is a portion that is buildable. It also eliminates the potential of others building near the plant, which could result in odor complaints.

Councilman Alling asked if there will be well issues. Mayor responded that there will be no geotechnical issues.

Gayle Swagerty moved and Duane Johnson seconded to acknowledge and ratify the purchase of the parcel of land adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant in the amount of \$8000. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

A. Street Parking issues near the school

Mayor Wilder has been in discussions with School Superintendent Dennis Carlson regarding the street parking issues around the school. Mr. Carlson will be requiring that students use the school parking lot when returning to school in the fall. Striping of streets and parking permits were also some ideas.

Superintendent Barry Peacock stated that both the public works and the school are very well aware of the issue. Crosswalk safety is also a concern in the same area. Mr. Peacock is working with police to find a solution.

Councilman Alling asked if the residents in the area are aware of the issue. He feels they should be included in considerations of solutions. Duane Johnson recommended that the Park Service be brought in for discussion concerning their lot used for overflow parking. Quincy Snow stated that area is actually owned by the USBR.

B. Parks

1. Restrooms

Douglas Park restrooms are open for the summer. Councilmember Gayle Swagerty asked if signage could be put up informing people that they are open. The rest of council didn't feel that was necessary. The Police Department is ensuring that the restrooms get locked up after dark each night. Cole Park restrooms are not open.

2. Smoking in parks

The town received a concern about smoking in the park around children and was asked if it is prohibited in a public park. The Clerk checked with MRSC and the RCW and determined that the "no-smoking" law only pertains to buildings. Other cities have passed ordinances prohibiting it in certain parks but have had some difficulties with enforcing it.

Councilman Miles feels it would be difficult to enforce an ordinance prohibiting smoking in the parks.

It was suggested by several in attendance to look into posting signs discouraging, not prohibiting, smoking around the areas where children are playing. Clerk will look into legalities.

Staff, Council & Committee Reports

Mayor

It is time for the Labor Bargaining Unit to re-open for negotiations. Mayor is working on a salary schedule that would be step based and include incentive pay.

Electric City has accepted the Town of Coulee Dam police service proposal which should take effect the beginning of next year.

Fire Department individual walk through doors have been installed. The roll-up garage doors were delivered earlier in the day and are scheduled to be installed Monday the 15th. Electrical work will be done at same time. Barry is looking into having the keypad access re-programmed. There has been another theft reported which has been turned over to the police. Fire Chief is continuing to work on Policies and Procedures.

Gloria Bennett of Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) was here today to meet with Mayor, Superintendent Peacock, Councilman Miles and engineers from Varela to review the funding opportunities for streets. Improvements around the school are looking to be the most favorable. Mr. Peacock gave council a brief overview of the three funding programs that TIB has to offer. We are hoping to apply for three separate projects, one in each of the three areas. Ms. Bennett stated that the last time they did an assessment of the town's streets they miss-classified Mead Street in front of Harvest Foods. They didn't realize it was a street, thought it was a parking lot. They will change that. We are not unusual in our need for street funding. It is a very

competitive project as approximately 163 other towns are looking for the same funding. Local funding options can be looked into also.

Security cameras for the park were inadvertently not included in the 2015 Budget. It was budgeted in 2014 in the amount of \$9500.

Clerk

The 2014 Annual Report has been completed and submitted to the Washington State Auditor.

Public Works

The WSDOT has confirmed that the bridge light replacement is set on a project but it isn't likely to be completed until 2017. Since the state is funding the project, we can take it off of our project list for seeking funding.

Police

Councilmembers

Gayle Swagerty and Mayor Wilder met with Lynne Brougher of the USBR to discuss potential locations for the fallen worker's monument. Two possible locations were provided to the Town. Riley Point is up for an improvement project and it might be good timing to include the monument. The Bureau cannot have a "memorial" but suggested we use the monument as an "Outdoor Educational Exhibit". Susan Dechant of the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society has been working on obtaining the names of workers who perished while working on the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam. As of now, she has 81 confirmed with one more in the process of being identified.

Councilmembers Miles and Derrick have discussed the school parking issue. Mr. Miles also participated in the TIB meeting earlier in the day.

Gayle Swagerty stated that the tree inventory funding is on hold until the state legislature approves budget. She also attended the Regional Board of Mayors meeting where recycling was a topic of discussion.

Executive Session

None

Public Input

Quincy Snow stated that Alex with Indian Health Services wasn't in favor of a "package" plant for wastewater treatment. Will a "package" plant be able to handle the load of the new school? Mayor Wilder stated that the Town of Coulee Dam is too large to handle that type of plant. Those types are intended for much smaller entities such as resorts. The new plant that the Town is pursuing isn't a "package" type of plant.

Mr. Snow asked Mayor Wilder where the figures came from regarding sewer rates that were included in the recent newsletter. Snow claimed they were not accurate and accused the Mayor of lying to the public. Mayor Wilder stated that the figures were accurate with information

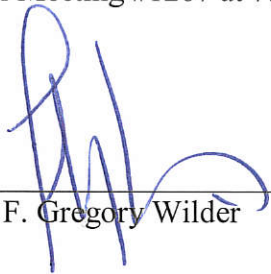
supplied from the Department of Ecology. Previous rates did not include future improvements of the plant. Ben Alling stated that if we borrow 40 years vs. 20 years, we will be stuck with paying for twice as much in the end. The mayor felt the matter was not complete with the true costs and the intent is to provide users with reasonable and affordable fees.

Bob Hinkey informed the council that he is concerned about the 3 foot tall grass/weeds in his neighborhood. It is a fire hazard and animals and rodents are living in it. The police department will be notified to take a look at it.

Keith St. Joer expressed a concern regarding a neighbor's garbage and lack of can and asked if the town could look into the issue. Clerk asked him to provide the information to the billing Clerk so it can be addressed.

Adjournment

Councilmember Ken Miles motioned with Councilmember Shawn Derrick seconding to adjourn Council Meeting #1267 at 7:42p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor  _____
F. Gregory Wilder

Clerk  _____
Stefani Bowden