
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 5, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Michael Foth	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator
Nattalie Cariker	Kevin Bowling, Fire Chief
Barry Freel	Dan Christensen, Chief of Police
Steve Clark	Ken Mears, Public Works Director
Walt Womack - absent	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Michelle Gaines	Tyler Wells, Building Official
Dave Womack	

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:

Proclaiming April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day

Mayor Gagné read a proclamation declaring Friday, April 30th as Arbor Day in Omak. She told Council that Public Works Director Mears is coordinating the celebration.

Mayor Gagné told Council that she participated in the Mike Marshall event. Monday, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Meadowlark Housing Development. The group also toured the Meadow Point construction site and, she could visualize Jonathan Avenue through to Quince with a leg to calm the through traffic.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Dave Womack moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the March 15, 2021 meeting; 2021 claims checks numbered 104557-104637, in the amount of \$297,162.20; March 2021 payroll checks numbered 104432-104434, 104527-104556 (voided checks 104515-104526) and ACH payments in the amount of \$320,583.22; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 1903 – 2ND Read – Amend 2021 Budget – C.E. – Appropriating Funds for Fire Truck Purchase

Member Dave Womack moved, seconded by member Cariker to approve Ordinance 1903. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council that this Ordinance appropriates an additional \$96,000 for the purchase of a fire truck. He told Council that the City of Omak has received the performance bond and that Fire Chief Bowling has participated in a pre-build meeting. The passing of this Ordinance will appropriate an additional \$96,000 to cover the fire truck purchase of \$595,726. The Ordinance is also recognizing the actual beginning and estimated ending fund balances. As there was no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation – Safe Passage 97 Public Safety Project – Jay Kehne

Jay Kehne introduced himself to Council telling them that he is the Sagelands Heritage Program Lead for Conservation Northwest. Mr. Kehne explained that about eight years ago science pointed to 12.5 miles of Highway 97 between Riverside and Tonasket that wildlife moves through. This results in more than 350 vehicle-deer collisions every year. More than \$260,000 in funds were donated by citizens around the state and the Mule Deer Foundation who sold rifle raffle tickets. These funds were used to address the urgent issue, the Janis Bridge area. The underpass and first mile of fencing was installed with the support of local contractors and great partners like the Colville Confederated Tribes, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the City of Omak. The group has also installed trail cameras which have recorded thousands of pictures of animals using the new undercrossing. He explained that \$18 million request was made to the legislature to finish the first phase of the project. He just received notification today that the request is now included in the list of Forward Washington transportation projects in both the state House and Senate budgets. He is very excited

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about this and it does work to save lives and preserve the wildlife. Mayor Gagné congratulated Mr. Kehne on the award letter and she said the project does look nice. She thanked him for his presentation.

Resolution 19-2021 – Approving Change in Medical Benefit Coverage for Police Officers, Sergeants & LEOFF 1

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 19-2021. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council that in accordance with the most recent CBA with the Omak Police Officers and Sergeants, a change in medical benefits will move the group from LEOFF Trust to the Teamsters Medical Plan. This change will displace the LEOFF1 Retirees and Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. has been selected to administer medical coverage for the Omak LEOFF1 Retirees. Administrator McDaniel explained that he has been working with all companies involved to ensure a clean transition on June 1, 2021. He has discussed this transition with each member of the Personnel/Finance Committee and, they are onboard. As there was no questions or comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 20-2021 – Approving Purchase of Four Dell Laptop Computers

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 20-2021. Police Chief Christensen explained to Council that this purchase is a continuation of the strategic planning for the police department. The purchase of four laptops portable computers is provided for in the 2021 budget. The laptop computers will replace the existing desktop devices. The laptops are portable and will be used in the vehicles and in the office. The Dell Rugged are currently used by Code Enforcement, the Fire Chief and Building Official. This purchase will be made through the State Purchasing Cooperative from Dell Technologies in the amount of \$8,305. As there was no questions or comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Clark reported that SWAC met via Zoom. He learned that a \$30,000 Department of Ecology grant received by Okanogan County and administered by the Sheriff's Office will now be administered by the Okanogan County Solid Waste Division. The Solid Waste Division would like to work toward a regional approach. They will be reaching out to agencies and groups to discuss litter programs in the region.

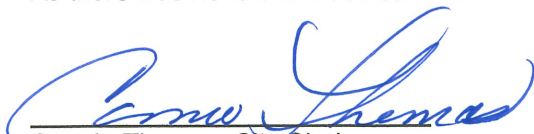
Building Official Wells told Council that the Planning Commission will be meeting at 5:30pm tomorrow and hold a public hearing for the Sagelands Phase 3 Subdivision.

Chief Christensen told Council that the Proclamation Event for Fallen Officer Mike Marshall was very well attended and, he was able to talk to the retirees that were in attendance. This is the second week for the publication "From the Desk of the Chief" and it has been well received. The COVID issues are creating a demand on the Police Officers. They are having to settle disputes over the funds. He shared incident statistics in comparison to other jurisdictions. Officer Pennycooke is doing well and moving to phase 2 of his training.

Public Works Director Mears told Council that Public Works is back to a full staff. He also let everyone know that the contractor for the Meadowpoint project will be installing the water main on Oak Street this week. Member Clark asked if the swimming pool will be opening this summer. Mr. Mears said that he and Pool Manager, Heidi Sam are working toward the opening. He is also waiting on the filter sump pump to arrive so that can be installed.

City Administrator McDaniel told Council that he emailed to each member, the first quarter financials which include the C&I report, expenditure and revenues. He said that its early in the year but, the funds appear to be tracking with the forecasted budget. Sales tax revenues are slightly higher than this time last year and that could be attributed to the construction projects. The storm drain fund has exceeded appropriation and he will be preparing a budget amendment. He said this was not a concern since the capital project was adequately funded in 2020. He also shared with Council that the City will be receiving \$1,040,000 from the American Recovery Plan of 2021.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor

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