
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 15, 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	Jeremy Patrick, 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
	Georgia Lamb, CORE Outreach Specialist/Co-Responder

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mayor Gagné asked if there were any members of the audience who were not on the agenda that would like to be heard. There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Cariker moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the May 1, 2023, meeting; 2023 claims checks numbered 109019-109106 in the amount of \$1,581,214.17; 2023 April manual checks numbered 108856-108858, 108861, 108862, 108943, 108970 and 109009 in the amount of \$2,677.06. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Report Submittal – City Administrator McDaniel

City Administrator McDaniel provided all Council members and staff with a draft copy of the draft 2022 annual report. The annual report is due on May 30, 2023, and he still has some minor corrections to make. Materially everything is accurate. He asked that Council and staff to review the document and contact him with questions or concerns. In 2022, the City of Omak exceeded \$750,000 in expenses of federal funds which requires a single audit for 2023. Other than the Cares Act Funds the annual report is similar to previous years.

Resolution No. 51-2023 – Approve Agreement with First Response Installations-Tahoe Upfit

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 51-2023. Chief of Police Dan Christensen informed Council the Community Outreach Response and Engagement program (CORE) desires to upfit their response vehicle. The upfit is fully funded under the NCACH grant the City of Omak received. First Response Installations submitted a quote in the amount of \$21,541.79. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution No. 52-2023 – Authorize Submission of an Application for Federal Assistance

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 52-2023. Public Works Director Beetchenow explained to Council an application will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration which will fund ninety percent of the North Taxiway "A" Reconstruction design. The resolution authorizes Mayor Gagné to submit the application. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution No. 53-2023 – Approve Petition for the Inclusion of Remaining Portion of the Omak Incorporated Territory into the Okanogan Conservation District

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Resolution 53-2023. City Administrator McDaniel explained to Council that the City of Omak has been working with the Okanogan County Conservation District for years. He explained that only a portion of Omak is within the district and the city is petitioning to include the remaining portion. The Finance/Personnel Committee met and discussed the petition and based on our partnership, they recommend approval. Mr. McDaniel said that Craig Nelson, Executive Director of the Conservation District and Emmy Engle, Communication & Outreach Specialist, are available in the audience for questions. Mr. Nelson introduced himself and explained to Council the petition process and

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timeline. Member Womack asked about the taxing authority. Mr. Nelson explained the Conservation District does not have the authority to levy a tax. The collection of funds is handled by Okanogan County as directed by the Commissioners. The annual charge is \$.05 pr acre and \$2.56 per parcel which totals \$2.61 per year for a one-acre, one-parcel lot. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution No. 54-2023 – Approve Change Order No. 1 and 2 to the Contract with J.M. Pacific Construction, Inc.

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Resolution 54-2023. Public Works Director Wayne Beetchenow explained that two change orders came up during the Engh Road SR215/US Highway 97 project. Change Order No. 1 is a no cost change order to change the type of signal mount for the stop light. Change Order No. 2 was for wheel stops in the McDonalds parking lot. Member Womack asked if this was not included in the bid. Mr. Beetchenow explained the wheel stops were overlooked as they were a condition in the right-of-way acquisition. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution No. 55-2023 – Approve Write Off Related to Omak Municipal Court

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 55-2023. City Administrator McDaniel informed the Council that Dany Gaines, Court Administrator, has been working to review past due accounts. She found additional accounts dating back over ten years that were buried in the JIS System. He explained the Judicial Information System (JIS) is old and it's hard to find information. In talking with Dany, it makes sense to review the accounts twice a year for write-off. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Ordinance 1925 – Approve Increase of Compensation for Mayor and Council Members

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Ordinance 1925. City Administrator McDaniel informed Council the compensation was discussed during the 2023 budget workshops. The ordinance is on the budget prior to election as incumbents can't vote for a raise for themselves. Mr. McDaniel met with the Finance/Personnel Committee and reviewed comparables obtained from the Association of Washington Cities. The increase for each Councilmember will be \$300 for each meeting and the mayor will receive \$2,000 a month. Member Gaines informed Council that committee did meet and recommend approval. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Member Clark informed Council the Infrastructure Committee met prior to Council. They discussed the installation of a fuel tank at the Omak Airport, opening the last leg of Jonathan Avenue for pedestrian foot traffic, the tank height for the Julia Maley treatment facility and a new twelve-inch water line through the old mill site.

Building Official Wells Informed Council that he received a conditional use application for the property at 715 Locust Street. The application is for an assisted living facility.

Fire Chief Patrick apologized for being late. He was responding to fire calls.

Police Chief Christensen informed the Council that signage arrived that was ordered to deter panhandling. The signage encourages citizens to contribute to the solution and give to local charities. Member Womack asked what the difference is between panhandling and soliciting and there was discussion about other cities and ordinances. Chief Christensen explained that panhandling falls under freedom of speech.

Member Clark is hoping to see the portable speed limit signs out. Chief Christensen and Public Works Director Beetchenow will work on that.

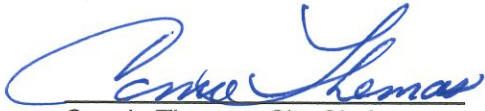
Member Gaines asked if there was a plan to inform the public of the new traffic flow at Engh Road and Highway 97. Public Works Director Beetchenow will be flying a drone over the area and the CORE Program will help with graphics of traffic flow and put the information out on Facebook. She also wanted to know if the Public Safety Committee has met to discuss the best time to run the public safety tax. She would like to make sure we are moving forward on that. Administrator McDaniel will meet with Mrs. Danielson and Chief Christensen and reach out to the consultant about a recommendation. Mr. McDaniel was hoping the community group that met at the school multipurpose room would be helpful in the process. As of now, the city will move it forward. Member Gaines recommends the Public Safety tax is on the primary ballot.

Rochelle Danielson, CORE Program Manager informed Council that her and Georgia Lamb attended the first ever Co-Responder retreat in Washington State. She said it was awesome to see a visual of all the Co-

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Responders in the State of Washington and, to see Omak as part of the sixty-one programs. This weekend, Georgia Lamb, CORE Outreach Specialist, will be representing the CORE Program at the Color Walk hosted by Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare. The CORE Program is also partnering with Family Health Centers for a Bicycle Rodeo and Summer Safety Kick Off on June 24, 2023, in the Eastside Park. The Community Committee met, and two business owners attended. She has emailed all that signed up and shared the data from the first community meeting. She asked that they review the data and has yet to hear back. Administrator McDaniel said another meeting will be scheduled to look at the data and share what the city has done. Member Gaines asked if the data could be shared with the City Council.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor