

City of Cosmopolis
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2015

Mayor Frank Chestnut presiding

Councilmembers present: Debbi Moran, Carl Sperring, and Kyle Pauley

Mayor Chestnut asked that Councilmembers Fischer and Ancich be excused. Councilmember Moran made a motion to excuse and it was seconded by Councilmember Sperring. Motion carried. Mayor Chestnut stated that he had already excused Finance Director Cheryl Turner.

Staff Present: Attorney Steve Hyde, Public Works Director Darrin Raines and Deputy Clerk Candice Makos

APPROVAL AGENDA:

Mayor Chestnut called for approval on the Agenda. Councilmember Moran moved to approve the agenda and Councilman Sperring seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

It was moved by Councilmember Carl Sperring and seconded by Debbi Moran with the change to the workshop minutes to read Mayor Chestnut stated, "the Utility Tax Rate relief is serious money." Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council of Governments – Mayor Chestnut stated that the session was taken up with a report from Cheryl Haywood regarding what the Timberland Regional Library is doing of late. A gentleman from Grays Harbor County who talked about the GIS services and mapping.

Legislative Committee - Councilman Sperring reported that he had checked on the bills going thru the legislature this session. House Bill 2184 penalizing an entity \$500.00 if they didn't get their financial reports done in time. This bill passed. House Bill 2148 appears to be dead this session. It would have allowed private entities to do auditing of municipalities. Senate bill 5955 would have changed funding for sending police officers to the academy. Municipalities would have had to pay the entire bill. WC website gave special thanks to Chief Meyers for giving excellent testimony regarding this matter. Councilman Sperring also states that the revenue sharing of alcohol and marijuana axes depends on how they want to balance the budget. Mayor Chestnut added as a side note that hopefully House Bill 2148 will resurrect itself the next legislative session.

CITY OFFICIALS:

Finance Director - Deputy Finance Director Candice Makos stated that Shane Heston of Trask Insurance is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th from 10:00am until 12:30pm. Topics will cover Public Officials Liability, Open Public Meeting Act and Public Records Request.

Police – Chief Stratton said that Officer Nick Byron would be graduating from the academy in 3 weeks and 6 days. He is graduating with outstanding marks. Chief requested a public safety meeting to address false alarms and how are we going to handle stray dogs. We get 5 or 6 calls a week regarding the stray dog issue. As far as the false alarms perhaps a monetary reimbursement for the officer's time. Chief Stratton said he would look at what other cities do. Mayor asked Councilman Sperring to call a meeting of the public safety committee.

Fire – Chief Jerry Schreck reported that the meeting with the insurance rating bureau went well and his gut feeling is that things will probably stay the way they are. We should know for sure within a month if we stay at the same rate or we may drop a point which is great. Mayor Chestnut commended Fire Chief Schreck for all of his work in getting everything together for the meeting with the rating bureau. He spent hours and days on this meeting. Mayor Chestnut said that Chief Schreck did a great job.

Public Works – Public Works Director Darrin Raines said the Public Works Committee and the Planning Commission had a meeting and both committees discussed basically the same thing. Establishing a set of park rules for Makarenko Park like we have for the other parks. He would like to draft up a set of rules and present it to the attorney and then to the Council. Our abatement process was also discussed at these meetings and he would like to see our process streamlined where the time line of an actual abatement would take less time. This would affect overgrown vegetation, substandard building structure, garbage etc. The Planning Commission and the Public Works Committee seemed to be in favor of going forward with these matters. A workshop will be set in April for discussing these matters at which time Darrin will have information on what other cities do. The last item Director Raines wanted to discuss was the parking on the east side

of First Street for vehicles that were for sale. After discussing this matter with the Planning Commission it was decided to send it back to the City Council. Mayor Chestnut asked if this could be put on the workshop agenda too. Public Works Director stated that the Ken Cumming of Planning Commission would probably attend as he had some ideas regarding this issue.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Chestnut stated he meets with the department heads regularly to discuss things that are going on and to let the department heads converse between themselves. It's a good interchange. Mayor Dave Osgood from Elma told Mayor Chestnut on Monday that they are still wrestling with the sale price of the fire engine and he would get back with Mayor Chestnut when he had a final price.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Chestnut thought that the Sales and Use Tax requested by Cosmo was opened ended as we didn't have a cutoff date. Councilman Sperring and Councilman Moran both stated that they thought it was 5 years. Mayor Chestnut thought we needed to do something formally. A motion was made by Councilman Pauley to adjust the request to reflect a 5 year lifespan. Councilman Moran seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mayor Chestnut will notify Ms. Patterson.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance #1288 – 2015 budget amendment

Attorney Hyde read Ordinance #1288 in its entirety. On a duly carried motion by Councilman Moran and seconded by Councilman Sperring. Ordinance #1288 passed.

Council Comments:

Councilman Pauley would like us to push Elma for a final price on the fire engine since this has gone on for a long time. Mayor Chestnut stated he would contact Mayor Osgood and press the issue.

Public Comments:

Mike Brown speaking on behalf of his mother, Janice Roberts, at 916 Burns Street regarding hazardous trees that are in perhaps the City right of way. He would just like it on the record. Public Works Director Raines stated that one tree definitely is on our property but we need to get Berglund and Schmidt to survey the center of the alley because the trees are so close to private property. Mrs. Roberts thanked us for our time regarding this matter. Mayor Chestnut thanked Mrs. Roberts for being so patient.

Meeting adjourned.

Deputy Clerk

Attest:

Mayor