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**OMAK CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 1, 2024**

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**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:**

Mike Foth	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator (CA)
Nattalie Cariker (Zoom)	Jeremy Patrick, Fire Chief
Barry Freel	Dan Christensen, Police Chief
Steve Clark (Zoom)	Wayne Beetchenow, Public Works Director (PWD)
Meyer Louie	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Michelle Gaines	Tyler Wells, Building Official (BO)
Dave Womack	Rochelle Danielson, C.O.R.E. Program Manager/Outreach Specialist
	Marc Doney, Team O.N.E

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Mayor Gagné asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Council that was not on the agenda. Citizen Ronnie Jackson and Citizen Dennis Carlton asked to be heard. Mayor Gagné added Ms. Jackson to the end of "New Business" and Mr. Carlton asked to speak on the School Resource Officer (SRO).

**CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Proclamation – Arbor Day**

Mayor Gagné read into the record an Arbor Day Proclamation urging all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to plant trees. The proclamation proclaimed Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> as Arbor Day.

**Proclamation – National Library Workers Day**

Mayor Gagné read into the record a proclamation recognizing Tuesday, April 9, 2024, as "National Library Workers Day".

Mayor Gagné also shared with the Council two community clean up events. The first event is being coordinated by Kristen Little and will be held on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Citizens will meet at The Attic located at 12 N Main Street. There will be two sessions, the first will be from 9am to noon and the second session is from 1pm to 3pm. They ask that you bring gloves, and the garbage bags will be provided. The second event is on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon. This event is being coordinated by East Omak Elementary School in celebration of Earth Day. Citizens will meet at the East Omak Elementary, garbage bags will be provided, and you are encouraged to bring gloves.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the March 18, 2024 meeting; 2024 claims checks numbered 110905-110956 in the amount of \$80,501.54; March 2024 payroll checks numbered 110729-110731, 110880-110904 and, ACH payments in the amount of \$446,925.93; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Marc Doney – Team O.N.E. Update**

March Doney, Team O.N.E Lead informed Council that he would like to give them a one-month update on the program. He has created a logo, ordered t-shirts for volunteers and he has a list of interested volunteers. He has done a walkthrough of the Team O.N.E building and has ideas to remodel and make the building conducive. He also informed Council that he traveled to Spokane to learn about their Sheriff Community Oriented Policing Effort (S.C.O.P.E) program. The program has been in existence for thirty years. He said the S.C.O.P.E program has fourteen field offices around the valley and two hundred and forty-two volunteers and are processing another forty-one. He would like to see Team O.N.E propel toward that. He has personally contacted about fifty-two local businesses' s, and he has handed out surveys to get a pulse on the community. After receiving the surveys back, Team O.N.E will then focus on what to do first. He is hearing from the community that they would like to see more presence. He informed the Council that in two weeks he will be

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attending training from the Washington State Crime Prevention Associations (WSCPA). Mayor Gagné asked about the grand opening. Mr. Doney is hoping for May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Resolution 29-2024 – Approve Purchase of a Valve Exerciser and Key**

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 29-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed Council that this purchase is for the water department. The current wrench needs to be replaced. The lowest quote for the valve wrench is from Pollard in the amount of \$5,945. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 30-2024 – Approve a Public Works Contract with Infinite Optical Communications for Camera Installation**

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve Resolution 30-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council that Infinite Optical Communications will install additional Verkada cameras to our system. The cameras will be placed on city infrastructure. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 31-2024 – Approve Interlocal Agreement with the Confederated Tribes History/Archaeology Program**

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Freel, to approve Resolution 31-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council this Interlocal Agreement will allow the City of Omak on-call archaeology services for small projects that come up throughout the year. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 32-2024 – Approve Interlocal Agreement with the Okanogan County Conservation District-Chipping Program**

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve Resolution 32-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council the agreement would allow the Okanogan County Conservation District to implement the EPA Community Chipping Program throughout the City of Omak. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 33-2024 – Approve the Purchase of Real Property for the Repair and Improvements of the North Sewer River Crossing**

Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Freel, to approve Resolution 33-2024. CA McDaniel informed the Council the purchase has to do with the emergency sewer river crossing. The purchase is contingent on a geo-tech survey that will determine if soils are conducive to the bore method. CA McDaniel said if the survey results are good, the city will purchase the property. If not, the city will have no use for the property. City Attorney Howe drew up the earnest money agreement and Mayor Gagné will sign the agreement if the results are good. He informed the Council that the sewer line crossing is important. Committee discussed several options, and the under-river crossing provides a permanent solution. Member Freel informed the Council that the Infrastructure Committee met and recommends approval. Member Gaines asked if this would be funded by a loan from the Public Works Trust Fund, Todd replied, yes. Citizen Dennis Carlton inquired about the property and asked if the buildings would be leveled as there has been a plan to use that space for citizens and business. CA McDaniel explained the focus at this time is the sewer line emergency. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 34-2024 – Approve Supplemental Agreement with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for Design of the Central Avenue Reconstruction Phase II Project**

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 34-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed Council. The agreement will allow Gray & Osborne, Inc. to consult and design Phase II of the Central Avenue Reconstruction project. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 35-2024 – Approve Supplemental Agreement with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for Design of Jonathan Avenue**

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve Resolution 35-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the Council this is a similar agreement. Engineers Gray & Osborne, Inc. will consult in the design of the Jonhathan Avenue project. Member Gaines asked about the alignment of the street from Oak Street to Quince Street. CA McDaniel explained the project will improve Jonathan from Pine to Quince to City standards. The street will function but a small piece at Pine Street will not be straight. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

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**Resolution 36-2024 – Approve an Agreement with the Omak School District for a School Resource Officer (SRO)**

Member Foth moved, seconded by Member Gaines, to approve Resolution 36-2024. Chief of Police Christensen informed the Council that he has been working on the agreement between the Omak School District and the City of Omak. The Omak School Board met last Tuesday and approved the agreement for the SRO. The school will contribute seventy percent of salary and benefits and fifty percent of agreed equipment costs amortized over ten years. Chief Christensen is supportive of the agreement that will create the first SRO position in Okanogan County. Member Womack asked if the officer will be full time at the schools. Chief Christensen explained that school ends in the middle of June and resumes at the end of August. During the summer month, there is specialized training for SRO's and required training by the education system. Member Clark added that even though the kids are out of school, staff are still in the building and it is important to have the SRO there as teacher safety is just as important. There was further discussion about the position by Councilmembers. As there were no further questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion. Dennis Carlton, Chairman of the Omak School Board thanked Council. He shared the idea of an SRO officer in the Omak School District started a few years ago when he attended the Washington Association of School Board conference in Spokane. At that time, there was a presentation made by the Freeman School District and it was devastating. This presentation moved the board to do what they could to have an SRO Officer. This is a big move for the community.

**Resolution 37-2024 – Approve a Purchase Agreement with Air Science**

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve Resolution 37-2024. Chief of Police Christensen informed the Council the city received STOP Grant funding, through the Washington State Department of Commerce. This purchase is for Forensic Evidence Drying Cabinet for bloody and soiled evidence. This also includes five drying cabinets for each law enforcement agency in the county. As there were no questions or comments, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

**Ordinance 1940 – Amending the 2024 Budget for the Sewer and Sewer Cumulative Reserve Funds**

Mayor Gagné informed the Council that Ordinance 1940 is a first read and there is no action. CA McDaniel explained to the Council the emergency sewer line that was referenced earlier will need to be funded. This project is big enough that funds will need to be pulled from the sewer fund and cumulative sewer reserves. This ordinance recognizes the actual beginning fund balance. A couple of capital projects from the sewer fund were removed for savings. The ordinance also recognizes a million-dollar emergency loan from the Public Works Trust fund and the estimated project cost of \$3,565,000. The estimated ending fund balance in the sewer fund will be \$380,275. He reminded the Council that we have been keeping up with sewer rates so the fund will bounce back fast.

**Citizen Comments**

Citizen Ronnie Jackson wondered about research the Council has done regarding the buses. Mayor Gagné reminded the Council about a citizen concern at the last Council meeting. Chief Christensen said this was the first-time hearing about this as he did not attend the last meeting. He will look into it.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Committee/Staff Reports:**

Member Freel informed the Council that the Infrastructure Committee met and reviewed resolutions and received an overview of current projects. CA McDaniel reviewed the budget amendment for the sewer fund providing details on the ending fund balances after the sewer repairs are complete.

Fire Chief Patrick informed the Council that his department responded to thirty-six calls in the month of March and year to date is one hundred twenty-three. He said the busiest year was three hundred and sixty-four calls and he said his department is well on the way to four hundred calls this year.

Police Chief Christensen informed the Council that he provided them with the City of Omak property crimes statistics. He can see the point at which he hired Officer Shrable and, seeing the impacts of the Crime Impact Unit. He thanked his team for their hard work, and he also recognized, the Okanogan County Sheriff for bookings, the prosecutor's office, and Okanogan Behavioral Health Care.

C.O.R.E. Program Manager Danielson informed the Council that both the C.O.R.E and Team O.N.E programs will attend the Okanogan County Veterans Resource Fair located at 307 S Main in Omak. She also

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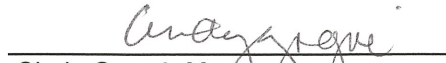
shared that Georgia Lamb and Officer Pennycooke attended a forty-hour crisis intervention training this past week.

CA McDaniel informed the Council that the downtown trees have been trimmed. Next week, he, Clerk Thomas and John Marshall will attend the Washington Public Treasurers Association Conference in Chelan. Citizen Dennis Carlton asked about the downtown trees and possible removal. PWD Beetchenow explained that some trees may need to be removed and will be replaced.

Mayor Gagné reminded all that there are two opportunities to help clean up the community. Member Gaines reminded all that the City of Omak free Spring Pick-Up is on Saturday. Mayor Gagné said thank you to Dennis Carlton. The SRO Agreement is not a City Council thing, it is a partnership.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM.

  
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Connie Thomas, City Clerk

  
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Cindy Gagné, Mayor