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**OMAK CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 21, 2022**

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Gagné informed Council and staff that she has a special award for a member of the Omak Police Department. She read the award and presented Officer James Murray with the Mayor's Excellence in Service Award. Police Chief Christensen then presented Officer Murray with his second Chief's Coin with a certificate. Chief Christensen also presented Fire Chief Bowling a Chief's Coin with certificate stating the recognition was long overdue.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the March 7, 2022, meeting; 2022 claims checks numbered 106730-106787 (voided 106631-106729) in the amount of \$238,523.88; February manual claims checks numbered 106296-106297 & 106382 in the amount of \$351.21. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mara Machulsky – Legislative Report**

Mayor Gagné welcomed Mara Machulsky, Legislative Consultant. The 2022 legislative session ended March 10<sup>th</sup> although a short session, it was historic and, a lot was accomplished. The Transportation package was the most controversial. Funds will be swept annually from the Public Works Assistance Account to support funding for "Move Ahead WA". Governor Inslee will be working his way through three hundred bills that are on his desk and will either veto or sign. Ms. Machulsky informed Council that her final report was sent to staff. She also said that Association of Washington Cities provided an excellent matrix of the Washington State Final budget. The allocations in the capital budget specific to Omak are the Omak Reservoir and the Community Action Resource Training Center. Ms. Machulsky informed Council about funding for wildfire planning and response. Ms. Machulsky said she is coming to Omak in mid-April to meet with Mayor Gagné and Administrator McDaniel. They will debrief on the last session and plan future goals for the next legislative session. There were no questions. Mayor Gagné thanked Ms. Machulsky.

**Resolution 21-2022 – Disposal of Fire Engine Deemed to be Surplus**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 21-2022. Fire Chief Bowling informed Council with the purchase of a new fire truck, the city will surplus the 1991 E-One Fire Engine. Member Womack asked when the new truck will arrive. Chief Bowling said the completion date is still April 12<sup>th</sup>. In May, they will deliver the truck to Cascade Fire in Yakima and, then it will be brought to Omak. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 22-2022 – Approve Public Works Contract with Don Kruse Electric**

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 22-2022. Public Works Director Beetchenow informed Council the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning unit (HVAC) is failing at the Wastewater Treatment Plant RAS building. He informed Council that his memo indicated a single quote but, he received two quotes. Don Kruse provided the lowest quote in the amount of \$8,068.89. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.



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**Resolution 23-2022 – Approve Purchase of Water Meter Materials**

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 23-2022. Public Works Director Beetchenow informed Council the water department needs to replenish their inventory of meter pit setters and parts. The price of materials has increased and, the purchase amount requires a resolution. Member Gaines confirmed the purchase was for regular operations and questioned the need for resolution. Public Works Director Beetchenow explained the purchasing policy requires Council approval for a purchase over \$5,000. Member Womack asked if the water department was seeing more breakage with the old meters. Mr. Beetchenow explained the restock of inventory is to prepare for the water construction project, some replacement and to have on-hand. Not a lot of breakage. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Kevin Newport – Candidate for Okanogan County Sheriff**

Mayor Gagné welcomed Kevin Newport. Mr. Newport was in attendance to let Council know who he is and the direction he wants to go if he takes over the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office. He shared that in 1991 he was hired by the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office and worked there until 2019. He left to take a leadership position with Cowlitz Tribal Police Department. He still has ties to the community and commutes back and forth from Omak. He shared concerns about the retention of staff, jail bookings, jail infrastructure and contracts. He respects Chief Christensen and will work well with him. Mr. Newport said that Omak is doing it right and they are fully staffed. Member Clark asked who his Undersheriff would be. Mr. Newport said that he had someone picked out but, they are not able to do it right now. Whomever he has in his administration must exude leadership. There was some discussion about contracts for booking and inmates. Member Louie said that he is particularly concerned with tribal community. Mr. Newport wants open communication and currently he is a tribal officer. He understands the importance of the Colville Reservation and the Colville Business Council. Mayor Gagné thanked Mr. Newport.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Committee/Staff Reports:**

Member Freel told Council that Okanogan Council of Governments met last Monday and, they heard from Okanogan County Public Works, County Emergency Management, approved a letter of support for Environmental Protection Agency, Air Quality Grant Application and approved a scope of work with SCJ Alliance for the Human Services Transportation Plan.


Chief of Police Christensen provided Council with a report and said he is available for questions.

City Administrator McDaniel informed Council that he met with Public Works Director Beetchenow. They went over the capital projects in the 2022 budget. He would like to schedule a meeting with the Personnel/Finance Committee to discuss the increase in project costs.

Member Clark asked what the next steps are in the Reservoir Project. Administrator McDaniel said he will reach out to J-U-B Engineering to go out for bid.

Member Womack said that it was nice to have everyone back in the Council Chambers.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

  
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Connie Thomas, City Clerk

  
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Cindy Gagné, Mayor