
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Mike Foth	Tyler Wells, Building Official
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	

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mike Stenberg a citizen of Omak; addressed Council about a violation of the 2nd Amendment by posting a "No Weapons" sign. He acknowledged the sign was removed and was thankful. He summarized relevant points of a First Amendment Petition relating to violations of the United States Constitution. There were no questions or comments for Mr. Stenberg. Mayor Gagné thanked him for bringing the information forward.

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gagné informed Council that she attended the Stampede Banquet over the weekend at the Okanogan Eagles. Omak Stampede, Inc. will be presenting their budget to Council along with plans to utilize the arena for more events.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Womack, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from October 17, 2022; 2022 claims checks numbered 107978-108060 (voided 08005) in the amount of \$1,544,305.24; October manual checks numbered 107821, 107880, 107884 & 107954 in the amount of \$5,018.10; October payroll checks numbered 107881-107883, 107955-107975 and ACH payments in the amount of \$306,670.72. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2023 Budget Revenue Sources & 2023 Ad Valorem Revenue Tax

Mayor Gagné opened the public hearing at 7:18pm. City Administrator McDaniel explained that this is the annual hearing to set the taxing authority of the City of Omak. The statutory maximum increase for the levy rate is one percent. The rate in 2022 was \$885,068.92 and one percent levy rate for 2023 is \$893,919.84 which is a total increase of \$8,850.69. The levy certification unknowns are new construction and state revenues. The certified levy request is five percent for a request amount of \$938,615. The total estimated revenue in the Current Expense Fund for 2023 is 4.8 million with expenditures of 5.6 million. The estimated revenue from taxes makes up twenty two percent of the revenues. He estimates 2.2 million in sales tax, revenue from city levied utility tax, telephone, television, and power estimated at 1 million. The property tax historically has been split between the Current Expense Fund and the Street Fund. These tax revenues support the streets, cemetery, and library and is the only revenue source for these funds are taxing authority. Administrator McDaniel did some research and found that in 2001 prior to the Tim Eyman initiative to limit increase in property tax levies, the city was receiving \$524,000 in revenues. Last year the city received \$826,000 which is in line with inflation but does not capture new growth in Omak. The increase in growth has added additional responsibility to city operations. The Street Fund is having a hard time maintaining operations. City Administrator McDaniel recommends Council take full advantage of the one percent property tax levy. Mayor Gagné asked if there was anyone in attendance who wanted to give testimony. There were no questions or comments. Mayor Gagné closed the public hearing at 7:23pm.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 1916 - 1st Read – Amending 2022 Budget – Various Funds

Mayor Gagné informed Council this ordinance is a first read with no action. City Administrator McDaniel informed Council that he should have been more prompt with budget amendments. He reviewed the five-page ordinance in detail explaining each fund and the reason for the amendments. This ordinance will amend the expenditures and revenues to allow for lawful appropriations through year end.

Ordinance 1917 – Amend Section 3.48.020(b) of the OMC – Check Handling Fee

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Ordinance 1917. City Clerk Thomas informed Council that Utility Clerk Rogers brought to her attention an outdated section of the Omak Municipal Code. Section 3.48.020(b) spells out a fifteen-dollar charge for check handling (NSF). The amount is not accurate and, the correct charges are included in our City Fee Schedule. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Ordinance 1918 – Fixing the 2023 Ad-Valorem Taxes

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve Ordinance 1918. Administrator McDaniel explained the ordinance formally sets the taxing authority. The rate in 2022 was \$885,068.92 and one percent levy rate for 2023 is \$893,919.84 which is a total increase of \$8,850.69. The levy certification amount is five percent a levy request of \$938,615. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Ordinance 1919 - 1st Read – Amending 2022 Budget – Affordable Housing

Mayor Gagné informed Council this ordinance is a first read with no action. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council this budget amendment should have been prepared earlier. The Housing Authority had two projects that were side by side. Where Jonathan and Pine streets come together, the paving of an intersection was left out. The city contracted with Pro-Line to pave that section and used the funds in the Affordable Housing. The City has since been reimbursed by the Housing Authority. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 65-2022 – Designating Official Newspaper for the City of Omak 2023

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 65-2022. City Clerk Thomas informed Council that she reached out to the Wenatchee World and the Omak-Okanogan Chronicle to submit a bid for the 2023 legal advertisements. She received a single bid from the Omak Chronicle and recommends Council accept their bid of \$10.25 per column inch. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 66-2022 – Approve Agreement with Okanogan County Community Action

Member Cariker moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve Resolution 66-2022. City Administrator McDaniel informed Council that Okanogan County Community Action administers a Water Assistance Program. This vendor agreement keeps them in compliance with their grant requirements. The City of Omak receives payment from Community Action for customers qualifying for assistance. Utility Clerk Rogers will track payments and provide Community Action with reporting if requested for audit purposes. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 67-2022 – Approve Agreement with the North Central Washington Narcotics Task Force

Member Cariker moved, seconded by Member Womack, to approve Resolution 67-2022. Police Chief Christensen informed Council this is an annual agreement with the Narcotics Task Force. There are no changes to the agreement or contribution costs for 2023. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 68-2022 – Approve Amendment No. 1 – Beacon Health Options, Inc.

Member Cariker moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 68-2022. Police Chief Christensen informed Council that every six months the contract will be reviewed and updated. This agreement funds the C.O.R.E. program, Rochelle Danielson's position. There were no significant changes, and the amendment was reviewed by City Attorney Howe who had no comments. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Womack informed Council the Personnel/Audit Committee will meet after the Council meeting to discuss the Public Works contract negotiations.

City Attorney Mick Howe informed Council he was in attendance to hear the agenda item number three on gun control. He had done a lot of research on the laws statewide and nationally. He is up to speed and had a recommendation for signage for City Hall. He will meet with City Administrator McDaniel and Chief Christensen to discuss. Member Cariker asked to join those meetings.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor