

Regular meeting of Tuesday January 15, 2013.

Present were: Mayor Spieth, Councilmembers Koepke, Naillon, Neal, Hart and Roley.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Spieth. Pledge of Allegiance given. Copies of the January 2 meeting minutes were read and approved with one typo correction.

Mayor Spieth made the 2013 committee assignments:

FINANCE: <u>Naillon</u> , Hart	WATER: <u>Hart</u> , Neal	SEWER: <u>Hart</u> , Koepke
BUILDING: <u>Roley</u> , Naillon	AVIATION: <u>Naillon</u> , Roley	PARK: <u>Koepke</u> , Naillon
LIBRARY: <u>Roley</u> , Neal	POLICE: <u>Koepke</u> , Neal	PERSONNEL: <u>Naillon</u> , Neal
HEALTH: <u>Roley</u> , Koepke	SOLID WASTE: <u>Hart</u> , Roley	FIRE / AMBULANCE: <u>Hart</u> , Koepke
INDUSTRIAL PARK: <u>Koepke</u> , Roley	STREET / WEED CONTROL: <u>Naillon</u> , Neal	
EASTLAKE PROJECTS: <u>Neal</u> , Hart	FIRE BOARD: <u>Spieth</u> , Hart, Noel, Jones	
EMERGENCY AID BOARD: Spieth, Assoc. Pres, EA Co-ord., Neal, Jones		

Rollie Clark, American Legion, reported that the Legion has worked with various high school seniors on the Veteran's Memorial Tree Sign that was installed at Lake Osoyoos Veteran's Memorial Park. The sign wasn't installed in a good location, has suffered a lot of water damage and the Plexiglas is cracked. Clark presented a model of a project to move the sign to a different location (on the west sign of the entrance road after you enter the gates but before you reach the Registration Center. Plans include building a black tile covered wall 1' thick, 8' high and 15' long; Adding two benches for seating while viewing the copper colored tree and the names of local Veterans and a flag pole. There currently 158 names on the memorial now, with 152 more needing to be added at this time. This project would allow for expansion of future veteran's names. Various other ideas and possible other locations were shared with Clark, like having a washed rock area around the sign so that grass irrigation water would not ruin the sign again; possibly use ornamental grasses to accentuate the area, with a drip system for watering, etc. Council supported and approved the project, with a final location site to be determined with Supt. Noel.

Deana Zakar, Kin Ross Gold, reported on the status of mining operations; stated that mining within the existing site will cease during 2015; explorations of surrounding areas are being conducted; and that EIS documents are being done on 9000 ac. near the Buckhorn operations site. If that site show promise and permits are approved, There may only be a couple of years cessation of their mining operations. Deana then reported on the revenues and expenditures within Ferry and Okanogan County; donations made, employment stats, etc. Clerk Jones inquired as to if there have been any estimates prepared of potential EMS and School district tax losses and if Deana was aware of the timeframe when those "property devaluations" might occur. Jones also stated it would be hard to estimate the loss of sales and other tax revenues. Deana left brochures, DVD's that show the mining process from start to finish, calendars and fact sheets.

Council reviewed the ambulance application of Chris Allen and the letter from Ambulance Coordinator Debra Donahue, in which she stated she was not recommending Allen be approved for membership. Mayor Spieth stated that normally when applications to the fire or the ambulance come before the Mayor and Council that they have the department heads recommendation for appointment and that he felt that he should stand by the department head's recommendation. Walt cited his reasons for supporting the approval (the ambulance seems to always be looking for new blood and Chris has received his training and should be given a chance); Jon stated his reasons for not approving the application (the department seems to have enough problems and that if Chris were to be approved, things would

