

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2019 AT CASHMERE CITY HALL

OPENING

Mayor Jim Fletcher opened the regular City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones took minutes.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Not Present

Mayor: Jim Fletcher

Council: Daniel Scott  
Chris Carlson (arrived 6:06 pm)  
Dave Erickson  
Kameon Smith  
Derrick Pratt

Staff: Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer  
Steve Croci, Director of Operations

Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

No announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - For Items Not on the Agenda

No public comments.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Scott seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve the revised agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of February 11, 2019 Regular Council Meeting  
Claims Packet Dated February 25, 2019

Claims Direct Pay and Checks #39514 through #39536 totaling \$81,886.08  
Affirm Mayor's appointment of Kirk Esmond to the Planning Commission

MOVED by Councilor Scott and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the items on the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

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

The Regional Justice Center Director Bill Larson and Business Manager Nicole Thomson were present to introduce themselves to the City Council and answer any questions or concerns regarding the Interlocal Agreement and the future of the Regional Justice Center (RJC).

One of the concerns of the City Council is that the last few years they have not been informed of the increase in compensation by June 30<sup>th</sup> as required in the Agreement. If the City receives notification, it's been after the budget is adopted for the year.

Director Bill Larson explained that he was hired in June and Nicole was hired in August of 2018. It took them a few months to get up to speed and figure out what they needed for the contracts. They are however, aware of the past timelines not being met. They are also aware that they are asking all the cities to enter into agreements with a date that is retroactive to January 1, 2019. Both the Director and Manager are committed to meeting the contract notification timeline moving forward.

They are operating at minimum staffing levels and there are no cameras in some of the holding areas. The Director explained that they have an obligation to provide safety and security for the inmates, staff and the surrounding community. They are looking at needed improvements, equipment, and changes in operations, which include staffing levels to meet safety and security requirements. The staffing level at RJC is 6.9 inmates per officer, when the state average is 4.7 inmates per officer.

The RJC is solely dependent on the revenue from housing inmates. They do not receive any money from the County's General Fund. They are operated as an Enterprise fund, so they have to be self-sustaining. The current daily bed rate is \$96, which is \$14 below the states average.

The proposed Interlocal Agreement is a one-year term. They want to determine what it truly cost to house inmates on a per day basis before coming back to the cities for a longer-term contract.

The three-year rolling average for 2019, calculated on the average daily population, is \$30,718.40. The proposed Agreement has a new \$25-dollar processing fee, which is calculated when the inmate is released. The cost for the new fee to the City is \$875 for 2019.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to table the Agreement to the following meeting for discussion and action. Motion carried 5-0.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANTS REQUIRING A BUDGET AMENDMENT

Fire Chief Cy Sousley has applied for two grants. The FEMA grant for turnout gear washer/extractor/dryer equipment has been granted and will require a budget amendment.

The second grant is with the Department of Natural Resources for the second phase of radio replacement. This grant is a 50/50 match. If the Department is awarded the DNR Grant, the Fire Chief will apply for a 911 Communications Grant for the City's 50% match. These two grants will require a budget amendment if awarded.

MOVED by Councilor Scott and seconded by Councilor Smith to authorize the purchase of the equipment when awarded the grant and approve amendment of the budget. Motion carried 5-0.

#### PROGRESS REPORTS

Director Steve Croci announced that the Public Works Foreman John Bayne has retired and his last day with the City is February 28, 2019. Public Works employee Paul Clarin has been selected to fill the Foreman position starting March 1, 2019. The City will not be filling Paul's position. The Public Works Department will operate with four employees.

Mayor Fletcher discussed business licenses and whether the City Council wanted to require non-profits to register and pay the business license fee or register and be exempt from the fee. The consensus of the City Council was to exempt non-profits from paying the fee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

**Collective Bargaining Discussion – Exempt from OPMA, RCW 42.30.140 (4)**

The City's Bargaining Consultant Fred Meiner was present to update the City Council on the progress of the new Union Contract and the issues that we were at an impasse on.

Mayor Fletcher closed the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

  
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James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:  
  
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Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer