

**CITY OF OKANOGAN
COUNCIL MINUTES
February 20, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Okanogan City Council was called to order by Mayor Turner at 7:00 p.m.

OPEN RECORD PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Turner opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. by stating the purpose of the hearing is to take relevant testimony on the annexation, review the recommendation and the petitions in order to affirm, modify or reject the annexation which would annex into and make part of the City of Okanogan the land known as Assessor's Parcel Numbers 3326170182 and 3326170209.

Mayor Turner provided for any challenges to the Council's jurisdiction. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for the disclosure of any conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues or disclose any pertinent information. There was none stated.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for the disclosure of any ex-parte communications that may have involved opponents, proponents, or the general public in that this is a legislative decision such communications alone are not merit for a member of the Council to be excluded from participating in the process and that everyone will have the benefit of the information. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner asked if there was anyone present who wished to challenge any of the Council, or himself as the Hearing Chairman, for conflicts of interest or appearance of fairness issues in conducting this hearing. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner opened the testimony portion of the hearing 7:02 p.m. with the presentation of the Staff Report and then will provide for any Petitioners who desires to speak the opportunity, then those who signed in the opportunity to present testimony and then anyone present to present testimony, stating your name and address clearly please. There were none presented.

Mayor Turner asked for Staff to provide a Staff Report. Planner Johnson provided the Staff Report and reviewed the information provided to the council.

Mayor Turner provided an opportunity for the Council to ask direct questions. There were none stated.

Mayor Turner provided an opportunity for Petitioners and Staff to rebut. There were no Petitioners and no Staff rebuttal offered.

Mayor Turner provided the opportunity for discussion amongst the Council. There was none.

Mayor Turner closed the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and stated that during the business portion of the meeting the Council may discuss the ordinance.

The following were:

Present: Mayor Wayne L. Turner Councilmembers: Lisa Bauer, Rob Chilcote, Rob Gillespie, John Lyles, Greg Oyler, Eric Lind, Sr., and Denise Varner.

Also Present: Clerk Treasurer Jessica Blake, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Susan Stewart, and Fire Chief Brad Armstrong. Present through Zoom: Planner Christopher Johnson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Turner asked if there were any changes to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Bauer moved, seconded by Varner to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Turner 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 or Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting of February 06, 2024 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Claims Vouchers numbered 54446 through 54470 dated February 20, 2024 in the amount of \$70,163.38, a Debit Card Transaction dated February 01, 2024 in the amount of \$114.15, and a Debit Card Transaction dated February 07, 2024 in the amount of \$90.00, were approved with the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Turner opened the floor for Public Comment. Seeing none offered, Public Comment was closed.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Planner Johnson reported the following projects he is working on:

- Shoreline Master Plan
- Building Development inquiries
- Additional Annexation

Fire Chief Armstrong submitted a written report and in addition reported the following:

- Year-to-date calls have increased from 42 to 48 with the addition of 4 structure fires and 2 alarm calls since his written report was submitted

Clerk's Office submitted a written report and in addition announced the following:

- Conducted additional research into the Refund request. The City currently does not have a policy to allow for a refund of Water/Sewer connection application fees and recommends the request be sent to the Water/Wastewater/Solid Waste Committee to be discussed. Mayor Turner agreed and directed Clerk Treasurer Blake to make arrangements for the Committee to meet.

Okanogan County Sheriff's Office submitted a written report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports on the Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 1228 – Okanogan County/Okanogan Senior Citizens Center Annexation

Mayor Turner introduced Ordinance No. 1228

Varner moved, seconded by Gillespie to affirm the Findings of Facts, Conclusions and Recommendations of the Planning Commission, and adopt Ordinance No. 1228, annexing the subject properties, establishing zoning and comprehensive plan designations, and existing City indebtedness.

There was no discussion.

Ayes: Lind, Sr., Bauer, Chilcote, Varner, Gillespie, Lyles, and Oyler

Noes: None

Motion carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

Hedington Cemetery Deed Transfer

Clerk-Treasurer Blake introduced Hedington Cemetery Burial Deed Transfer

Lyles moved, seconded by Chilcote to approve the Burial Deed Transfer and authorize Mayor Turner to sign the document.

There was a brief discussion.

Ayes: Lyles, Lind, Sr., Varner, Bauer, Oyler, Chilcote, and Gillespie

Noes: None

Motion carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

Ordinance No. 1229- Travel and Expense Reimbursement

Clerk-Treasurer Blake introduced Ordinance No. 1229.

Bauer moved, seconded by Lind, Sr. to adopt Ordinance No. 1229.

There was a brief discussion.

Ayes: Oyler, Varner, Gillespie, Chilcote, Bauer, Lyles, and Lind, Sr.

Noes: None

Motion carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

Ordinance No. 1230 – Fees for Returned Checks 1st Reading

Clerk-Treasurer Blake introduced Ordinance No. 1230

Gillespie moved, seconded by Lyles to advance Ordinance No. 1230 to the March 5, 2024 Council Meeting for a second reading.

There was a brief discussion.

Mayor Turner asked if there was any objections to advancing Ordinance No. 1230 to the March 5, 2024 Council Meeting for a second reading. Seeing no objections, Ordinance No. 1230 was advanced without objection to the March 5, 2024 Council Meeting for a second reading.

Power Outage Resilience Project Contract Award Rudnick & Sons

Clerk-Treasurer Blake introduced Rudnick & Sons LLC contract award for the Power Outage Resilience Project.

Varner moved, seconded by Oyler that the City of Okanogan award the Power Outage Resilience project to Rudnick & Sons LLC contingent on funding agency budget amendment approval.

There was a brief discussion.

Ayes: Gillespie, Lyles, Lind, Sr., Varner, Bauer, Oyler, Chilcote

Noes: None

Motion carried: 7 Ayes: 0 Noes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Turner opened the floor and invited Public Comment. Seeing none offered, Public Comment was closed.

COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENT

Varner reported that at a recent Okanogan County Board of Health Meeting, Lauri Jones provided a presentation regarding the need for a Local Board of Health and as the City of Okanogan representative she asked if the Council might want to have Mrs. Jones attend a meeting and share some information.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Turner had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Susan Stewart, Deputy Clerk Treasurer

APPROVED:

Wayne L. Turner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jessica Blake, Clerk Treasurer