

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2020 AT CASHMERE CITY HALL – DIGITAL CONFERENCE

OPENING

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

Now for the roll call of the council members to document attendance. Please respond with an acknowledgment of your presence when your name is called.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Mayor:	Jim Fletcher	
Council:	Daniel Scott - digital Chris Carlson - digital Dave Erickson - digital Jayne Stephenson - digital Derrick Pratt - digital	
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer Steve Croci, Director of Operations	Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney
Public:	Kirk Beckendorf, Cashmere Valley Record – digital Lexi Palmer, Cashmere Museum – digital Bill Donald, Citizen - digital Carl Pedersen, Citizen - digital Maureen Lewison, Citizen - digital	

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Scott to approve the agenda as submitted.
Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of October 26, 2020 Regular Council Meeting by Digital Conference
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated November 9, 2020

Claims Direct Pay and Check #40769 and #40770 through #40798 totaling \$135,079.77
Payroll Direct Deposit and Check #40767 through #40768 totaling \$102,707.51
Voided Check #40751 totaling \$4,000.00

MOVED by Councilor Scott and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR 2021

Mayor Fletcher gave a brief presentation with pie charts of the operating funds, which include General Government, Public Works, Water and Wastewater. The pie charts showed the percentage of the various types of revenues and expenses.

In order to balance the General Government Fund, the \$200,000 transfer to the 302 Capital Improvement Fund was eliminated. The Mayor explained that looking out to 2025 in order to balance and meet budget policies, less funds will be transferred to the capital funds.

Mayor Fletcher received written comments from the public regarding the budget posted on the website. Comments included; lower sewer rates, budget to eliminate the odor problem at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, water rates are outrageous, do something about speeding issues, ensure the City Pool is properly funded and the City needs to learn to live without so do not raise rates or taxes.

Mayor Fletcher opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. to take public comment on the Preliminary Budget for 2021.

Mayor Fletcher asked each citizen in attendance if they had any questions. With no questions or comments from public the Mayor closed the hearing at 6:17 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 1294 PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Mayor Fletcher showed a worksheet comparing the 1% rate increase to no rate increase for 2021. Using his home as an example, if the City were to take the 1% tax increase, his property tax that would go to the City would increase \$4.45 and without the 1% increase his City tax would increase \$0.51, due to the increase in his assessed value. The example is only for the property tax that goes to the City, it does not include or show any other taxes that may increase on property.

The consensus of the City Council was to not raise taxes in 2021 even though the 1% increase in the City tax would be nominal.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to adopt Ordinance No. 1294 authorizing the property tax levy to be collected in 2021 in the amount of \$701,038 with a zero increase over last year's levy amount. Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 1295 AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR 2020

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to adopt Ordinance No. 1295 amending the budget for 2020. Motion carried 5-0.

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

The County is offering a three-year Interlocal Agreement based on 2019-2020 use, with a rate locked in at 5% for 2022 and 2023. Alternatively, the City can ask for a one-year contract with adjustments of occupancy based on 2020-2021. The same contract is offered to all partners, adjusting only the base fee relative to past use.

Mayor Fletcher and Councilor Carlson met with County Commissioner Kevin Overbay and Business Manager Nicole Thompson to discuss the proposed contract, the budget for the jail and how the new rates are calculated. Future regional jail issues were discussed, providing insight on the efforts and plans to control costs.

Mayor Fletcher and Councilor Carlson recommend approving the three-year agreement.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Housing Inmates in the Chelan County Regional Justice Center, authorizing the Mayor to sign. Motion carried 5-0.

2021 AMENDED AND RESTATED MODIFICATION OF MUSEUM LEASE

Since 2006 the City has been contributing \$8,500 to the Chelan County Historical Society (Cashmere Museum) to be used to improve and operate the Museum and Pioneer Village. The Historical Society agrees to promote the City in its advertising material to attract tourists and retail business to Cashmere and to provide free admission to City residents at least one Sunday per month.

The 2021 amended lease increases the contribution from \$8,500 to \$12,000 annually to continue investing in the Chelan County Historical Society.

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve the 2021 Amended and Restated Modification of the Museum Lease, increasing the annual amount to \$12,000.

MOVED by Councilor Scott and seconded by Councilor Erickson to amend the Museum Lease to include a 1% increase annually. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion carried 5-0 to approve the Museum Lease with the 1% annual increase language added.

PACIFICA LAW GROUP LEGAL SERVICES FOR BOND COUNSEL

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Erickson to approve the Pacifica Law Group Legal Services for Bond Counsel, authorizing the Mayor to sign. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.


James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:


Kay Jones, City Clerk-Treasurer