

Special Council Meeting of August 2, 2018

Present were: Mayor Neal, Councilmembers Naillon, Marthaller, McElheran, Hart and Fuchs.
Absent: None.

Meeting called to order at 4:30 pm by Mayor Neal. Pledge of Allegiance given.

Purpose of the special meeting is to discuss the EMS Levy Rate for 2019-2024.

Mayor Neal explained that the Okanogan County Commissioners set their levy rate at \$.50 per \$1,000; wanted to discuss whether or not the City should increase their levy as well. Resolution #563 was passed on July 17th setting the rate at \$.25 per \$1,000, however, that may not be adequate to cover the expenses for services needed. Neal explained that a \$.05 increase would raise the amount collected by roughly \$5,000. Discussed that additional funds are needed due to the minimum wage increase, etc. Discussion on the contract with LifeLine regarding the clause that if the levy collections were to increase by 5%, LifeLine could reopen the contract for negotiations; Clerk Denney stated that if collections were to decrease by 5%, the City could reopen the contract as well. Discussed that if the contract with LifeLine were to be terminated for whatever reason, the County would assume the EMS services and the City residents would fall under their levy. Discussion on term for the levy. Councilman Naillon stated that it may not be a bad thing if the contract were to be reopened, felt that the language could be improved. Mayor Neal explained that as a fireman, he is aware that when LifeLine needs an additional person on the ambulance, the firemen are relied upon to be the driver; discussed that the City is currently paying the wages for the firemen when they do this, so perhaps the City should charge LifeLine for costs when this occurs. Discussed the fact that LifeLine has not provided reports as required in the contract. Further discussion on the contract with LifeLine. Discussed the need to increase the levy, however, the councilmembers felt that it should not be raised by more than \$.10, bringing the rate to \$.35 per \$1,000. Further explanation of the LifeLine contract to Gary DeVon.

Motion by Naillon, second by Marthaller that Resolution #563 previously passed be replaced by Resolution #564 setting the EMS Levy Rate at \$.35 per \$1,000; motion carried.

Motion by Naillon and second by Marthaller the meeting be adjourned at 4:52 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk