

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY NOVEMBER 23, 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 Deanna Gregory, Bond Counsel - digital Lisa Woods, Citizen - digital Tony Ibarra, Citizen - digital	

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Director Croci announced that the Planning Commission would be holding a Public Hearing on December 7th at 5:00 to take comments on Accessory Dwelling Units and Short-Term Rentals.

The City will also be accepting amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for consideration.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of November 9, 2020 Regular Council Meeting by Digital Conference

Payroll and Claims Packet Dated November 23, 2020

Claims Direct Pay and Check #40801 and #40802 through #40828 totaling \$137,999.43

Manual Check #40799 through #40800

Replaced Check #40795 with Check #40799

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL BUDGET FOR 2021

Mayor Fletcher stated that this was the final hearing on the budget for 2021. This budget includes a zero percent property tax increase, no increase in the water and wastewater revenue rates and a 2.25% wage increase for the bargaining unit employees and the exempt employees.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. to accept public comment on the final budget for 2021. With no questions or comments from public the hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

DISCUSSION ON BOND ORDINANCE PARAMETERS FOR REFINANCING THE USDA 2013 BONDS

Bond Counsel Deanna Gregory was on-line to explain and answer questions regarding the process to refinance the debt on the wastewater treatment facility.

Deanna explained that she will be drafting a delegation ordinance, which will be the only action needed by the City Council. The ordinance will outline the parameters in which the sale must fit within and delegate authority for approval of the final terms of the bond.

Some questions needed to be answered by the bond underwriter, so a workshop will be scheduled.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2020 AMENDING WATER RATES THROUGH 2025

Resolution 08-2020 repeals and replaces Resolution 05-2019 to include no increase in rates for 2021 and to add an increase in the rates for 2025 for water service.

MOVED by Councilor Erickson and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve Resolution No. 08-2020 to include no increase in rates for 2021 and to add an increase in rates for 2025. Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-2020 AMENDING WASTEWATER RATES THROUGH 2025

Resolution 09-2020 repeals and replaces Resolution 06-2019 to include no increase in rates for 2021 and to add an increase in rates for 2025 for wastewater service.

Councilor Scott would like to table the resolution until the Council has more information on refinancing the USDA 2013 Revenue Bonds. The proposed resolution eliminates the 2% rate increase for 2021 and Councilor Scott was concerned about making a decision on sewer rates when the City is in the process of refinancing debt on the wastewater treatment facility. Councilor Scott wants more information on the options for bond sales and interest rates before deciding.

Councilor Erickson stated that the council had already discussed and decided to make the change to both water and sewer rates and directed staff to budget accordingly, so he felt they should stick with that decision.

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Scott to table Resolution No. 09-2020 to the next council meeting for more information regarding the bond refinance before making a decision to amend the rate resolution. Motion carried 3-2 with Councilors Erickson and Stephenson voting no.

BOULDER PARK PROJECT CONTRACT NO. 21-0009

This is an ongoing contract for hauling the biosolids. Previously the City dried the solids before hauling, now the solids are collected in a truck and hauled off. Biosolids generated at the wastewater treatment plant have been put to beneficial use through an agreement with Boulder Park Inc. and King County.

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Scott to approve the Boulder Park Project Contract No. 21-0009 regarding the hauling of biosolids. Motion carried 5-0.

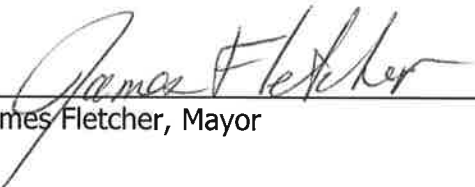
SMALL WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR CHASE STREET SEWER LINE REPAIR

During the emergency repair of Division Street hill sewer line another hole in the sewer line was discovered on Chase Street. This sewer leak on Chase Street was part of the problem with the leak at Division Street hill and needed to be repaired promptly. Quotes for the repair were received from three contractors and staff recommended the selection of Allied Plumbing, they were the lowest bid at \$15,285.91 and they utilize the least invasive method to fix the problem.

MOVED by Councilor Stephenson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve the Small Works Construction Contract for Chase Street sewer line repair and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Kay Jones, City Clerk-Treasurer