

Regular Council Meeting of September 15, 2015

Present were: Mayor Spieth, Councilmembers Koepke, Naillon, Neal, Hart and Roley.
Absent: None.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Spieth. Pledge of Allegiance given.
Copies of the September 1st council meeting minutes were read and approved.

Cindy Nelson, representing the Oroville Grange, was present to share a fundraising idea that she has been working on; putting together a board game called North Country-opoly. Nelson will be selling spots until September 30th; proceeds from the fundraiser will be used for improvements to the Grange building, along with other areas of contribution to be determined by the Grange members. Once the spots are sold, Nelson will begin pre-selling the board game and plans to order 350 of the games. Presentation of art work for the game board. Nelson left an information sheet for those possibly interested in purchasing a spot on the game board. Council thanked Nelson for attending the meeting; Nelson thanked the Council for letting her give her presentation.

Mark Bordwell was present to express his concerns regarding the level of care provided by LifeLine Ambulance and their operations with 2 members on board vs. 3. Bordwell stated that the problems facing the Oroville Ambulance were in existence as far back as 2007. Bordwell commented on correspondence between Perry Huston and Chris Branch in regards to the ambulance department; also commented on the duplicate copies provided in the public records request. In addition to comments relating to the issues of concern regarding the ambulance operations, Bordwell stated that Clerk Denney supplied information in a public records request that released personal information on Lisa Bordwell, as well as other EMTs. Denney requested seeing the documents addressed; documents discussed were Department of Health applications to transfer the EMTs certifications to North Star Medic One. Clerk Denney stated that she had not seen those documents and did not provide them to Chris Allen; the City would not have copies of those applications in their records, as they pertain to North Star Medic One, not the City of Oroville. Bordwell further discussed concerns of ambulance operations and the ongoing issues between the ambulance crew and the City of Oroville.

Review of the draft animal ordinance. Councilman Naillon would like a couple of issues clarified in the exemptions section, specifically *Temporary uses of animals such as goats for the purpose of vegetation management*. Naillon would like to see a definition for temporary and clarification on type of animals allowed, not necessarily limited to goats. Naillon also questioned issues relating to the feeding of wild animals; Branch stated that would be a separate issue. Councilman Koepke would like a correction made to reflect the City of Oroville, not Shoreline.

Update on the Franchise Agreement for sewer line given by Branch. Branch contacted the Okanogan County Public Works Department regarding the fact that the City does not own the sewer line, therefore, the Franchise Agreement should not apply to the City of Oroville. County agreed that an Interlocal Agreement should be created to address the sewer line.

Update on the sidewalk use permit application submitted by the Treasures from Mexico that was discussed during the previous meeting; Branch stated Permit Administrator Johnson had talked with the business owner and they will be re-submitting their application. Branch and Johnson had talked about proposing criteria that could be met that would allow staff to approve the applications.

Chris Allen questioned if the ambulance operations would be discussed further regarding the statements of qualifications; Mayor Spieth stated that it would be discussed under other business.

Draft resolution presented to update the park fees. Clerk Denney stated that the extension of the Camis contract will need to be reviewed for approval for the 2016 season and Camis will be raising their reservation fees. Due to the increase in fees, Denney, Superintendent Noel, Debbie Vigus and Deanna Rowton met to discuss and review the current fees. Staff would like to recommend increases to camping fees; Superintendent Noel explained how much each fee would increase, as proposed by staff. Superintendent Noel also stated that the City has received several requests for Wi-Fi and cable to be installed at the Riverside Retreat; Noel felt that the increases would also help support those services, which staff felt should be provided at the Riverside Retreat. Clerk Denney would like to discuss the boat launch fees; current charges are \$25.00 annually to those with a 98844 zip code and \$40.00 for those outside of the 98844 zip code. Denney requested that the council consider that there be a \$25.00 annual fee to everyone who purchases an annual boat launch fee, regardless of where they live. Council supported updated park fees as proposed by staff. Motion by Neal, second by Koepke, that Resolution #544, updating park fees, be approved; motion carried.

Resignation received from Linda Schwilke from the Housing Authority effective immediately.

Councilman Koepke asked if the Council should take action on the North Country-opoly fund raiser; consensus was that she was looking for support from individuals, not the city.

Ambulance Committee recommendation regarding Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) received for ambulance service. Branch explained the process for SOQ's and that in that process, selections are based on qualifications, not costs; costs are negotiated after a company is selected. Branch stated that the SOQ's were submitted to the County and shared with the City. City Ambulance Committee, along with Chris Branch and Mayor Spieth, reviewed the submitted SOQ's to determine the most qualified company. Further discussion on fees and that they are not discussed until negotiations take place with the selected company. Branch stated that 2 SOQ's were received: LifeLine Ambulance, Inc. and North Star Medic One. It was determined by the ambulance committee that LifeLine Ambulance, Inc. was the most qualified. City to meet with the County on September 16th to discuss selection.

Branch would like to respond to comments made by Mark Bordwell in regards to the public records request. In regards to duplicate copies, if requests are made for e-mails, there frequently are e-mails that have several replies back and forth, which would create duplication when each e-mail is printed out. Also stated that e-mails often are taken out of context.

Councilman Naillon stated that public comments made need to remain constructive and respectful and that this issue is the hardest issue that has come before this council; everyone involved is concerned about providing the best possible service for our community.

Chris Allen would like clarification on decision to be made; recommendation will be forwarded to the County by Chris Branch and Mayor Spieth.

Councilman Naillon stated that the SOQ process is confusing for those who have never been involved in the process; there is a difference between Statement of Qualifications and Request for Proposals.

Question asked on how the public gets a say on the issue; Councilman Hart stated that the City Council Members are voted on by the citizens to represent those citizens and community concerns need to be addressed to them.

Branch stated that this has been an on-going issue and the City had to look at other options and the process has become very convoluted and now we are in the situation we are in. Branch discussed that it came to light that the County structure was not completed as it should have been (County Commissioners / Rural EMS Commissioners) and that has added to the difficulties.

Jennifer Duran questioned the qualifications. Explanation was given by Branch that the qualifications are not based on the individual EMTs – the qualifications are based on the overall management of the operations.

Raleigh Chinn questioned the process; are they actual proposals for operation or are they looking at the qualifications. Selection process is based on qualifications.

President of the Senior Citizens expressed personal support for North Star Medic One and stated that the Senior Citizens voted to support North Star Medic One. Judy Dunston wanted to clarify that those in attendance supported North Star Medic One, but not all members were present to vote.

Chris Allen would again like a response on the recommendation to the County. City Ambulance Committee based their recommendation on the highest qualifications. Chris Allen wanted to address the concern of lack of management for North Star Medic One; stated that they have entered into contracts that would exceed the qualifications. City stated that those contracts were not included in their SOQ.

Motion by Jon Neal that the City of Oroville recommend that LifeLine Ambulance, Inc. be selected as the EMS provider and that the City of Oroville, along with Okanogan County Commissioners, negotiate with LifeLine Ambulance, Inc. to provide that service, second by Walt Halt; motion carried.

Motion by Roley and second by Neal the vouchers #19642-19679, \$49,792.33, be paid, the September 15, 2015 payroll of \$43,831.89, #19619-19636 be approved, the September 2015 Emergency Aid adjustments and collections of \$13,433.34 be approved and the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk