

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2023, 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.

The 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:	Chris Carlson Shela Pistoresi Jayne Stephenson Derrick Pratt	John Perry
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer Steve Croci, Director of Operations	Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney
Planning Commission:	Zak Steigmeyer John Torrence Paul Kinser – Chairperson	

ABSENCES

Mayor Fletcher announced that Councilor Perry will not be in attendance tonight due to family illness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Croci announced that the US2 -US97 Easy Street Roundabout will start construction in April and continue through July 4th, be mindful when traveling that area.

Mayor Fletcher announced the state will start paving the west bound travel lanes of Highway 2 in April.

The mayor reminded that council of the Community Meeting March 6th at 6:00 p.m. at Riverside Center and he encouraged the council to attend the Chamber Banquet April 21st.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The 2 people that signed up for public comment will speak about zoning during the joint session with the Planning Commission.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fletcher read the proclamation, proclaiming February 17th as Random Acts of Kindness Day in the City of Cashmere.

Gene Sharratt spoke on behalf of the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation. Gene explained that a group of diversified people pulled together and decided they wanted to be part of the solution. It grew from

there; they formed a foundation, have a website, Facebook page and billboards. They are planning on a kindness float for the Kids Parade. They have designated February 17th as Random Acts of Kindness Day, however they are proclaiming the year 2023 as Random Acts of Kindness Year. Several people from the group were in attendance supporting the proclamation and the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of January 23, 2023, Regular Council Meeting

Amended Claims Packet Dated December 31, 2022, Year End – Amended to include Check #42509 bringing the Year End total to \$286,421.36

Payroll and Claims Packet Dated February 13, 2023

Claims Direct Pay and Check #42499 through #42504 and #42508 and #42510 through #42538 totaling \$ 233,567.15

Payroll Direct Deposit and Check #42505 through #42507 totaling \$81,564.64

Checks #42493 through #42498 were voided due to incorrect date

Public Hearing scheduled on March 13th at 6:00 p.m. for annexation of Christ Center and Spears properties on Kimber Road.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, with the addition of the amended 12/31/23 claims packet. Motion carried 4-0.

JOINT PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Fletcher started the joint meeting by providing maps and informing the City Council and Planning Commission of the new Cashmere Urban Area Boundary according to the 2020 Census. The enlarged urban area now classifies Cashmere as a Metropolitan Urban Area, which means we will now be competing with the City of Wenatchee for federal dollars instead of other small cities.

The mayor clarified that the new urban area boundary was not the same as the City's urban growth boundary.

Tom Gray voiced his concerns regarding his property and zoning. Mayor Fletcher responded to Tom's concerns and suggested he come in and meet with himself and City staff. Gina Quinn voiced concerns regarding zoning and annexation on Kimber Road. The mayor addressed some of Gina's zoning and utility extension concerns and directed her to submit her annexation comments at the Public Hearing on the Christ Center Church and Spears property annexation.

The council and commission members discussed what they would like Cashmere to look and feel like in the near/far future and what needs to be addressed now to make that happen. The following topics are the items the Mayor and City Council would like the Planning Commission to work on in 2023.

Utilities: look at city boundaries and determine where the utilities should be extended.

Housing: how and where to encourage growth and what type of housing.

Parking: look at parking standards and

Development Standards: review standards for curb, gutter and sidewalks and determine if they should only be required in high density areas.

COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL – REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council (CDCAC) is in discussions to purchase existing buildings and land for a new distribution center. The new center will house all their staff and operations, which currently consists of four locations, plus a rented storage unit. The distribution center will distribute 2 million pounds of food to 20 food distribution sites in Chelan and Douglas Counties. The Community Action Council supports Cashmere’s food pantry and provides support to Cashmere residents through other CAC programs.

They have received state and federal grants and additional funds from government, foundation, and private business/individuals. They are very close to their fundraising goal, and they are requesting the Cashmere City Council to consider contributing to the project. The mayor recommended a \$10,000 contribution to the CDCAC for a new distribution center.

MOVED by Councilor Carlson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve a \$10,000 contribution to CDCAC for a new distribution center. Motion carried 4-0.

MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY TOWING AND RECOVERY AGREEMENT

Director Croci proposed agreements with Mountain Highway Towing and Recovery, which will allow the City to work directly with the towing company to tow abandoned vehicles from City owned parking lots. There will be no cost to the City. To tow abandoned cars off city streets, the City will still need to go through the Sheriff’s department.

MOVED by Councilor Pistorosi and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to approve the agreements with Mountain Highway Towing and Recovery Agreement for removing cars from city parking lots. Motion carried 4-0.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Director Croci reported that the PRV project is out to bid, and the Sunset Highway project will be going out to bid in a week or two, and the new server, which is part of the SCADA Improvement project is being installed.

The City has received 60 applications regarding the job announcement for the position in public works. They are still interviewing.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer