

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY APRIL 25, 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 Pistorosi - Digital Jayne Stephenson Derrick Pratt	
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer Steve Croci, Director of Operations - Digital Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of April 11, 2022, Regular Council Meeting
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated April 25, 2022

Claims Direct Pay and Check #41849 through #41865 and #41867 through #41872 totaling \$84,848.55

Voided Check #41866

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

AGREEMENT FOR KAMSTRUP ALD WATER METER PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION

On March 14, 2022, Council passed resolution 02-2022 authorizing the Mayor to negotiate an agreement to purchase Kamstrup AMI - ALD water meters. The total cost for the proposed agreement for the purchase of software, meters and installation is \$695,251.17.

The City has estimated a budget of \$70,000 for labor and material, for any repairs needed during meter installation. Work may be performed by city staff or other contractors as necessary to provide a timely and cost-effective response.

Considering supply constraints, installation of the new water meters system will be completed in two parts. Part A starting in June 2022 will be replacing approximately 900 meters and Part B when the remaining 300 meters become available in August 2022. Progress payments for meters and installation will be prorated accordingly.

The old water meters will not be useable to the City, and with approval of the contract will be declared surplus and sold as scrap metal. Estimated salvage value is less than \$10,000.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve the Agreement with Correct Equipment for the purchase and installation of Kamstrup ALD water meters. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF CASHMERE FIRE CHIEF CY SOUSLEY'S YEARS OF SERVICE

Mayor Fletcher thanked Cy Sousley for his 17 years of service with the Cashmere Volunteer Fire Department. The last 3.5 of those years he served as Cashmere's Fire Chief.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW CASHMERE FIRE CHIEF BLAKE LARSON

Chief Sousley introduced Blake Larson who will officially take over as the Fire Chief May 1, 2022. Blake has been with the Cashmere Fire Department since January 2013 and is currently a Captain. Blake has worked closely with Cy for several years.

DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON CASHMERE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Blake stated that in the past couple of years about a third of the department volunteers retired or moved. The department used to have 34 volunteers and they are down about 10. They do have 3 new volunteers, however, recruiting volunteers has been difficult across the county, including Cashmere.

Blake informed the Council that currently the Cashmere Fire Department has the highest rating a volunteer department can have. He is uncertain if District 6 moving out of the Cashmere Fire Station will have an impact on next year's insurance rating. The City and Fire Department is in the process of renegotiating the contracts with District 6, they will also be reviewing and updating the department bylaws this year.

DISCUSSION WITH NCW LIBRARY DISTRICT REGARDING RIVERSIDE CENTER

Cashmere's Librarian Lisa Lawless spoke to the council on the benefits of moving the library to the Riverside Center building. They have outgrown the current location, with a larger building and additional parking, she has great plans for expanding programs for kids and adults. All the programs at the library are free. Lisa is excited about the outside patio area and has ideas for outside programs. Lisa's vision includes growing into a center which could host free community events utilizing the patio area and the park.

Michael Githens, Finance Director, with North Central Washington Library (NCWL) stated that he can envision the Cashmere Library being a "destination library". It's a beautiful building with the outside area and a great location, next to the park. He shared with the Council that the NCWL received \$70 million in grant funds for infrastructure upgrades for all 30 branches. The funds can only be used on interior improvements, so any outside infrastructure improvements will be the City's responsibility.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to authorize the Mayor to proceed working with the Regional Library on what it would take to move the library to Riverside Center. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones reported the opening day of the pool is planned for June 11th. The Pool Manager Christie Bagley was hired, and she will start interviewing the applicants we have. She is already working with the high school and will be setting up a table during lunch next week, to recruit new applicants.

Woodard & Curran is here transitioning, negotiating with the union, interviewing, and making job offers.

ADJOURNMENT

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



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer