

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015 AT CASHMERE CITY HALL

OPENING

Mayor 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 Skip Moore Jim Fletcher Dave Erickson Bob Abramowski	David Sherman
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer Mark Botello, Dir. of Planning/Building Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney	

FLAG SALUTE

EXCUSED ABSENCE

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Moore to excuse the absence of Councilor David Sherman. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

Director Mark Botello informed council that on December 1st and 2nd he and Mayor Gomes will be evaluating grant applications requesting homeless funds. There is 1.5 million dollars in combined funds available for the homeless. There are applications requesting twice the amount of funds available. The Cashmere Food Bank has applied for \$24,000 for a delivery van.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Erickson to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of November 9, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated November 23, 2015

Claim Check Nos. EFT 10/2015 and #36283 through #36313 totaling \$397,943.17
Manual Check #36282

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL BUDGET FOR 2016

Mayor Gomes opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Teri Weedman owner of Weeds and Lessee of Cashmere Riverside Center spoke to council about needed maintenance at the Center she would like to see in the budget. Mayor Gomes informed Ms. Weedman there was \$30,000 budgeted for improvements at the Center.

The shade canopies that were requested for at the city pool have been budgeted. The Scott family came in and met with Mark Botello to select areas for the shade canopies.

With no further comments from the public Mayor Gomes closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Councilor Fletcher requested that additional funds be budgeted for Riverside Center. He would like to see the front doors redone for security purposes like the back doors were done. He would also like to see large ceiling fans installed to keep the air conditioning and heat out of the rafters and down in the room.

ORDINANCE NO. 1246 GENERAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY

The General Tax Levy ordinance proposes the 1% increase allowed by law. The 1% increase is \$5,872.85 above last year's levy amount. With the 1% increase, new construction and annexations the property tax to be collected in 2016 is estimated at \$597,801.68.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Erickson to adopt Ordinance No. 1246 authorizing the General Property Tax Levy. Motion carried with three voting in favor and Councilor Moore voting no.

APPROVAL OF CASCADE HEIGHTS PHASE 2 SUBDIVISION

The project received preliminary approval through Quasi-judicial review. The Cashmere hearing Examiner held an open public hearing on August 27, 2014 and granted preliminary approval with conditions. All the conditions of approval have been completed. Staff recommends approval of the Cascade Heights Phase 2 Subdivision.

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Fletcher to approve the Subdivision and authorize the mayor to sign the Cascade Heights Phase 2 Subdivision final mylar. Motion carried.

WSDOT SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #1 TO THE APLETS WAY PROJECT

The proposed Supplemental Agreement #1 extends the completion date to June 30, 2017 to complete the Aplets Way project.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Moore to approve and authorize the mayor to sign the WSDOT Supplemental Agreement #1 to the Aplets Way project. Motion carried.

WSDOT SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #2 TO THE APLETS WAY PROJECT

The proposed Supplemental Agreement #2 increases the Maximum Amount of Pay for engineering services to \$71,787.12. The Agreement includes an additional \$32,547.02 for services during construction.

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Moore to approve and authorize the mayor to sign the WSDOT Supplemental Agreement #2 to the Aplets Way project subject to final approval from WSDOT and a construction contract being let and services being necessary. Motion carried.

BLUE STAR GROWERS – AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER WATER RIGHTS

Jerry and Dan Kenoyer from Blue Star Growers were at the previous council meeting regarding the Agreement between the City and Blue Star that transferred water rights to the City in

exchange for freezing Blue Stars water rates for twenty years. Blue Star requested the Agreement be extended.

Dave Simmer who was the City Superintendent at the time of the Agreement came at the request of Blue Star to speak to the spirit of the agreement at that time. Mr. Simmer gave history as to the City's water rights, storage and the need for additional water rights when they approached Blue Star regarding their water rights and transferring them to the City. Mr. Simmer would like to see the City negotiate a new agreement with Blue Star.

Councilor Moore stated that the City has paid for the water rights over the last twenty years. He asked how many more years of the favorable rate before Blue Star felt the water rights would be paid for. Jerry Kenoyer stated the favorable rate should be indefinitely. Moore stated that wouldn't be buying water rates that would be leasing.

The City contacted WCIA for a legal opinion on whether extending the favorable rates would be considered a gifting of public funds. The legal opinion was that Blue Star would need to bring something new to the table in order to negotiate a new agreement. Without something new to consider it would be a gifting of public funds.

Even though the Agreement has ended the City Council would like to confirm that they have paid Blue Star a fair amount for the water rights at the value in effect when the water rights were transferred.

City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman explained that there would have to be a large discrepancy in the value of the water rights and what Blue Star has saved in order for the State Auditors to not see it as a gifting of public funds.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Park Board met at the Cashmere Valley Bank last Wednesday to discuss the improvements to Riverside Park.

Chelan County has selected Trantech Engineering as the lead and RH2 Engineering as a sub consultant for the new Goodwin Bridge project.

Mayor Gomes announced that this was Councilor Bob Abramowski's last meeting. The newly elected council members will be taking their council seat at the December 14th meeting. Mayor Gomes thanked Bob Abramowski for his services on the City Council.

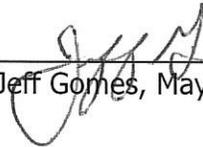
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gomes adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Attest:



Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer



Jeff Gomes, Mayor