
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2021**

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cindy Gagné called the regular meeting of the Omak City Council, held via Zoom to order at 7:00pm.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

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

CORRESPONDANCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT

On behalf of The Support Center in Okanogan, Brandi Belgarde addressed City Council regarding the possibility of decorating Main Street for the month of October, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness month. The ideas shared were purple ribbons on the light poles, lights in the trees, a competition for local businesses to do their own decorating for a chance to win a gift basket and informational posters on windows of businesses if allowed by business owner. City Administrator McDaniel informed Ms. Belgarde that the City of Omak has an agreement with the PUD for the metered source from Thanksgiving through Christmas, so the lights would not be a possibility. However, he is in support of this effort if the committee works with the local business owners and the Public Works department to ensure that all decorations are non-disruptive of the daily functions. Members Cariker and Gaines also noted their support of this effort.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Gaines to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the September 20, 2021, meeting; 2021 claims checks numbered 105665-105722 (voided check 105562) for a total of \$127,223.77 and September Payroll consisting of checks 105632-105635, 105637-105664 and ACH payments for a total of \$331,627.68. As there was no further discussion and no comments from the audience, council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 1906 – 2ND READ – 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT – VARIOUS FUNDS

Member City Administrator McDaniel explained that this is a second read of Ordinance 1906; noting that there was a correction to the total in the small tools and equipment line item, corrected from \$47,500.00 to \$47,250.00. Administrator McDaniel noted that the intent of this Ordinance has not changed; the funds were still being appropriated for the pool feasibility study and arena chutes. Leon Hoover from Omak Stampede Inc was in attendance to answer questions regarding this year's event. Member Womack asked how 2021 compared to previous years, whether Omak Stampede, Inc. believes Covid-19 will affect future events and if this is the right time to be spending the funds on these chutes. Mr. Hoover shared that while

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he didn't have final numbers to share at this time, the sales were comparable to 2019 except for Sunday; and the funds received from the carnival were nearly \$20,000.00 more than 2019. Regarding the chutes, the existing chutes were installed in the 1970's and the time has come to decide how to upgrade in order to maintain patron, participant and animal safety. Mayor Gagné asked if there were any further questions or concerns, hearing none, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

RESOLUTION 48-2021 – PURCHASE OF MOBILE RADAR UNIT FROM MPH INDUSTRIES

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines to approve Resolution 48-2021 for the purchase of a mobile radar unit from MPH Industries. Chief Christensen explained that this purchase was approved in the budget before his arrival; he worked with Public Works Director Mears and Administrator McDaniel to the best vendor and option for this purchase. Chief Christensen is excited about the traffic data and deterrence this mobile unit will provide for the city; and asked that council approve the resolution. Member Clark stated that he had been involved in the effort to have radar units throughout the city and he is in favor of a mobile unit that can be transported easily. Member Gaines asked if this unit would collect a lot of useful traffic data and voiced her support of this purchase. Mayor Gagné asked if there were any further questions, comments or concerns; hearing none, council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS

Committee/Staff reports – No committee reports currently.

Public Works Director Mears wished to recognize Chief Christensen for all his hard work on the purchase of the mobile radar unit.

Chief Christensen – 436 calls in September 2021, 240 in September 2020. Call volume is increasing, staffing has been a challenge with the amount of calls our community is facing. There has been a measurable change in our demographic, serious crime has risen, and he is working hard to provide information to the Mayor and Administrator to keep them abreast of all changes/occurrences. Member Womack asked if the state was seeing the same trend with crime rising; Chief Christensen noted that this is not just a City of Omak problem, it is indeed statewide. Mr. Hoover stated that he had concerns going into Stampede, and greatly appreciated the presence of Omak PD and the Colville Tribal officers.

Administrator McDaniel addressed an issue at the Omak Municipal Airport Sunday evening in which the card reader would not accept a certain payment and our employee used his personal card resulting in a reimbursement. The finance committee had approved the reimbursement and the manual check will be included in the October 18, 2021, consent agenda.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM.



Amanda Dickinson, Deputy Clerk



Cindy Gagne, Mayor