

Regular Council Meeting of June 16, 2020

Pursuant to Proclamation 20-28 issued by Governor Inslee on March 24, 2020 and further amended, which prohibits in person meetings, attendance to this regular meeting is only allowed via speakerphone; call in number was provided to the Mayor, Councilmembers, staff and the public.

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

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Neal.

Copies of the June 2nd council meeting minutes were read and approved.

Salley Bull introduced Yuri Olesco to discuss Census 2020 Information; Olesco discussed the importance of participation. Olesco stated that the July 31st deadline has been extended to October 31st and explained the various options to complete the Census. Olesco stated that door-to-door surveys will be conducted later for those who have not submitted their Census information. Current percentages for submittal are: Washington State 66.8%; Okanogan County 36.3%; Oroville 45.2% and Tonasket 44.4%. Councilman Marthaller stated that he did not receive his Census packet in the mail, however, he went online to complete the survey. Olesco stated that she has heard of people not receiving their packet, but encourages everyone to complete it. Olesco would like to request that everyone encourage everyone they know to submit their Census. Mayor Neal asked Clerk Denney if a message encouraging customers to complete their Census could be included on the June water bills; Clerk Denney stated that staff will add the message. Olesco stated that she is available to help those who need assistance completing their Census. Council thanked Olesco for the information.

Salley Bull updated the Council on the Farmer's Market operations. The Farmer's Market has been operating for the past 3 weekends with approximately 6 vendors. Bull explained how they are meeting the requirements and now that the County is in Phase 2, they will be offering crafts and food vendors. Further explanation on what other markets are currently doing. Councilman Naillon stated that increasing what is offered at the Farmer's Market is a good idea and the Market should be able to open to the extent the law allows. Councilman McElheran thanked Bull for the effort put into making sure the Market meets the requirements. Council supported the Farmer's Market increasing what is offered and thanked Bull for the update.

Riley Stucker, Boy Scout Troop #21, stated that the troop would like to pressure wash and paint the old Steam Donkey at the Library. The plan is to pressure wash on Monday, the 22nd and paint the following Monday. The paint will be donated by the County Store. The troop is asking for the use of barriers while the project is being worked on. Superintendent Thompson stated that he had talked with Rocky DeVon about the project and the City water truck will be available for water while they are pressure washing; barriers are also available to protect the project while they are working on it. Council approved the request and thanked the Boy Scout Troop #21 for taking on the project.

Proposed ELWA Consolidation Project Water Supply Agreement reviewed. Councilman Naillon questioned item #3 regarding the requirement to connect to City Sewer within 3 years; would like language added in the event that the property sells prior to connection. Naillon would like the property owner to be responsible to connect to sewer prior to transfer of ownership in the event that they sell prior to connection. Motion by Marthaller, second by Naillon that the ELWA Consolidation Project Water Supply Agreement be approved with the discussed amendment; motion carried.

Review of Ordinance #892, amending the Police Chief wage; wage increase from \$5,130.58 per month to \$6,500.00 per month. Councilman Marthaller questioned funding for the increase; Clerk Denney stated that funds are available for 2020 due to lack of staff, however, the Council will need to look at it closely during the budget workshops for 2021. Councilman

Naillon questioned additional increase for Patrolmen; Clerk Denney stated that a \$3.00 per hour increase was given a few months ago to the Patrolmen, but the Chief's wage was not included in the amendment. Motion by McElheran, second by Marthaller that Ordinance #892 be approved; motion carried.

Councilman Marthaller questioned the status of getting a PA system for the Council Chambers; Clerk Denney stated that she looked into options, but does not know what to look for that would be appropriate for the room. Marthaller also requested the option to record and video the meetings; Clerk Denney discussed difficulty of archiving recordings and video, as those become public records. Councilman Naillon will help look into options.

Councilman Naillon questioned the status of the Airport Fuel; Superintendent Thompson stated that he has not worked on it, as it exceeds the budget by a substantial amount. Naillon stated that getting the airport fuel pump replaced is a priority and bid specs should be created. Councilman Marthaller questioned FAA/Cares Act funding; Clerk Denney stated that she is still waiting on the determination from FAA, as they had stated earlier that it could affect future projects. Heather Marthaller questioned steps to be taken to get the fuel system replaced. Superintendent Thompson stated that he will work on specs for the bid; Naillon stated that the replacement needs to move forward.

Public Hearing for the Six Year Street Program 2021-2026, proposed Resolution #574. Clerk Denney explained the projects listed in the plan; the Central Avenue project has been included in the event that it is not completed in 2020. Councilman Naillon questioned the school project; Clerk Denney stated that it is listed as project #2, however, there has been difficulty in reaching an agreement between the City and the School on the project. Motion by Naillon, second by Hart to approve Resolution #574 for the Six Year Street Program 2021-2026; motion carried.

Fire Department Boot Purchase Request. Clerk Denney stated that Fire Chief Rawley had requested that the Mutual Fire Equip. Acquisition fund be used to purchase 3 new pair of boots for the Fire Department; the fund currently has a little over \$4,200 and that is the purpose of the fund. The 3 new pair of boots will be purchased through the Country Store at approximately \$400 per pair; requesting that \$1,200 be used. Motion by McElheran, second by Marthaller that the request be approved; motion carried.

Councilman Hart wanted to thank Mayor Neal for a job well done so far as Mayor; he has had to deal with several difficult issues, from flood, to the death of an employee, to COVID-19 and he just wants to make sure that Mayor Neal knows how much he is appreciated. Council agreed.

Mayor Neal stated that he spoke with Shelly Roberts regarding May Day; the event has been postponed to July 18th, however, the County needs to be in Phase 4 before it can be held. The May Day Committee is hoping to reschedule, possibly in September.

Motion by McElheran and second by Marthaller the vouchers \$52,573.63, #27481-27510, EFT-DOR, be paid, the June 15, 2020 payroll of \$35,060.52, #27465-27480, Direct Deposit Run, EFT #202027-202028, be approved and the meeting be adjourned at 7:36 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk