
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 6, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Michael Foth	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator
Nattalie Cariker	Jeremy Patrick, Fire Chief
Barry Freel	Dan Christensen, Chief of Police
Steve Clark	Wayne Beetchenow, Public Works Director
Meyer Louie	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Michelle Gaines	Tyler Wells, Building Official
Dave Womack	Rochelle Danielson, CORE Program Manager

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mayor Gagné asked if there was anyone in attendance that is not on the agenda that would like to address the Council and there was none.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Team ONE Presentation

Police Chief Christensen informed the Council that Team ONE would be funded by a grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce community engagement funds. This is for two years of funding for Team ONE (Omak Neighborhood Engagement) created from the mayor's "napkin work". The grant includes hiring a lead to support and attract volunteers. Team ONE is also a direct result of public engagement meetings that were held at the Omak School. They will organize neighborhood watch programs, crime prevention programs, youth engagement and fund safety film for local business windows & doors. The grant also includes two FLOCK Cameras which will increase the coverage for the city. This agenda includes a resolution for the grant agreement. CORE Manager Danielson emphasized the areas that popped out during the community workshops are the focus. Rising crime concerns and the safety of youth in our community. Mrs. Danielson said that Team ONE could create a curriculum about safety and prevention and volunteer that in the schools. Training of flaggers so they can support community events to free up law enforcement time so they can patrol.

Award Presentation

Mayor Gagné informed Council that she received a memorandum of Distinguished Service Award from Police Chief Christensen, CORE Manager Danielson and Public Works Director Beetchenow. They formally nominated Mr. Jack Lee Roy for a Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to our community, particularly his selfless dedication to maintaining Omak Eastside Park. She went on to read the memorandum (attached). Police Chief Christensen presented Mr. Roy with his award. Mr. Roy thanked everyone. He said that he spends a lot of time in the park picking up trash. He shared that, health wise, this is good for him and the park benefits. He said that you won't see him in the park in July because he is salmon fishing at Chief Joe.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the October 16, 2023 and October 30, 2023, meetings; 2023 claims checks numbered 109989-110069 in the amount of \$618,129.35; October 2023 payroll checks numbered 109883-109885, 109957-109982, 110070-110088 and, ACH payments in the amount of \$408,221.76; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2024 Budget Revenue Sources and 2024 Ad Valorem Revenue Tax

Mayor Gagné opened the 2024 Budget Revenue Sources and 2024 Ad Valorem Revenue Tax Public Hearing at 7:10pm. She said we will hear from proponents and opponents. City Administrator McDaniel informed the Council that once a year, the City Council has the opportunity to increase the taxing authority on property tax. By law it can only be raised by one percent. Currently one percent is estimated at \$8,979 for a

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total taxing authority to about \$906,909. The revenue comes into the Current Expense and when we think of expenditures, its not only current expense that needs funding but the library, cemetery, airport and sometimes streets. After the first budget workshop the documents reflect that we have about \$5,500,000 in revenue and about \$7,000,000 in expenditure. He reiterated the increase is capped at one percent. He recommends that as the ordinance comes through on the agenda it passes so the city can keep up. He said inflation is a lot higher than that. He said, the main sources of revenue for the city are sales tax which will be about \$2.4 million dollars, utility tax and electric and property tax is our third highest revenue source. As there were no proponents or opponents wanting to comment, Mayor Gagné closed the Public Hearing at 7:13pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 80-2023 – Designate the Official Newspaper for 2024

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 80-2023. City Clerk Thomas informed Council that she went out to bid for the city's official newspaper for the 2024 calendar year. She invited both the Wenatchee World and the Omak-Okanogan Chronicle to bid. The bid closed on October 31, 2023, at 2pm. The city received a single bid from the Omak-Okanogan Chronicle. The bid was \$11.25 per column inch of legal advertising which is an increase of \$1 over the 2023 rate. She recommends the approval. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 81-2023 – Approve Interlocal Agreement with WSDOT for Salt & Brine

Member Clark moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 81-2023. Public Works Director Beetchenow informed the Council that the agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation allows the purchase of salt and brine in the amount of \$2,000. Mr. Beetchenow said this contract is updating the previous Interlocal Agreement for the same product. Member Louie asked for clarification on costs. The contract states estimated costs of \$30,000 and Mr. Beetchenow said he doesn't plan to spend the full contract amount. He recommends the approval. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 82-2023 – Approve Community Engagement Grant with Department of Commerce

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Resolution 82-2023. Police Chief Dan Christensen informed the Council the grant is for Team ONE and the funds are from the Washington State Department of Commerce. The grant includes two FLOCK cameras, a position and safety equipment for volunteers. Member Womack asked if a vehicle purchase was part of the grant. Chief Christense said it was not and they will use the Ford Taurus or the Dodge Avenger. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 83-2023 – Approve User Agreement with CampLife, LLC

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Cariker, to approve Resolution 83-2023. Public Works Director Beetchenow informed Council the city currently uses CampLife for the online RV Park reservations. City staff has added park reservations to this platform. Citizens can reserve park shelters online and there is no cost for the reservation. Because the city is not charging, there will be no reservation fee of \$3. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Ordinance 1929 – Fixing the 2024 Ad-Valorem Taxes

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Clark, to approve Ordinance 1929. Mayor Gagné asked if there was anything else to add. City Administrator McDaniel said the 2024 levy certification will be \$921,645 and includes estimates for new construction and state utility contributions. The \$921,645 is programmed into the 2024 budget and will be distributed between the current expense fund and the street fund. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Building Official Wells informed the Council that the Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, November 7th at 5:30pm. They are introducing potential changes to the zoning code. He thanked the city crew for todays efforts at 15 N Fir Street.

Police Chief Christensen said his department is very busy and a lot of good stuff is happening. He informed Council that his department was very impressive as they worked a call over the weekend. Officers came in to help on their day off.

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Public Works Director Beetchenow shared an invitation from the Washington State Department of Transportation for an open house. The open house is on Tuesday, November 14th from 3-6pm at the East Omak Elementary School. They will be there to answer questions on the construction of new multimodal facilities along a stretch of Highway 155 and the SR 155/Okanogan River Bridge replacement.

CORE Program Manager Danielson informed Council that "Kick'n it With the Cops" was positive interaction with the community. They also helped with the Harvest Festival and Fun Run.

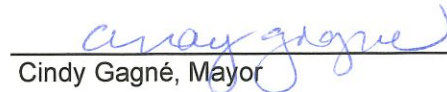
Member Cariker thanked all those that helped with the Harvest Festival and Fun Run while she was out of town.

Member Clark thanked Jack Roy for all the work he has done, and it's appreciated. Mr. Roy thanked the Omak Police Department and City Crew for patrolling and keeping an eye on him while he is out. Mr. Roy shared about the vandalism in the park and in the ball field dugouts. Building Official Wells said he is in the park a lot and he appreciates Mr. Roy. Mr. Wells also thanked him for a couple buckets of baseballs he recovered. Citizen Debi Clark asked Mr. Roy how many sharps he collects per day. Mr. Roy said the only sharps he sees are in the port-a-potties. He won't touch those because he doesn't have a box to collect them in. Member Womack thanked Mr. Roy for his service and would like to see more people take the time to do that. Member Womack thanked Chief Christensen for being out on Halloween. It was great to see him handing out items to the kids and having the police presence. Chief Christensen said it was his mission to drive every single street.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor



MEMORANDUM

To: Omak City Council
Cindy Gagné, Mayor

From: Daniel J. Christensen, Police Chief *DJC*
Rochelle Danielson, CORE Manager *RD*
Wayne Beechenow, Public Works Director *WB*

Date: November 6, 2023

Subject: Distinguished Service Award

I am writing to formally nominate Mr. Jack Lee Roy for a Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to our community, particularly his selfless dedication to maintaining the Omak Eastside Park.

Mr. Roy's tireless commitment has not gone unnoticed. His efforts have garnered praise from various members of the City of Omak, including former Code Enforcement Officer Gary Lewis. Each day, Mr. Roy donates numerous hours to ensure the park remains clean and welcoming for all visitors. His volunteerism is a shining example of service to our community and aligns seamlessly with our newly established Team ONE initiative, which places a strong emphasis on community-driven endeavors.

This award serves as an inaugural gesture of appreciation for the invaluable contributions of volunteers like Mr. Roy, marked by the City of Omak's commitment to supporting and recognizing their vital role in our community.

What sets Mr. Roy apart is his unwavering dedication. He has invested countless hours and personally handled a substantial amount of refuse, all without seeking any form of recognition in return. His actions are a testament to his genuine and humble commitment to the betterment of our community.

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I submit this nomination for Jack Lee Roy. His service exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism and embodies the values we hold dear in the City of Omak.