

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY APRIL 11, 2022, AT CASHMERE CITY HALL – In Person and Digital

OPENING

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

Public can attend the council meeting in person, by phone or by digital conference.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Mayor:	Jim Fletcher	
Council:	John Perry Chris Carlson Shela Pistoresi Jayne Stephenson Derrick Pratt	
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer - Digital Steve Croci, Director of Operations Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney Kait Schilling, City Attorney	

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fletcher officially proclaimed April 29th Arbor Day in Cashmere and urged all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and support efforts to protect trees and woodlands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Fletcher mentioned that Washington Legislature passed Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1329, which amended the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). ESHB 1309 encourages, but does not require, municipalities to provide the public with remote ways to observe and participate in public meetings. The mayor reiterated that at the previous meeting the consensus of the City Council was to continue to allow councilmembers and public remote participation. Attorney Chuck Zimmerman stated that prior to passage of ESHB1329, governing bodies were not required to accept public comments at a public meeting. The biggest change to the OPMA is the new requirement that governing bodies shall provide an opportunity for public comment either before or during any meeting at which the governing body takes final action.

City Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones announced she has received six applications for pool lifeguards for this summer. The pool manager is obtaining her instructors certification so she will be able to train the pool employees. She will start employment with the City mid-April.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of March 28, 2022, Regular Council Meeting

Payroll and Claims Packet Dated April 11, 2022

Claims Direct Pay and Check #41829 through #41848 totaling \$184,934.22

Payroll Direct Deposit and Check #41826 through #41828 totaling \$98,879.23

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

JC BALDWIN AND JIM KUNTZ – UPDATE ON PORT DISTRICT PROJECTS

Jim Kuntz, with the Chelan Douglas Regional Port District, described current and potential development plans for Cashmere and the two-county region. He promoted the idea that light industrial development is what is needed for job creation. Additional growth at the Cashmere Mill site is expected, and Kuntz told the Council that he will be seeking their thoughts and input on future plans by a developer who would like to create small contractor work and shop spaces. Mayor Fletcher responded that getting properties into private hands and onto the tax rolls is important.

Kuntz also described improvements that are occurring at Pangborn Airport in East Wenatchee. According to Kuntz low visibility is the cause of many canceled flights. Planned enhancement to systems will reduce the visibility needed for safe landing and takeoffs and expansion of the runway and airplane ramps are planned. The Army National Guard is being recruited to move from Fairchild Air Force Base to be permanently based at Pangborn. Kuntz added that Alaska Airlines is having difficulty hiring pilots for their regional flights. The airline will be reduced to only one flight per day out of Pangborn.

AGREEMENT FOR KAMSTRUP ALD WATER METER PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the details of a contract with Correct Equipment to replace all the city water meters with new Kamstrup meters. The current meters are nearing the end of their life span. In March, the Council voted to allow the mayor and city staff to negotiate a sole source contract for the purchase and installation of the new meters.

The new meters will provide real time data on water use and will be able to detect leaks at individual homes. Council member, John Perry asked what the city's plans are for utilizing the additional data. Kay Jones, City Clerk-Treasurer replied that the goal is to be customer oriented, the customer will be notified when the city receives a leak detection alert. This will save the customer on their water bill and reduce water damage.

Correct Equipment has 900 of the required 1200 meters and the other 300 1-inch meters will be ordered. Due to supply chain issues they will not be here until August. The City wants to get started as soon as possible and not wait until August to begin the project.

PETITION FOR THE VACATION OF NONPAVED AND PLATED ONLY PORTION OF KENNEDY RD

Rhonda Rheyas addressed the council requesting that the city vacate an undeveloped section of Kennedy Road. She offered a petition that she said had been signed by all surrounding landowners. Rheyas explained that homeowners want to take responsibility for the road and the property would go into private hands and onto the tax rolls.

City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman stated that vacating the roadway causes other issues and the easiest solution was providing another special use permit for use of the undeveloped right-of-way. Mayor Fletcher said that there is a petition, and that the city should look at the different viewpoints before moving forward and having a public hearing to address the issue.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Director Croci reported that the motion detection portion of the Safe Routes to School flashing crosswalks on Pioneer Avenue will be removed. The push button feature which triggers the flashers will remain at all the three new cross walks. The motion detection was supposed to trigger the flashing beacons of people at the cross walk that did not push the button. Unfortunately, the motion detection was occasionally being triggered by passing vehicles and people walking past. The motion sensors were also sporadic in detecting people at the cross walk who did not push the button.

Woodard & Curran has been in Cashmere interviewing.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer