
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2023**

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	Rochelle Danielson, CORE Program Manager/Outreach Specialist

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mayor Gagné asked if there were any members of the audience who are not on the agenda that would like to be heard. Dave Grace and Jeff Norbie asked to address Council. Mayor Gagné will add them to the end of the agenda under new business.

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gagné informed Council that she attended the Omak Chamber luncheon today. Awards were presented to Business of the Year, Kelley Connect and Citizen of the Year, Ed Thiele. She also informed Council that her and City Administrator McDaniel spent time in Olympia last week. It was a fruitful trip and good things are happening.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the February 6, 2023, meeting; 2023 claims checks numbered 1085451-108604 in the amount of \$607,719.74; 2023 January manual checks numbered 108364-108366, 108439-108440 in the amount of \$492.14. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alyssa Cruz-Uribe, Omak Branch Librarian

Omak Branch Librarian Cruze-Uribe was in attendance to talk about the library and what they are doing. She informed Council about the program for baby and toddlers and the success of that. The library would like to do more community supported programs and she would like input. She also heard about the concerns from the community about the library and the park. She asked that people come talk to her or email her. If she is unable to handle a problem, she can get input from the city and her administrative team. The library should embrace everyone and be a place to go. The library will host a writing group in April, Craft & Chat for adults and Dungeon's and Dragons is happening for kids. She plans to work with Eastside Cards & Games for more programs. Member Gaines asked how the library handles serious concerns. Mrs. Cruze-Uribe explained that if she can handle the violation of the Library Code of Conduct, she will. If not, she may turn to local law enforcement but, understands they are understaffed and busy. She shared that a log is kept of those incidents. Member Louie said that he is seeing work, posts from the library and he is impressed. The areas they are trying to introduce are impressive and it's nice to be part of it. Mayor Gagné said the group at the last Council meeting was under the impression the Librarian was a city employee and, stated communication needs to run deep.

Resolution No. 23-2023 – Approve Contract with Sunrise Disposal – Solid Waste Collection

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Resolution 23-2023. City Administrator McDaniel informed Council the contract with Sunrise Disposal for collection is due to renew on March 1, 2023. He explained the Resolution in the agenda packet has been revised after review by City Attorney Howe. The City Purchasing Policy requires at \$15,000 the contract should go out to bid. With this type of service and Sunrise being local, it doesn't make sense. The resolution includes a "whereas" that speaks to that. Sunrise Disposal has requested an eight percent increase over last year's rates which is under the CPI (consumer price

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index). Owner, Dion Gotti is also proposing to eliminate customer provided cans (32-gallon) and Sunrise will provide those to help save manpower and yet, keep rates down. Administrator McDaniel explained this is a five year contract with two renewals up to fifteen years. Mr. Gotti understands that fuel is his biggest cost but, the contract is silent to it. Mr. McDaniel informed Council that he compared sanitation rates of surrounding and like cities and towns and found the rates are comparable and Omak is less than most. Member Womack confirmed the price for a 32-gallon would remain the same. Administrator McDaniel confirmed the price would not change and that it will take Sunrise six months to switch over those cans. All rates have been approved in the fee schedule and revenues and expenditures have been figured into the 2023 Budget. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution No. 24-2023 – Approve Purchase of Water Meters

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Womack, to approve Resolution 24-2023. Public Works Director Beetchenow informed Council the purchase of water meters will restock inventory for 2023. Member Clark asked how long the original meters will last. Mr. Beetchenow explained the water department has been rotating out meters from the original installation. They find they are installing more each year. He can provide a report to Council that shows how many meters have been installed on an annual basis. He also noted the order is based on 2022 used inventory and the information was generated by the PubWorks database. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Dave Grace – Manfisher Ministries 16 S. Main Street, Omak

Mr. Grace introduced himself to Council and provided them with a brief history of himself. He understands that Manfisher Ministries has been in the news lately and he wanted to come share. Manfisher Ministries was started in the year 2000 as a youth ministry. It closed down for a few years and in 2004 was re-opened. Manfisher Ministries connects with local churches to help those in need in our community. He explained the record keeping system when intakes are done and they ensure those who need help are getting it. Mr. Grace explained the organization helps approximately five hundred to eight hundred people every year. Everyone that works at Manfisher is a volunteer and, there is no paid staff. Local churches provided donated funding, physical items such as food, clothing and hygiene products. They try and feed four days a week, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Jeff Norbie, Chairman of the Board – Manfisher Ministries 16 S. Main Street, Omak

Mr. Norbie informed Council that he and his wife Cheryl moved from Minnesota fourteen years ago. He and wife Cheryl visit both Tribal and County jail and spend time talking with inmates. He has been involved with Manfisher Ministries since 2020. When everything was shut down during the COVID pandemic, he would spend time walking the streets Omak learning the needs and helping citizens. He encouraged all to come hang out at Manfisher Ministries when they are open. He also extended an invitation to a community gathering on Friday, March 2, 2023 at 7pm. All the churches in the community will be invited and a meal will be hosted that evening. Stories will be shared about what they do and who they have helped (no names). The community needs to know what this organization is doing as there is a lot of scuttle about what is happening.

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Mr. Grace addressed Council again and let them know a food truck from Lighthouse Ministries in Wenatchee comes to Omak on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. They come to Manfisher from noon to 1:30pm and provide groceries. This is open to the entire community. He thanked Council for their time and opened to questions. Mayor Gagné thanked Mr. Grace for attending the meeting. She has been trying to connect with him. She explained the group at the last Council meeting had a lot of concerns and she thinks there needs to be some education about what Manfisher provides. Mayor Gagné explained that a work group is being formed to find out specific concerns and invited Mr. Grace and Mr. Norbie to attend. A date for the workshop is not set yet but she will be in contact. Member Louie said it has been a pleasure spending time with Jeff and Cheryl. The Ministry is a labor of love with good music and great food.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Womack thanked Public Works Director Beetchenow for providing the security/patrolling reports.

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As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor