CITY OF OKANOGAN
VIRTUAL MEETING
COUNCIL MINUTES
January 18, 2022
Via ZOOM
CALL TO ORDER

The Virtual Meeting of the Okanogan City Council was called to order by Mayor Culp at 7:01 p.m. through Zoom.

Mayor Culp opened the Public Hearing on the Washington State Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant-Contract Closeout Report Regarding the Second Avenue Levee Repair Study at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Culp stated the purpose of the Hearing is to take relevant testimony on the final closeout for review of the CDBG 2nd Avenue Levee Project.

Mayor Culp asked if there are any challenges to the Council's jurisdiction in this matter. There was none presented.

Mayor Culp asked, does any member of the Council wish to excuse themselves for conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues or disclose any pertinent facts. There was none.

Mayor Culp asked, does any member of the Council wish to disclose any ex-parte communication, such that everyone will have the benefit of the information. There was none presented.

Mayor Culp asked if there was anyone present who wishes to challenge any of the Council, or myself as the Hearing Chairman, for conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues in conducting this hearing. There was none presented.

Mayor Culp opened the testimony portion of the hearing at 7:03 p.m. with the presentation of the Staff Report presented by Planner Johnson. Planner Johnson reviewed the Key Findings as follows:

- The levee was initially built to provide flood protection to a 10-year flow (26,00 cfs +/-);
- There have been 10 instances since 1930 when the Okanogan River exceeded that design standard;
- The levee condition has been deemed unsatisfactory and currently does not meet the 10-year protection standard;
- The City has secured legal easements for all but 4 properties underlying the 2,800 l.f. +/- levee that extends from the Oak Street Bridge to a point near Legion Park; and
- Significant investment will be needed to bring the levee back to the minimally complaint condition (including vegetation and structure removal in indemnified trespass situations)

Planner Johnson reviewed the Gray & Osborne Report which provides four (4) alternatives based on a combination of improving flood protection, Likely cost of each action, the potential long-term costs of each action, and the improved quality of life supported by each action.

Planner Johnson pointed out he will be meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers on Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Planner Johnson announced he will be preparing a letter to the property owners most affected to bring the levee back to an acceptable standard to qualify for maintenance cost share under the Corps of Engineers PL 849 Process.

Mayor Culp asked the Council if there were any questions. There were a variety of questions from Councilmembers relating to the following:

- Why is the focus on 2nd Avenue, North and not currently regarding 1st Avenue, South?
- How welcoming are the residents on 2nd Avenue, North to possible improvements?
- Could the City of Okanogan do a taking of the properties needed to do the improvements?
- How can (SR215) aka the highway be protected without extending the Levee?

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Mayor Culp provided for discussion amongst the Council. There was no further discussion.

Mayor Culp closed the Public Hearing portion of the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jon K. Culp Councilmembers: Eric Lind, Sr., Wayne Turner, Denise Varner, Greg Oyler, Robert Gillespie (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), and Patricia Stanton (arrived at 7:11 p.m.).

Also Present: Clerk-Treasurer Amber Scott, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart, Director of Public Works Shawn Davisson, and Public Safety Director Jeremy Patrick, and City Planner Christopher Johnson.

Mayor Culp announced Councilmember Lisa Bauer emailed him that she was not feeling well and would not be in attendance for the meeting.

Varner moved, seconded by Stanton to excuse Bauer. Mayor Culp asked if there were any objections to excusing Bauer. Seeing no objections, the motion passed without objection.

Excused: Lisa Bauer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Culp asked if there were any alterations to the Agenda and Consent Agenda. Varner added a Scholarship Committee Report under Committee Reports. Turner moved, seconded by Oyler to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as amended. Mayor Culp asked if there were any objections to the motion. Seeing no objection raised, the motion passed without objection.

EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBERS

There were no Pre-excused Councilmembers on the Agenda and Consent Agenda but was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting of January 04, 2022 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

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APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Claims Vouchers numbered 51813 through 51836 in the amount of $73,749.59 dated December 31, 2021, and Claims Vouchers numbered 51837 through 51854 in the amount of $90,049.47, and a debit card transaction dated December 30, 2021 in the amount of $417.24, and a Cash Management Service Fee dated December 31, 2021 in the amount of $35.00 were approved with the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Culp opened the floor for Public Comment. Seeing no Public in attendance, Public Comment was closed.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Director of Public Works Davisson submitted a written report and in addition announced the following:

- Performed snow & ice control operations as needed
- Library HVAC replacement project is moving forward with duct work this week and potentially installation of the new unit next week
- Maintenance II position on the Public Works crew is currently open and being advertised, deadline to apply is February 08, 2022

Public Safety Director Jeremy Patrick submitted a written report and in addition announced the following:

- 3 additional calls: 1 vehicle fire, 1 structure fire, and a motor vehicle accident which occurred after his written report was submitted

Clerk's Office submitted a written report, and in addition announced Vision Municipal Solutions has been purchased by a company based out of Canada which just sent out an email notification informing customers of an 8% increase to be forthcoming for technical services agreements

Sheriff's Office submitted a written report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship Committee Report

Varner reported an email meeting was held regarding the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) scholarship. The City of Okanogan received one application from McKenna Roberts. Varner expressed the Committee's recommendation of Miss Roberts to make her eligible to be considered in the Statewide pool of potential scholarships from AWC.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Washington State Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant Contract Closeout Report Agreement-CDBG Second Avenue Levee Project

Clerk-Treasurer Scott introduced Washington State Department of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant Contract Closeout Report Agreement-CDBG Second Avenue Levee Project.

Turner moved, seconded by Varner to approve the contract closeout report and invoices for grant reimbursement from the Department of Commerce.

Vote on the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Gillespie, Stanton, Lind, Varner, and Oyler

Noes: None

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

Vision Municipal Solutions, LLC Software & Technical Support

Clerk-Treasurer Scott introduced Vision Municipal Solutions, LLC Software & Technical Support.

Turner moved, seconded by Varner that Vision Municipal Solutions, LLC Software & Technical Support for 2022 be approved.

There was a brief discussion.

Vote on the motion.

Ayes: Gillespie, Stanton, Lind, Varner, Oyler, and Turner

Noes: None

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

1st Class Office Solutions, LLC

Clerk-Treasurer Scott introduced 1st Class Office Solutions, LLC annual maintenance agreement for the City's Folder Inserter.

Gillespie moved, seconded by Lind that 1st Class Office Solutions, LLC 2022 maintenance agreement be approved.

Vote on the motion.

Ayes: Stanton, Lind, Varner, Oyler, Turner, and Gillespie

Noes: None

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes: 0 Noes

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Culp opened the floor for Public Comment. Seeing no Public in attendance, Public Comment was closed.

COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENT

Turner reported he will be attending the Trango meeting tomorrow morning. In addition he stated the plans to relocate the existing bus stop from 2nd Avenue to the alley behind the existing facility.

Stanton pointed out the new business owners of "Vern's Automotive" are friendly and good people.

Stanton extended compliments to the City of Okanogan Director of Public Works and the Public Works Crew and for the excellent services they provided to the community; the city has outstanding employees.

Varner expressed her appreciation for how nice the streets are in the City of Okanogan and how grateful she is for the outstanding city employees.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Culp announced the following:

- The City of Okanogan does have outstanding employees
- Will be signing the Commitment Letter with Summit Law Group to represent the City of Okanogan in negotiations with the Teamsters

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Deputy Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart

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APPROVED:

_____
Jon K. Culp, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Amber Scott, Clerk-Treasurer