

**MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013 AT CASHMERE CITY HALL**

OPENING

Mayor Jeff Gomes opened the regular city council meeting at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones took minutes.

ATTENDANCE

|          | <u>Present</u>  | <u>Not Present</u> |
|----------|---|--------------------|
| Mayor:   | Jeff Gomes  |                    |
| Council: | Skip Moore<br>Jim Fletcher<br>Donna Wynne<br>Derek Knutsen<br>John Bryant                                   |                    |
| Staff:   | Bob Schmidt, Director of Operations<br>Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer<br>Mark Botello, Dir of Planning/Building |                    |

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

Mayor Gomes read a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of outstanding service by Gerry Sollinger and his dedication to excellence in the Public Works Departments from November 1, 1999 through October 31, 2013.

Director Mark Botello announced that he is now on the Chamber Board. Also, he informed the council that he would like to replace the lights downtown to match the ones on the crosswalk canopies that the bank and the Chamber purchased. Botello received a quote from Vita Green for \$5457.00 to purchase the new lights and have them installed with timers. The Chamber will contribute \$1100.00 towards the new lights. The city will have to pay the Chamber the remaining amount of \$4357.00. Also, the Chamber will donate the old lights they purchased to the City to use at City Hall and Riverside Center.

Councilor Bryant reported that he and Director Mark Botello are members of the Homeless Steering Committee that reviewed grant applications and interviewed funding applicants on November 5, 2013. The funding recommendation meeting was held on November 6, 2013 at which they awarded \$962,199.

Also, Bryant informed the council members that he is contemplating stepping down from council sometime at the end of this year or the beginning of next year in order to pursue an extended contract for Riverside Center.

Mayor Gomes informed the council that he received a request for financial help from Meals on Wheels in the amount of \$3500. Currently they are delivering meals to six Cashmere residents; the remaining are out in the county. Councilman Fletcher would like a little more information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gomes added agenda Item #6 City's acceptance of the Riverside Park Improvement project.

MOVED by Councilor Bryant and seconded by Councilor Wynne to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of October 28, 2013 Regular Council Meeting

Payroll and Claims Packet Dated November 12, 2013

Claim Check Nos. 33845, 33850 and 33859 through 33903 totaling \$214,749.04

Payroll Check Nos. 33846 through 33849 totaling \$96,312.60

Manual Check Nos. 33851 through 33857 and 33858 replacement check

MOVED by Councilor Wynne and seconded by Councilor Fletcher to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR 2014

Mayor Gomes opened the public hearing at 6:22 p.m. to receive public comment on the Preliminary Budget for 2014. Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones gave a brief summary of the preliminary budget. The preliminary budget includes the following increase in revenues; 1% property tax increase, 2.5 % increase in water rates and a 6% increase in wastewater rates.

Clerk-Treasurer Jones explained the changes in estimated expenditures; the number of employees included in the budget and the 3% COLA in wages according to the union contract. She also explained that the medical benefits have decreased for 2014 due to a change in insurance carriers. Jones also recapped the projects for 2014 that were in the preliminary budget. Director Botello discussed the additional Riverside Park Road Improvement project that will be added to the final budget.

There were no questions or comments from the public. The hearing was closed at 6:45 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 1221 AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL TAX LEVY

The proposed ordinance levies the 1% increase in property tax allowed by law. The 1% increase equates to \$5,634.71.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Bryant to adopt Ordinance No. 1221 authorizing the general tax levy for 2014. Motion carried with three in favor and Councilors Moore and Knutsen voting no.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR HOUSING INMATES IN THE CHELAN COUNTY REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER

The proposed agreement has a term of five years. The annual amount is calculated on a rolling three year average. This will eliminate large spikes in any one year and make it easier for the small cities to budget for.

MOVED by Councilor Moore and seconded by Councilor Fletcher to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Housing Inmates in the Chelan County Regional Justice Center. Motion carried.

AMENDING CHAPTER 6.24.010 ANIMAL LICENSES

The Humane Society is requesting changes to Chapter 6.24.010 Animal Licenses. They want to change the expiration date to a year from the date it is purchased. This will eliminate people paying full price for a partial year's license. This will also allow them to spread out the licenses they issue during the year.

The second change is to print "Animal Control" rather than "Cashmere" on the tags. This will allow them to have one set of sequential numbers for all jurisdictions. This will eliminate double numbers and allow them to keep better track of where an animal belongs. The tags, as they are now, say Cashmere but have Animal Control's phone number on them, so people are confused on who they are contacting when they find a dog with a license on it.

The consensus of the council was to move forward with drafting an ordinance for the next meeting.

APLETS WAY LUPA – LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

The City has been awarded Transportation Regional funds for the Aplets Way Preservation project. The WSDOT Letter of Understanding clarifies roles and responsibilities that are required when using federal funds.

MOVED by Councilor Moore and seconded by Councilor Knutsen to authorize the mayor to sign the Letter of Understanding. Motion carried.

CITY'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Director Botello announced that the Riverside Park Improvement project is substantially complete. Yard Works Landscaping still has some minor landscaping and hydro seeding, which will be completed in the next couple of days.

Mayor Gomes announced that Smith Excavation and his subcontractors were great to work with.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Wynne to accept the Riverside Park Improvement project and release the remaining payment less the 5% retainage. Motion carried.

PROGRESS REPORTS

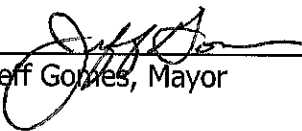
Director Schmidt reported on the WWTP and presented a printout of the progress.

Director Botello reported that he will be meeting with a contractor about the townhouse development across from Vale Elementary School.

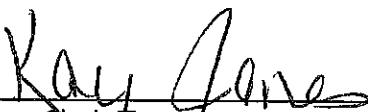
Clerk-Treasurer Jones reported that the online payment program is in place and the payment terminal in City Hall is up and running.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gomes adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

  
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Jeff Gomes, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer