
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 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	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Michelle Gaines	Tyler Wells, Building Official
Dave Womack	Kurt Danison, Contract Planner

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gagné recognized Senator Shelly Short and Representative Joel Kretz who are attending the meeting tonight via Zoom. This will be the last report from City of Omak Lobbyist Jim Rowland as he is retiring. Mr. Rowland will be addressing Council later this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Dave Womack moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the May 17, 2021, meeting; 2021 claims checks numbered 104936-105014, in the amount of \$366,631.16; May 2021 payroll checks numbered 104829-104832, 104905-104933 and, ACH payments in the amount of \$321,420.23; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Rowland, City of Omak Lobbyist Report

Lobbyist Jim Rowland acknowledged Senator Short and Representative Kretz. He explained to Council that they had 105 days of a unique, Legislative Session. When he arrived at the Capital Campus for the 2021 Legislative Session, they saw chain link fence in front of the Capital along with twenty-four-hour police protection. Lobbyist and press were not allowed into the capital building and virtual sessions were held for the first time in history. All of this made it difficult to do his job as a Lobbyist. Lobbyist Rowland shared information about the State Budget and bills that were passed in this session. The work done by Senator Short, Representative Kretz and Representative Maycumber resulted in 4.3 million dollars coming home to the City of Omak to construct a water reservoir at the Omak Airport. This reservoir will help support the anticipated Department of Natural Resource Fire Facility. Senator Short shared with Council how her and Representative Kretz worked to secure funding late in the session. She said it started with Rep. Kretz and the relationship he has built with Commissioner of Public Lands, Hilary Franz. Lands Commissioner Franz was also instrumental in this funding.

Representative Kretz told Council that he and Mr. Rowland have accomplished a lot of things over the years and that Jim was someone he could count on. They learned how to be affective and the first big project for Omak was, the Stampede Arena Facility. The community is lucky to have Mr. Rowland as an asset. As a Lobbyist, he is competing against many Seattle lobbyists. The Mayor has also sent several resource people to Olympia which helps get things done and, not very many Cities have that. Rep. Kretz told Mr. Rowland that it has been a pleasure working with him over the years. Senator Short told Council that she saw Mr. Rowland build relationships across the isle and with the Governor's and the First Ladies. There are a lot of lobbyists and, few are trusted. Jim is one of the few lobbyists that have the legislatures trust and, this has gone a long way for the City of Omak. Senator Short recalled her first days on the job as the assistant to Rep. Kretz and the application for the Stampede Arena was her first project. She will miss Jim and he is indeed a friend.

Member Freel thanked Senator Short and Representative Kretz and Lobbyist Rowland for everything they have done for the City of Omak. Member Freel asked if the pedestrian bridge was still in the state budget. Mr. Rowland said the pedestrian bridge is rolled into the bridge project. Mr. Rowland said that Representative Kretz has a placeholder for the Highway 155 bridge but, the funds need to show up. Mayor Gagné thanked the

**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2021**

special guests and acknowledge Omak Stampede President Leon Hoover who was in attendance. Mayor Gagné recognizes that everyone is doing big things for the City of Omak and Mr. Rowland is a friend and, she does have that trust. She has also seen firsthand, that trusting relationship with those in Olympia. She acknowledged Jim's wife, Cheryl Rowland and again thanked everyone for coming this evening.

Resolution 26-2021 – Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element Update

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 26-2021. Contract Planner Kurt Danison explained to Council that he updated the plan with the changes they requested during the May 17, 2021, Council Meeting. He supports the adoption. As there were no questions or comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 27-2021 – Approving the Purchase of Traffic Paint and Supplies – Alpine Products,

Inc.

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Resolution 27-2021. Public Works Director Mears explained that this is Public Works annual paint purchase and, the paint is used for crosswalks and curbs. This year the purchase price exceeded \$5,000 and according to the purchasing policy Council must approve the purchase. As there were no questions or comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Clark attended a Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting this afternoon. They discussed litter issues and noted that it was a statewide problem. They discussed Community Cleanups with potential funding from the County Enterprise Fund. He explained that the County used to use Trustees to clean-up litter, but inmates are being released earlier and it has not been as affective. The Adopt-a-Highway Program is still in affect which helps keep the state clean.

Member Dave Womack asked Administrator McDaniel about scheduling a meeting for the Infrastructure Committee so they can discuss the request made by Mr. Deep Bains. Administrator McDaniel and Contract Planner Danison have had discussions and, Building Official Wells talked with Attorney Howe today and received guidance. Mr. McDaniel said that he will be scheduling that meeting.

Administrator McDaniel told Council that he received information about the American Rescue Plan and stated that the City of Omak will receive 1.3 million dollars. He also told Council that he has been working on a Cost Allocation Plan and that he will be presenting to Mayor Gagné and Member Gaines for review. After their review he will present it to the Personnel/Finance Committee for discussion.

Building Official Wells told Council that he received plans for Sageland Phase 3 Development and, plans for phase 2 of the storage facility off Copple Road.

Police Chief Christensen told Council that during this Legislative Session, one hundred and eleven bills were singed into law and of those, 22 affect law enforcement. He touched on HB1310, HB1267, HB1223 and SB5066. He would like to meet with the Public Safety Committee to brief them on these bills. Chief Christensen was hoping Representative Jacquelin Maycumber would have joined the meeting this evening. He said that she is a former Police Officer and, he would have like to hear her thoughts. Mayor Gagné suggested the Police Department hold a Citizen Academy to help educate the public on the new laws. In addition, the local Sheriff and Police Chiefs have met multiple times to discuss the new laws. He also attended the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC) Spring Conference. He was awarded a \$750 scholarship to help defray the cost of this conference. He told Council that his officers are doing great work and that half of his department has been certified in Patrol Tactics. He also told Council that he has been working with City Clerk Thomas on public records.

Member Cariker reminded everyone of the Omak Chamber Block Party on June 26th from 11am to 3pm. They will be doing an award ceremony for the "First Responders" at noon. Posters for the event will be going out in the next couple of days.


Member Clark also shared information about the plastic bag ban. He explained that the Governor's Emergency Proclamation delayed the implementation of the single-use plastic bag ban.

Member Dave Womack thanked Jim Rowland for his many years of service to the City of Omak. He also asked Mr. Rowland about where the funding for the Vaccination Lottery will come from. Mr. Rowland explained that the funds were part of the Federal Program. Washington is using the State Lottery to conduct the giveaways but, the funding is from the COVID Relief Package.

**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 7, 2021**

Mayor Gagné also thank Jim Rowland and will be reaching out to him in the future as he is a great source for information. She welcomed everyone to stay and enjoy cake and punch and visit with Mr. Rowland.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:46 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor