

MINUTES OF THE CASHMERE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY JANUARY 22, 2024, 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. The Utility Clerk, Michelle Voie, 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 Pistorosi Jayne Stephenson Jeff Johnson	
Staff:	Michelle Voie, Utility Clerk Steve Croci, Director of Operations	Kay Jones, Clerk-Treasurer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councilor Perry and seconded by Stephenson to approve the agenda as updated with Riverside Center HVAC Renovations. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of January 8, 2024, Regular Council Meeting
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated December 31, 2023, Year End
 Claims Direct Pay and Check #43212 through #43227 totaling \$419,385.77.
Payroll and Claims Packet Dated January 22, 2024
 Claims Direct Pay and Check #43189 through #43211 totaling \$369,449.22.

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

BARBARA WALTERS - NCW LIBRARY UPDATE AND PLANS FOR MOVING TO RIVERSIDE CENTER

The mayor recapped issues with the library's current building. Walters gave a brief history of Cashmere's Library, saying the first contract with the city was in 1984. NCW is an intercounty rural library district that covers Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Okanogan, and Ferry Counties. With thirty locations to serve patrons. Ninety-five percent of their revenue comes from property taxes. The levy rate can only increase above 1% yearly by a vote of the people in all five counties. Walters stated the library would be responsible for "walls in." Cashmere is in the top five of their most-used libraries. The Cashmere Library is well-used and well-loved. NCW library is planning two community events to get input on the design

and layout for Riverside Center. There are plans for different programs and flexible spaces for multi-use. However, programs are dependent on space. After a lengthy discussion, the council agrees that the library is an asset to the community. Councilor Perry noted the maintenance agreement proposed for the Riverside Center building would bring in less monetarily than in previous years and may cost the city more in indirect costs. The mayor noted that contract negotiations are ongoing. Attorney Julie Norton, Ogden Murphy Wallace, who represents NCW Library was at the meeting as well.

UTILITY RATE STUDY

The mayor started the utility rate discussion by showing a Capital Projects Planning Worksheet. Capitol Project's needs for planning all depend on cash flow. Currently, the city has a 4% increase in base fees yearly for water and 2% for wastewater. The mayor suggested keeping the wastewater rate increase to the current 2% and increasing the water rate.

SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR THE RIVERSIDE CENTER HVAC RENOVATIONS

The city received two bids for renovating the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system at Riverside Center. The lowest bid was from North Cascades Heating and Air Conditioning for \$74,614.29. Because the bid is over \$50,000, a performance bond is required. Additionally, the tax rate increased to 8.4%. Staff recommends awarding the contract to North Cascades Heating and Air Conditioning for \$76,527.18 which includes a bid bond and an updated tax rate.

MOVED by Councilor Perry and seconded by Councilor Stephenson to approve North Cascades Heating and Air Conditioning to renovate the HVAC system at the Riverside Center and authorize the mayor to sign documents. Motion carried 4-0.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Dorien McElroy, Woodard & Curran

- WWTP had a water pipe burst and fixed.
- The Water Department received twenty calls for frozen pipes.
- W&C Applied for the PUD lighting incentive for the Water treatment plant.
- There has been visible progress on SCADA.

Steve Croci, Director of Operations

- Continued Snow Plowing
- Crews are maintaining storm drains as the snow melts.
- Crews repaired streetlights on North St.

A Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority Sports Complex Feasibility Study was handed out as an FYI.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.



James Fletcher, Mayor

Attest:



Michelle Voie, Utility Clerk