
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gagné called the regular meeting of the Omak City Council to order at 7:00 PM and everyone joined in the flag salute.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Michael Foth	Tyler Wells, Building Official
Nattalie Cariker	Kevin Bowling, Fire Chief
Barry Freel	Jeff Koplín, Police Chief
Steve Clark	Ken Mears, Public Works Director
Walt Womack	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Michelle Gaines	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator
Dave Womack	Kurt Danison, Contract Planner

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Dave Womack, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the January 6, 2020 meeting and January 16, 2020 special meeting. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dennis Carlton – Vice Chair of the Omak School Board – Levy Presentation

Dennis Carlton was in attendance along with Omak School Board Chair, Kathie Brown. Mr. Carlton wanted to provide Council with information regarding the upcoming Omak School District Education Programs and Operations Levy. As leaders in the community he asked they spread the word about the February 11, 2020 vote. This is a replacement levy and if passed, it will provide stable income to the Omak School District for the next four years. Information about the levy is available on the Omak School District website. Mr. Carlton shared with Council that they are seeking a new superintendent as Dr. Swanson will be leaving his position at the end of July. Mrs. Brown told Council that she appreciated the opportunity to speak to them about the Levy. She explained the interview process for the Superintendent applicants. She shared an invitation to apply for the Superintendent Interview Observer Panel. If chosen, that person would provide input to the board about each candidate. There was discussion about the McCleary decision and how it relates to the levy funding.

Ordinance 1887 – Annexation – Housing Authority of Okanogan County

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Ordinance 1887. Building Official Wells explained to Council that this Ordinance provides for the annexation of the Housing Authority property. The short plat alteration was recorded in October of 2019 and the Housing Authority has met all conditions set forth August 7, 2017. There was discussion about the number of units in the development and the potential impact it may have on the Omak schools. As there were no further question or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 05-2020 – Declaring Intent for Affordable Housing Revenue

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 05-2020. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council that the Washington State Legislature passed SHB 1406 with intent to divert a portion of sales and use taxes revenue to the Counties or Cities for affordable housing. For the city to participate in the legislation, a letter of intent is required to be passed by January 28, 2020. The adoption of an authorizing ordinance must be passed by July 28, 2020. His thought was the County could best handle these funds. After talking with Councilmember Gaines, it may make sense for the city to control the funds if we can meet the reporting requirements. There was discussion about how the revenue from the housing tax could be used. Member Gaines stressed that Omak has a homeless problem. If the city controlled the funds, the city portion of the housing tax would be used in Omak versus it going to the County. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 06-2020 – Approve Public Works Labor Agreement

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 06-2020. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council that this three-year labor agreement with the Public Works Union replaces the expired 12/31/2019 agreement. Administrator McDaniel told Council the agreement included a 3.5% wage increase for 2020. The wage for years 2021 and 2022 will be increased by a slotted Consumer

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Price Index (CPI) with a minimum and maximum percentage. The longevity will increase in addition to the maximum vacation accrual an employee can accumulate. Member Gaines told Council that the Personnel/Finance Committee met numerous times during the negotiations and agree with the proposed changes. As there were no further question or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 07-2020 – Approve Grant Agreement with Department of Commerce

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 07-2020. City Administrator McDaniel reminded Council that the State Legislature appropriated \$309,000 to the City of Omak for improvements to the airport water system for wildfire suppression activities. Initially the receipt of the grant money was contingent on the City completing a five million dollars project. After discussion the project scope was narrowed. The Department of Natural Resources and the City of Omak have partnered to construct the water system improvements to benefit existing and future operations. Administrator McDaniel told Council that plans for this project are 95% complete and the project will go out to bid in two to three weeks. As there were no question or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Freel told Council that he attended the Okanogan Council of Governments (OCOG) meeting last Monday. They discussed how the new license tax will affect local transportation services. He also said the Maurice Goodall who is the Director of Okanogan County Emergency Management was in attendance. Mr. Goodall would like to attend more OCOG meetings to share information. This venue allows the opportunity to speak with the Mayors of multiple municipalities.

Member Cariker told Council that the Community Support and Public Safety committee met. Chief Koplín shared information about a Resource Officer Position. He wanted to share with committee that he has been researching this position.

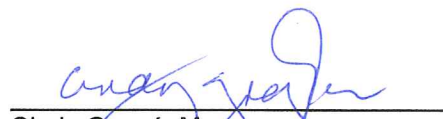
Building Official Wells said that he spoke with an architect firm representing the Housing Authority. They are looking to construction a sixteen-unit senior living facility. A meeting to discuss this project will happen in early March.

Member Gaines referred to the staff report prepared by Public Works Director Mears. She asked if he had a lot of snow complaints and asked about the snow budget for overtime. Mr. Mears said that he had received a lot of complaints and some thank you calls also. He said the crew has been working the midnight to 8am shift and during the day, snow continued to fall. He has seen deficiencies and knows there is room for improvement. He is also not opposed to overtime for snow removed to ensure safety of the citizens.

Mayor Gagné told Council that she received an invitation to attend a reception hosted by the Housing Authority of Okanogan County. They will be honoring the 2019 Homeless Hero, Christina Bartell and the 2019 Landlord of the Year, Greg and Charlene Helm. The reception will be held here at Omak City Hall on Tuesday, January 28th at 6pm. She also shared a letter from the Planning Commission Chair, Sheila Harrison. This letter listed items that the Planning Commission will be working on in 2020. Mayor Gagné encouraged Council to attend the February 4th Planning Commission Workshop or send comments to City Clerk Thomas.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM.


Connie Thomas, City Clerk


Cindy Gagné, Mayor