

Regular meeting of Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

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

Meeting called to order by Mayor Spieth. Pledge of Allegiance given. Copies of the March 4th meeting minutes were read and approved with one typo.

Tina Janowicz, representing the 12th Annual "Run for the Border" Motorcycle event, requested the same street closures as has been approved for the past several years. Tina reported that this year's fund raising efforts will be for two different causes – Shop with a Cop Program in Okanogan County and the Lilac Services for the Blind in Wenatchee. Tina also commented that she was aware several events are being planned locally to expand the ride into a two day event and that they are making sure that all ride participants are aware of the Blues Fest, poker run, etc. Council authorized the road closures.

Letter received from Dave Allen, ASCJ Alliance, recommending that Versatile Industries, Inc. of Ione, WA be awarded the Central and Cherry Overlay and Water Improvements Project in the amount of \$563,312.41, which includes sales tax). Motion by Neal and seconded by Koepke the Project be awarded to Versatile. Motion carried.

Chris Branch updated Council on recent regional and local meetings on the RTPO's proposed governance changes; how he and other reps expressed their dissatisfaction on the "reorganization" plan, but voted in favor of it with the understanding that the next draft won't look anything like the first one; and discussion on trying to reconstitute a group on the local level. Branch will continue to keep the council updated.

Branch then gave an update on the efforts underway to extend the Hwy 97 Heavy Haul corridor from Oroville to Brewster. An estimated \$55 million would be needed to improve the Highway, and whole log hauling, fruit and hog fuel from Canada were cited as examples given as needs for the extension of the heavy haul roadway. More information will be provided during the April 1st Council meeting.

Branch informed council that both Okanogan County Planning and Public Works were trying to clarify the parameters of the Similkameen Trailhead project and whether or not pit toilets would be an approved alternate to water/sewer serviced restrooms. During their Tuesday morning staff meeting, city staff discussed the "looped" water main line that has been talked about in the past that could also serve the Trailhead. More information to be forthcoming.

Chris also reported on continued activities at Carbon Crush and potential addition of Waste to Energy process.

Letter of interest to serve on the Library Board submitted by Salley Bull. Mayor appointed Salley and Council confirmed her appointment.

Chief Warnstaff submitted request to promote Corporal Todd Hill to the position of Sergeant within the Oroville Police Dept., effective April 1, 2014. Hill successfully completed the Sergeant Oral Board held Saturday, March 8th. Council confirmed the promotion and it was agreed that the corporal's position would remain unfilled now that the department had a Sergeant.

Clerk shared report from Leroy Orr, who volunteered at the Northwest Aviation Conference and Trade Show in Puyallup. Orr stated that between 10,000 and 12,000

people attended the show. Photos of the Okanogan & Ferry Counties booth were included with Orr's written summary of event. The City reimbursed the volunteers \$535 towards lodging expenses incurred while promoting the area.

Noel reported that the NE Reservoir project would be restarting April 10th. There will be a pre-construction restart conference earlier in April.

Jones submitted updated cost estimate for setting up and hosting a new website for the City. Council to look at similar websites cited as examples.

Debra Donahue reported that the new ambulance had been delivered and should be ready to put into service in about three weeks. She also requested that a committee be appointed to study the pro's and con's of keeping the "retired" ambulance as a third ambulance for the area. It was agreed to set up a meeting with City officials, EMS Commissioners and Donahue and possibly other Ambulance Dept. members to discuss options. Donahue also stated that the "Ambulance Association" may consider using some of the community donation funds towards keeping the third ambulance, if necessary.

Arnie Marchand updated council on the improvements being completed at the Depot Museum and "shed; that the Okanogan Indians will be the focus of this year's display and will be the first display in the area to focus on just the Okanogan Indians; and stated that future museum displays may not change annually, as has been the case the last few years. Marchand also discussed the "Elders" gathering in Canada later this year. It is anticipated that 3000+ rooms will be required from Kelowna to Omak for the three day event. It is also hoped that flat water kayaking and canoeing will be coming back to the area soon.

Other discussion included:

- Last Retreat was held in 2009. Another retreat should be held to assess the five year goal accomplishments and future goals
- Fish and Wildlife invitation for the 75th anniversary of the state's first wildlife area at the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area on June 7th
- Thank you from Okanogan County Transportation & Nutrition for the 2014 Support Funds

Motion by Neal and seconded by Roley the March 15th payroll of \$30,317.33 #16897-16917 be approved; that vouchers #16918-16949, \$31,769.62 be paid and that the meeting be adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk