

Regular meeting of Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Present were: Mayor Spieth, Councilmembers Koepke, Naillon, Neal, Hart and Roley. Atty. Howe also in attendance. Absent: none.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Spieth. Pledge of Allegiance given. Copies of the Nov. 5th meeting minutes were read and approved with two typo corrections.

Public hearing on the 2014 Preliminary Budget. Clerk Jones stated that the proposed 2014 Budget is \$204,600 more than the 2013 Amended Budget. The 2014 Budget includes carryovers of the Central/Cherry Street water main replacement and STP street improvement project; the payment of the new ambulance, which was delayed until 2014; and a carryover of the tank and installation portion of the NorthEnd Reservoir Project. No one had any questions. Hearing closed. Clerk reminded council of the Budget workshop scheduled for Nov. 26th at 6:30.

Clerk reported that during the 11/19 staff meeting, discussion was held on the penalty reduction request from Traci Neal, on behalf of her step-mother. Staff recommends that if arrangements are made to either pay the bill in full or on a 4 month or so payment plan, that the delinquent penalties be reduced by 50% at the time of payment (as allowed by the OMC in extenuating circumstances). If a payment plan is submitted, then the penalties will stop being incurred as long as payments are received as agreed upon. Failure to make payments as agreed upon (if a payment plan is approved) will result in penalties being re-activated. Council approved the proposal.

Supt. Noel reported on the status of the NorthEnd Reservoir Project; the tank is scheduled to arrive Dec. 9th; that research is being done on the "sealing" agent and whether cold weather effects it; and that a winter shut-down may still be required. Jones presented pay estimate #2, in the amount of \$138,256.79 to Pilot West Corp. Motion by Naillon and seconded by Neal Pay Estimate #2 be approved for payment. Motion carried.

Chris Branch gave updates on the following:

Mosquito District Formation - Discussion continues about the formation of a district and the setting of the district's boundaries. Branch has worked on a resolution to send the County, asking that Oroville and certain additional areas be included in the formation of the district, which be placed before voters in 2014. The draft resolution will be in the next Agenda Packet for council's review.

Similkameen Trailhead – It appears that the county is considering continuing with the project; that it makes more sense that the county do the project and that it would be quite difficult to transfer the grant to the city; and that the city needs to start considering whether or not the maintenance of the restroom and shelter area could be provided as a partnership share.

Community Airports and State Aviation – Oroville is a NPIAS airport, considered an "obligated" airport because we've used federal funding and regulations in the past, therefore we need to maintain a higher standard than non-NPIAS airports. Branch stated that he hopes that the city remains a member of the Community Airports and State Aviation group, as they provide good information.

Branch also reported that there would be a public hearing re: Okanogan County amending OCC Title 17 "Zoning" in order to identify permit requirements for marijuana operations. A Conditional Use Permit (OCC 17.33) would be required for all marijuana operations and could be approved only for property zoned "Minimum Requirement" and "Methow Review District". Hearing is to be held Nov. 25th.

Branch also discussed the couple of parcels that may be in an area where current zoning would allow retail sales and another area where processing could occur; however, the city's position is that it is against Federal Law and therefore prohibited.

Clerk then shared with Attorney Howe information from Cities Insurance Association of Washington regarding what employers should consider including in their personnel policies and requested he review Oroville's Employee Work Policy and to make recommended changes. Discussion was then held on standards that should be set for employees and volunteers (fire and ambulance). It was discussed that the city should be a zero tolerance employer.

Debra Donahue reported that tuition fees for the three Oroville Ambulance members wouldn't need to be paid until the day the class started on Jan. 4th. Clerk reminded Debra that the city holds the books open at the end of a year until the 2nd meeting in January, in order to make every effort to include all prior year expenditures. Clerk volunteered to call the Tonasket instructor about accepting payment following the 3rd Tuesday in January and to request an invoice for the tuition fees.

Donahue also reported interest from 11 people for taking the EMR class that she will be conducting. In reality, she thinks that at least 9 will end up taking the class. Council approved the use of both Tuition Reimbursement Agreements for use (AEMT and the EMR class tuition reimbursements). Discussion turned to response times and membership requirements of living within a certain radius of the hall. For the Fire Dept., members need to live within a 3½ mile radius of the fire hall. Donahue feels that if there are potential members that have friends or relatives willing to allow them to stay at their place while "on call", that the ambulance could potentially gain several more volunteers by eliminating that living restriction. Donahue also stated that the Ambulance Hall would not turn into a "living quarters"; perhaps someday in the future when the area's population grew to the point it was warranted, but not now. Council to consider.

Clerk presented Charter Franchise Agreement, drafted similar to the City of Tonasket's that Atty. Howe worked on. Howe will share the changes Tonasket requested with council. Agreement tabled until next meeting.

Notice from Charter Communications regarding cable tv service improvements and additional channels becoming available.

Supt. Noel reported that additional time is required for Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting, to keep working on finalizing the water rights transfer that the city has been working on for several years. A Contract Amendment, increasing the fee by \$2000 and extending the contract term thru December 31, 2013 was reviewed. Everyone agreed that much time, effort and money has been spent on getting this transfer processed through Ecology that we can't afford to quit before it is finalized. Motion by Roley and seconded by Hart the Mayor be authorized to sign Amendment #4. Motion carried.

Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:50 p.m. for a 30 minute executive session with Atty. Howe re: potential litigation, as requested by Mayor Spieth.

Meeting reconvened at 8:34 p.m. No action taken as a result of the executive session.

Motion by Roley and seconded by Koepke the Nov. 15th payroll of \$39,445.63, #16292-#16311 be approved; that the vouchers #16319-16354, \$202,880.14 be paid and the meeting be adjourned at 8:35p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____
_____ Mayor

Clerk