only get worse; Tony stated he would not approve the application; Ed stated that statements written in a separate letter from Chris about being appointed causes him concern but since Chris had received certification that he could possibly consider a 6 month probationary period; and Neysa stated that since she was just recently approved to join the Ambulance after taking the same training class with Chris, she felt that she should refrain from commenting. Mayor Spieth then reiterated that he takes the recommendation of the department head seriously when making approvals and that because Chris did not have the Ambulance Coordinator's approval, he would deny his application. Chris then asked what his recourse was, as he felt he had signed a legal binding contract to serve with the ambulance department for two years, otherwise he would need to repay tuition fees that the city had paid on his behalf. Allen appeared aggravated about the decision and stated that he was going to continue to pursue this. In summary, discussion included; Clerk Jones said she thought the next step for Chris would be to file a complaint or grievance with the Emergency Aid Board; Allen wanted to know who was on that board and who to deliver his complaint to; Chris also stated that had called the state and that he was going to file fraud charges against Debra (Donahue) and asked how to proceed with that. Allen also strongly suggested that the Mayor speak with former Ambulance members that have left since Debra has become the Coordinator to find out why they left. Chris said he and Janet Allen (ambulance member) have tried to set up meetings to talk about these things with the Mayor but Mayor doesn't follow-up. Overall discussion became quite heated before the Mayor stated no more, we're done.

Chief Noel submitted letter of recommendation to approve four new members to the Fire Dept. – Christopher Stambaugh, Jason Vargas, John Gordon and Daniel Eisen. Noel stated that all had completed their applications; passed the dept.'s physical test, and submitted medical physical examinations stating they were fit to serve. Mayor and council approved membership to all four, subject to the normal probationary period. Motion carried.

Clerk presented Automated text/hiplink notification of terms and agreements with Okanogan County Dispatch for both the city ambulance and fire departments. Automated texts are sent when there are ambulance and fire department tones and annual costs would be \$23.00 per license (two phones per licenses). The Ambulance would need 2 licenses (4 people) and the fire department would need 12. The text messages are sent in addition to pager tones. Motion by Koepke and seconded by Neal the Mayor and Dept. Heads be authorized to sign the agreement

Council approved the Ambulance Standby for the Ice Fishing Derby at Molson Feb. 16th and waived any fees for providing the service.

Mayor Spieth stated he had presented a 2013 Airport Services Contractor to Steve and Valorie Johnson and that they had signed the agreement. Motion by Koepke and seconded by Naillon. Motion carried.

Koepke stated he had received complaint(s) about Emry Road not getting snowplowed since being annexed. Noel stated that is has been plowed. It may not be the first area to be plowed, but it does get plowed.

Koepke then inquired as to the possible surplus of one of the fire departments fire tanker. Noel responded that the tanker was actually property of the Rural Fire Dept. and that because they were obtained through the DNR surplus, only the tank and accessories could be declared as surplus unless the ownership requirements have been met.

Mayor Spieth reported that the 2010-2011 Audit Report was available on line and that he hoped everyone would read it, as usual, no findings.

Supt. Noel reported the motor in the grader dropped a valve and that he has made arrangements to use Don Beanblossom's if a grader is needed for snow removal. He is in the process of obtaining cost estimates and trying to determine the best options for repair.

Scott Eisen stated that the city's ordinance on ORV operations for snow removal states that no ORV's shall be operated between the hours of 10:00 pm and 5:00 am, and that those hours should be extended in order to be able to get snow removal completed before heavier traffic begins and parking lots fill up and that the police dept. The city starts snow plowing at 4:00 am in order to get most of the streets cleared before people head to work, etc. but does receive some complaints on starting that early. Chris Allen asked if a Conditional Use Permit could be issued to Scott in order that he could start earlier. It was explained that a Conditional Use Permit relates only to land use issues. "Permission" slips were then discussed but it was agreed that the proper way to allow any deviations to the existing ordinance is to amend the ordinance. Scott requested changes so that the police department didn't stop him every time he or his crew tried to clear snow. Also mentioned were that not everyone complies with removing snow from the sidewalks downtown and then there were complaints about the city "failing" to remove snow from east side of Main Street sidewalks that were installed with street projects. Conversation continued, including how sidewalks can be cleared but then the state plows come thru town and throw snow back over the sidewalks. Council did agree that requests will be taken under advisement and that staff, including the police chief, will try to make recommendations at the next council meeting. City also requested to check with Tonasket's ordinance that allows ORV's on city streets.

Motion by Neal and seconded by Naillon that the Dec. 31st vouchers #14617-14650, \$41,280.27 be paid; the January 15th payroll of \$38,755.12 #14596-14616 be approved; the January 15th vouchers of #14651-14659. #1926.25 be paid and the meeting be adjourned at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved _____

Mayor

Clerk