
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gagne called the regular meeting of the Omak City Council to order at 7:00 PM and established a quorum. Everyone joined in the flag salute.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Nattalie Cariker	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator (CA)
Barry Freel	Tyler Wells, Building Official (BO)
Steve Clark	Jeremy Patrick, Fire Chief
Meyer Louie	Dan Christensen, Chief of Police
Michelle Gaines	Wayne Beetchenow, Public Works Director (PWD)
Dave Womack	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Mike Foth	Rochelle Danielson, CORE Program Manager/Outreach Specialist

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen Rudy Gates was in attendance to address the Council about the need for handrails in the Stampede Arena chute seats. He explained his ideas to Council. Mayor Gagné thanked Mr. Gates and said that his request would be moved to the Council Committee and would get back to him.

Police Chief Christensen administered the Oath of Office to Philip Johnson. Mrs. Johnson was in attendance along with their children. Mrs. Johnson pinned the badge on his uniform.

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gagné gave a shout out for the downtown clean up yesterday that was coordinated by Kristen Little. She said a lot of people were out and she congratulated Kristen and her group. Next Saturday from 9am-12pm, East Omak School will be hosting another clean up. They will provide the bags, just bring gloves.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Womack, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the April 1, 2024, meeting; 2024 claims checks numbered 110966-111036 in the amount of \$767,276.95; May 2024 Manual checks numbered 110725-110728, 110878-110879 in the amount of \$1,099.95; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 1940 – 2nd Read - Approve Budget Amendment for the Sewer & Sewer Cumulative Funds

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Ordinance 1940. CA McDaniel reminded the Council the Ordinance will appropriate money for the emergency sewer crossing. The boring has been done and they are doing Geotech. The project cost is going to be the same if the line is run across the bridge or is under the river. Member Clark asked about the land acquisition. CA McDaniel said the purchase would be contingent on the Geotech. The city is waiting to hear from the engineers. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 38-2024 – Approve Supplemental Agreement with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for the Design of the Eastside Park Lift Station 2 Project

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 38-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council this is an engineering agreement for the design and bid award services for the emergency sewer line project crossing the river. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 39-2024 – Guaranteeing Grant Match Funds Availability to the Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation

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Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve Resolution 39-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council if the application is approved, the grant with WSDOT Aviation will match five percent, \$63,548.19 of the North Taxiway A Reconstruction project. The bids for this project were opened last Thursday, April 11, 2024. The engineers are reviewing the bids. He and CA McDaniel will be meeting to ensure the entire project in addition to funding are good. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 40-2024 – Amending the 2024 City of Omak Fee Schedule

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 40-2024. CA McDaniel explained to the Council that Building Official Wells found an error in the permitting valuation fees. This clerical error was made when updating the fee schedule format. In consulting with Attorney Howe, he advised the city needs to charge according to the fee schedule and the City issued refunds back to two contractors. The fee schedule includes a new fee for pools and fencing in addition to verbiage clarification to the sewer average rates. Member Womack asked what the purpose was for adding a permit fee for pools. BO Wells explained that according to the International Building Codes of Washington, he is required to inspect any pool that is more than twenty-four inches deep. This inspection includes but is not limited to ensuring the property owner has adequate fencing, latches, locks, and alarms on doors. Currently, permits are based on valuation. The \$200 would cover his time for the inspection and review. There was further discussion about charging the \$200 permit fee for the installation of above ground “Wal-Mart” pools, the affordability to residents and how it would be enforced. Member Cariker understood the safety concerns around the inspections and shared her experiences with pools. Member Gaines does not agree with the fee. Member Cariker moved, seconded by Member Foth, to table Resolution 40-2024 and asked the Personnel/Finance Committee to further discuss the fees. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare Presentation

Dave McClay, Chief Executive Officer of OBHC introduced Sarah Claussen, Director of Crisis Services. Ms. Claussen shared a PowerPoint presentation about the Crisis Response Program. She informed the Council about the history of the program, community partners, staffing and shared statistics. Member Womack asked if OBHC could share statistics comparing it to last year versus just the last three months. Ms. Claussen said she could get that information to Council. Mayor Gagné asked about how many Designated crisis responders (DCR’s) were on staff and how many were on the mobile unit. And for the sake of the lay person, she asked if the mobile unit was out in public looking or if it was posted and then called out. Ms. Claussen said the mobile unit deploys when alerted and asked to come. Mayor Gagné also asked what a community member should do if they see someone that looks like they are in crisis. Ms. Claussen said they are welcome to call the mobile crisis unit. The Mayor’s final question was about a DCR who issues an Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) and what the structure is and if a DCR’s decision is overridden or reviewed. Ms. Claussen said that an ITA has rigid criteria, and it is based on a concern for immanency. The ITA is a process with investigation, contact with family, the hospital etc. it is a collaborative review with the DCR for the ITA.

Citizen Ronnie Jackson asked about OBHC contracts with cities. Mr. McClay explained there are no agreements with cities and that OBHC is countywide. They provide the same services throughout Okanogan County. Member Freel asked about the phone number 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and where someone is routed if they were to call. Ms. Claussen said the 988 number is not as successful in our area.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

BO Wells informed Council the Enterprise Way Short Plat on Engh and Enterprise Drive is almost complete. There is a new boundary line adjustment on Juniper Street that is under review and out for comment. He is also working on the annexation of city owned property at the airport. With the nice weather, he is seeing more building permits.

CORE Program Manager Danielson informed Council the Team O.N.E building is coming along. They have hung a banner in the front window for recruitment. They are planning the Open House for early May.

Member Cariker said the Community Cleanup was great fun!

Member Clark thanked the Omak Police Department for the recent drug bust and said it was awesome work. He also asked PWD Beetchenow about the playground equipment project. PWD Beetchenow said the equipment is here and they are working on the installation. They are going to install the one at the pool first.

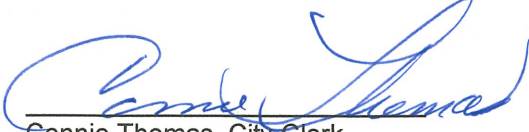
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Member Womack echoed Member Clark regarding the drug bust and said it was unfortunate that it was near the elementary school.

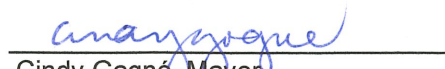
Member Gaines strongly expressed her concerns about the fact that five percent of the Omak police calls are to the apartment complex at 600 Jonathan which is in front of the elementary school. She said that Nancy Nash guaranteed this would not be an issue and the residents of the apartments would be closely vetted. She feels a serious conversation needs to be had with Mrs. Nash and the Housing Authority.

Citizen Ronnie Jackson said she is thankful for the drug bust.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor