

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY MARCH 27, 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:	John Perry Chris Carlson Shela Pistoresi Jayne Stephenson Derrick Pratt	
Staff:	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer Steve Croci, Director of Operations	Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two community members were not allowed to address the Council due to the nature of the comments in a letter submitted to the City. Mayor Jim Fletcher stated. "The letter is inappropriate as it's dealing with items not subject to City Council. The Council does not have authority to discipline or remove other council members from the board." Fletcher invited them to schedule a meeting to discuss the other issue listed in the letter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of March 13, 2023, Regular Council Meeting
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated March 27, 2023

Claims Direct Pay and Check #42574 through #42597 totaling \$92,331.72

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

LINK CEO RICHARD DEROCK – LINK TRANSIT UPDATE

Link Transit CEO Richard DeRock provided the Council with a description of the status of current operations and plans. Weekend and evening ridership has substantially increased and has partly replaced weekday ridership. He explained that the drop in weekday ridership is primarily from fewer college students using the system. A shortage of bus drivers has kept Link Transit from implementing

planned additions to the system. It currently has 155 operators but is short by about 18 drivers. "This has been a huge issue we have not been able to actually carry out the expansion that was envisioned in the sales tax that passed in 2019...That whole series of projects, we have got about 50%... of the service expansion that we wanted to be done, because we have not been able to hire enough operators" to be able to add those additional services.

Link Transit is purchasing several new electric vans and buses and if they stay on schedule with planned purchases, they will be 100% electric by 2026.

RESOLUTION 01-2023 APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH SOURCEWELL - PURCHASE OF A FIRE TRUCK

Fire Chief Blake Larson has been researching fire truck manufacturers to determine which fire truck would be best suited for Cashmere. When possible, the City uses Washington State's cooperative purchasing program to purchase equipment and supplies. Fire Trucks are not on Washington's purchasing program.

Sourcewell is the same type of cooperative purchasing program that offers competitive pricing on goods in amounts equal to, or better than, pricing from other sources. It is necessary for the City to enter an interlocal agreement with Sourcewell to become a participating member and have the legal right and authority to exercise rights and privileges to obtain a bid to purchase equipment, supplies and materials from the Sourcewell purchasing roster. |

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Carlson to approve Resolution No. 01-2023 approving an Interlocal Agreement with Sourcewell for the purchase of a fire truck. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A DWSRF LEAD SERVICE LINE LOAN APPLICATION

The City is required by federal law to complete a lead service line inventory by October 16, 2024. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) has funding available to complete the inventory. The application period is April 1st to April 28th and the City wants to submit in the first week.

MOVED by Councilor Pratt and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to approve submitting a lead service line loan application to DWSRG. Motion carried unanimously.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR CONNECTION TO CITY WATER SYSTEM OF PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 5709 AND 5719 EVERGREEN DRIVE

City Staff worked with property owners and did not clearly state at the beginning of the development process that the properties would be required to connect to the City water system for domestic household use. The financial settlement resolves the claim from the property owners for the substantial improvements they made to their private well to serve the properties.

MOVED by Councilor Stevenson and seconded by Councilor Pratt to approve the settlement agreement for connection to the City water system of properties located at 5709 and 5719 Evergreen Drive. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Clerk-Treasurer Kay Jones reported that Correct Equipment will be out April 3rd to finish up the second half of the meter replacement project.

Director Steve Croci stated that Correct Equipment informed him they will be replacing almost 200 of the new meters; since the leak detection for the city main lines is not working.

Director Croci reported that after speaking with several companies, the HVAC at Riverside Center will be repaired instead of replacing the entire unit. He estimates the repair to be approximately \$10,000.

The bids for the City's portion of Sunset Highway came in about \$100,000 above the engineer's estimate. The majority of the \$100,000 was due to illumination. Selland Construction was the low bidder. The project will start in the middle to late May.


W & C Project Manager Dorien McElroy reported on the following for the water and wastewater systems. The lighting project at the wastewater plant is underway, replacing inside and outside lights with LED, which was an item on the safety audit. They are tackling other safety items as well. Next week the crew will be assisting with the second half of the meter project next week.

McElroy announced that Woodard and Curran joined the Cashmere Chamber, and she has been working with the school on a field trip for the 8th graders to tour the wastewater plant.

Mayor Fletcher provided the council with the history of E. C Long, a former resident of Cashmere. E. C. Long donated the property to the City where Cottage Avenue is located. His grandson is requesting the park be renamed in recognition of his grandfather. The mayor asked the council to review the information for future discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer