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**OMAK CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 16, 2020**

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**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:**

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|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Michael Foth           | Tyler Wells, Building Official    |
| Nattalie Cariker       | Kevin Bowling, Fire Chief         |
| Barry Freel            | Jeff Koplin, Police Chief         |
| Steve Clark            | Ken Mears, Public Works Director  |
| Walt Womack – phone-in | Connie Thomas, City Clerk         |
| Michelle Gaines        | Todd McDaniel, City Administrator |
| Dave Womack – phone-in |                                   |

**CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Proclaiming April 24, 2020 as Arbor Day**

Mayor Gagné read a proclamation declaring Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> as Arbor Day in Omak. Mayor Gagné will report back to Council as to where the tree will be planted.

**Affirm Appointments of Civil Service Board Members**

Mayor Gagné asked Council to affirm her appointments of Charles Pecha, Ron Schimke and Nattalie Cariker to the Civil Service Board. Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Clark to approve the appointments. As there were no comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Affirm Appointments of Building Code Board of Appeals**

Mayor Gagné asked Council to affirm her appointments of Dale Erickson, Mark Brown, Randy Reed, Shea Brewer and Dan Higbee to the Building Code Board of Appeals. Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker to approve the appointments. As there were no comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Lauri Jones, Community Health Director, Okanogan County Public Health**

Mayor Gagné told Council that she has been reading a lot of data and she understood that Okanogan County Public Health will be providing direction to the public on how to proceed during the COVID-19 pandemic. In an emergency proclamation today, Governor Inslee mandated the immediate two-week closures of all restaurants, bars and entertainment businesses. With that, Mayor Gagné invited Lauri Jones to help us understand how we should proceed. Mrs. Jones shared with Council the statistics stating that there are confirmed cases in the State of Washington with 48 deaths reported. Testing is being done in Okanogan County with zero infection reported to date. She said that social distancing is becoming a big deal and people should maintain six feet from each other and avoid large gatherings of fifty or more. President Trump also released guidelines today and advised the group size to be no more than ten individuals at a time. Mrs. Jones said that we should show support of mandates set by Governor Inslee. Washington State needs to set the example for the rest of the nation as, the other states are not far behind with implementing mandates. Member Cariker asked about the closure of Tribal Casino's. Mrs. Jones said that because the Indian Tribes are a Sovereign Nation, Public Health does not regulate them. She has heard that the leaders of the Indian Tribes have been talking about closures and that our local Casino has closed. Mayor Gagné asked about the enforcement of the Governors mandates. Mrs. Jones said that we are in a partnership and we should be positive. If someone decides to go rogue, this is an opportunity for citizens to teach children about civic duty. As a group, the community can put pressure on those around us to do the right thing and follow mandates. Mrs. Jones asked that we direct citizens to the Washington Department of Health website and their hotline. Mayor Gagné thanked Mrs. Jones for coming this evening and sharing information.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the March 2, 2020 council meeting; 2020 claims checks numbered 102366-102429, in the amount of \$220,905.38. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.



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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution 19-2020 – Approve Agreement with J-U-B Engineers, Inc.**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 19-2020. Public Works Director Mears told Council that this was an FAA agreement for professional services with J-U-B Engineers, Inc. for the airport taxiways and apron areas pavement maintenance. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 20-2020 – Approve Public Works Contract - Schmitt Electric - GeneratorConnections**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 20-2020. Public Works Director Mears explained to Council that this is a Public Works Contract with Schmitt Electric for generator connections at city lift stations and wells. The estimated quote is \$20,914 which is over budget by \$913. Public Works Director Mears discussed the overage with Administrator McDaniel and it was determined the funds can absorb the overage. The connections are critical to the City's health and safety. The ability to connect the mobile generator to the infrastructures during an outage is crucial. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 21-2020 – Approve Award of Contract – 2020 Water & Sewer System Imprv – POW**

**Contracting**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 21-2020. Public Works Director Mears told Council that the bids for the water and sewer system improvements came in under the engineers estimate. Two bids were received and opened publicly on March 11, 2020. Bids were reviewed for accuracy by Gray & Osborne, Inc. and they recommend the award to POW Contracting, as the lowest, responsible and responsive bid in the amount of \$2,027,375.86. Member Clark told Council that the Infrastructure Committee met and are in support. POW has done a great job for the City of Omak on past project. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Committee/Staff Reports:**

Member Gaines asked for clarification on the library heating system repairs. Public Works Director Mears explained the repairs included three individual problems. He said that new wire was installed and, the problems have been fixed.

Mayor Gagné was contacted by Lael Duncan, Executive Director of Okanogan County Community Action Council (OCCAC). They have an opportunity with the Department of Commerce under a formula grant to receive \$283,680. The funding will assist in construction of twenty-two additional units that could be used for quarantine during the COVID-19 outbreak. Mayor Gagné said that because Omak is the largest City in Okanogan County, OCCAC asked for approval from the City of Omak's governing body. If approved, the additional units can be constructed by April. Member Dave Womack asked if it would be used to quarantine people from outside of our County. If they are bringing in others from outside of the County, he will have a problem supporting that. Mayor Gagné said that once the crisis is over, OCCAC intends to use the units as a year-round facility for the homeless.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

  
Connie Thomas, City Clerk

  
Cindy Gagné, Mayor

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**March 16, 2020**