

**CITY OF OKANOGAN  
COUNCIL MINUTES**

**March 19, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

The following were:

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

Also Present: Deputy Clerk Susan Skirko-Stewart, Utilities Clerk Laura Divis, Public Works Director Shawn Davisson, Fire Chief Brad Armstrong and Sheriff Paul Budrow.

Mayor Wayne Turner announced that Rob Chilcote would not be present tonight. Councilmember Varner moved, seconded by Councilmember Bauer, to excuse Rob Chilcote from tonight's meeting. Mayor Turner asked if there were any objections to the motion. Seeing no objections raised, the motion passed without objection.

Excused: Rob Chilcote

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Turner asked if there were any alterations to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Bauer moved, seconded by Oyler 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 and Consent Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting of March 5, 2024 were approved with passage of the Consent Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Claims Vouchers numbered 54531 through 54567 dated March 19, 2024 in the amount of \$108,804.67 were approved with the Consent Agenda.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Turner opened the floor for Public Comment.

- Casey Starr of 659 5<sup>th</sup> North addressed the council with his concerns with the street he lives on. Most of the time it is a one lane street because people park on both sides. Too many kids out playing and people driving too fast, concerned with the children's safety. Would like to see the speed limit reduced if possible.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

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

- Performed replacing meter boxes; including on Oak Street.
- Performed effluent sampler repairs.
- Completed Maintenance I interviews.

Fire Chief Brad Armstrong submitted a written report and in addition announced:

- Updated department stats to 74 calls.
- Awarded Phase 1 DNR Grant.
- The AFG Grant will be awarded in September.

Clerk's Office submitted a written report and had nothing more to add.

Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer Tyson Martin submitted a written report but was not present at the meeting.

Building Official/Permit Administrator Bryan Forbus did not submit a written report and was not present at the meeting.

Sheriff's Office submitted a written report and in addition, updated Council on patrol officers and working with school for safety with active shooter scenario.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### *Parks & Places, Trails and Cemetery Committee*

Councilmember Varner announced:

The Parks & Places, Trails and Cemetery Committee met on Tuesday, March 5th to discuss the recent Pool Facility Assessment.

We reviewed the assessment and recommendations provided by G&O, which included options for repair and upgrade of the existing facility, new facility at current site and new facility at a new site.

The committee discussed various options and funding opportunities, including possible locations for a new pool. This will be a several year endeavor, which will involve procurement of funds, Community support and partnership building, architectural and engineering services, and the construction of the pool facility.

The committee has directed staff to begin the process and explore funding and partnership options to replace the existing pool facility at its current location.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business on the Agenda.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Okanogan Behavioral HealthCare Presentation*

David McClay, CEO, Jazmine Martinez, Transition Services Coordinator and Carolbelle Branch, Director of Communications, gave a slide show presentation on Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare Transition Services. This is a new service, which started in December 2023. The goal of Transition Services is to reduce the likelihood of re-incarceration and develop living skills and positive social connections that support independence. Individuals exiting incarceration face barriers to successful transition back into the community. Transition services provide pre- and post-release support to overcome these barriers.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

### **COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENT**

Councilmember Gillespie, Councilmember Lind and Councilmember Bauer announced that they would not be present at the April 2nd meeting.

Councilmember Varner announced:

- April 27<sup>th</sup> is Food Truck Festival with the Company Band playing from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Turner announced:

- Will be attending Trango Meeting. There is now a route that goes from Okanogan to Chelan. Then a person can take the Link bus to Wenatchee;

essentially a person can ride the bus from Oroville to Wenatchee.  
Ridership is also up.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Council, the Meeting was adjourned  
at 7:42 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Utilities Clerk Laura Divis

**APPROVED:**

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**Wayne Turner, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Susan Skirko-Stewart, Deputy Clerk**