

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015 AT CASHMERE CITY HALL

OPENING

Mayor Gomes opened the regular city council meeting at 6:04 p.m. at City Hall. Secretary Teresa Prescott took minutes.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Mayor:	Jeff Gomes Skip Moore Jim Fletcher Dave Erickson Bob Abramoski	David Sherman
Staff:	Mark Botello, Dir. of Planning/Building Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney Teresa Prescott, Secretary	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer

FLAG SALUTE

EXCUSE ABSENCE

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Moore to excuse the absence of Councilor Sherman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Moore and seconded by Councilor Abramowski to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of October 12, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting

Payroll and Claims Packet Dated October 26, 2015

Claim Check Nos. EFT 09/2015 and #36205 through #36231 totaling \$338,644.15

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON REVENUE SOURCES AND POSSIBLE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES

Mayor Gomes opened the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Mayor Gomes explained the maximum 1% increase in property tax for the City, the 2.5% increase in water rates and the 6% increase in wastewater rates, and that utility tax would increase due to the rate changes.

Larry Int-Hout, residing at 103 Meadowsweet Place asked for clarification of the property tax increase. Mayor Gomes explained that 1% is the maximum the City can increase by law. The increase amounts to approximately \$5,500.

With no further public comment Mayor Gomes closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

#### UPDATE AND BUDGET REQUESTS FOR CASHMERE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT

Fire Chief Matt Brunner gave an update on the 2015 fire season and the various other community activities the fire department participates in.

Brunner stated they have an opportunity to purchase used high-pressure SCBA equipment valued at approximately \$500,000 new, but the purchase would inhibit the ability to procure a grant for new SCBA equipment.

Brunner stated the stipend for EMT shifts is working well and he is no longer having trouble covering the shifts due to the stipend. He is seeing a benefit to the City for the minimal cost of approximately \$1825 per person annually.

Brunner would like to request an annual 1% increase in the stipend and also in officer's pay. He also expressed the need for a new aid car. They are having problems keeping the current aid car running and he is afraid they will have a problem responding to aid calls. Brunner researched used aid cars and found one in Pennsylvania for \$45,000. He feels that is about what they would have to spend on an aid car.

Chief Brunner noted there was a train stopped for over 40 minutes this evening blocking all the crossings. Response to a fire or aid call when the crossings are blocked is very difficult. Brunner once again expressed the need for a place to keep a fire truck and aid car on the other side of the tracks for response when the crossings are blocked.

Councilor Moore asked Fire Chief Brunner if there is a City match for grants to purchase SCBAs. Brunner and Mayor Gomes don't believe there was a City match the last time a grant was used.

Fire department staffing stands at 36, and they have covered about 340 aid calls and 100 fires this year.

#### LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH DIVERSIFIED HR CONSULTING FOR UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

The Union contract with IBEW expires on December 31, 2015. The City would like to hire Diversified HR Consulting to negotiate a new contract.

Mayor Gomes explained to council that the employees have elected to change from IBEW, which was started when the City had an electric department, to Teamsters Local 760. Teamsters is a better fit for the current city structure and offers insurance that IBEW could not. Mayor Gomes received confirmation allowing the change of unions from PERC today.

MOVED by Councilor Moore and seconded by Councilor Fletcher to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Letter of Engagement with Diversified HR Consulting. Motion carried.

#### SELECTION OF VENDOR FOR SCADA SYSTEM USING THE SMALL WORKS ROSTER

To comply with requirements of the Department of Ecology and the Department of Health the City needs to purchase a SCADA telemetry system (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) for monitoring the City Water Treatment Plant, reservoirs and wells.

The City asked RH2 Engineers for an estimate, which was \$500,000, and included some

engineering. The City then decided to use the small works roster for proposals. We received two proposals with the proposal from Correct Equipment being the lowest in the amount of \$31,597.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Erickson to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Correct Equipment for a SCADA system. Motion carried.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN TREE TOP, CASHMERE INVESTMENTS AND THE CITY

City Attorney Charles Zimmerman gave some background to the audience explaining the need for a settlement agreement with Tree Top and Cashmere Investments regarding the BVF.

MOVED by Councilor Fletcher and seconded by Councilor Moore to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Settlement agreement between Tree Top, Cashmere Investments and the City. Motion carried.

QUIT CLAIM DEED, EASEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE FROM CASHMERE INVESTMENTS TO THE CITY

When Blue Star built a new facility on Old Monitor Road, a water main to serve the facility was placed on Tree Top property. This agreement gives the City ownership of the main, and an easement across Tree Top (now owned by Cashmere Investments) property.

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Fletcher to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Quit Claim Deed, Easement and Acceptance from Cashmere Investments to the City. Motion carried

PROGRESS REPORTS

Director Mark Botello reported on the progress of the Aplets Way project. As soon as striping is complete, the stop signs will be removed. Hot mix will be used to prepare the trenches on the north end of Aplets for winter.

Chelan County PUD has received a \$400,000 grant for street light inventory in which the City will participate.

Mayor Gomes reported that Link Transit will be having its annual meeting and he hopes Councilor Fletcher will attend and continue to represent the City on the Link Board. Councilor Fletcher agreed.

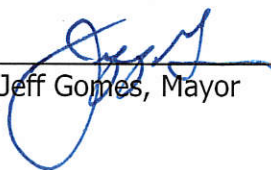
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gomes adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Attest:



Teresa Prescott, Secretary

  
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Jeff Gomes, Mayor