

City of Cosmopolis
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2015

Mayor Frank Chestnut presiding

Councilmembers present: Carl Sperring, Jim Ancich, Debbi Moran, Kyle Pauley and Jonathan Fischer

Staff present: Public Works Director Darrin Raines, Fire Chief Schreck, Police Chief Stratton, Attorney Steve Hyde and Finance Director Cheryl Turner

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Councilmember Sperring and seconded by Councilmember Pauley to approve the agenda with the addition of item C under new business a discussion about laptops or tablets for the Councilmembers.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Councilmember Moran and seconded by Councilmember Sperring to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from March 4, 2015 workshop and regular meeting and claims vouchers #20762 through #20794 in the amount of \$54,372.04. Motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Park and Recreation – Councilmember Moran brought a letter of interest to become a member of the Park Advisory Board from Linda Springer.

Public Safety – Councilmember Sperring said Police Chief Stratton has been having a problem with dogs at large and false alarms. The City has no way to handle dogs that are running loose and the Police and Fire Depts. have been getting a lot of false alarm calls. The City may start fining people for false alarms.

Flood Project Committee – Mayor Chestnut said they met in Rochester. The committee goes through the list of projects and prioritizes them. Then those projects are sent back to the Flood Authority. The Flood Authority asked the legislature for 56 million and it was cut back to 30 million. Mill Creek dam is on top of the list.

City Officials

Finance Director – Finance Director Turner reminded Council about the B&O ordinance that they had tabled.

Police Chief – Chief Stratton told everyone the Police Dept. annual report is available. He also said one of their radios is broken and he will need a new one.

Fire Chief – Chief Schreck reported 35 calls to date, 4 fire, 2 accidents and 29 aid.

Public Works – Public Works Director Darrin Raines said he had signed the paperwork for GARPA. These are the permits for the Army Corp of Engineers and others. Approval of the permits could take up to 12 months. Darrin said he is hoping we will be ready to go to advertising for contractors in March 2016. Public Works Director Raines also said the crew is working hard to get the cemetery in shape.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Chestnut said we are working hard on keeping expenditures down. He said he knows there are a lot of things to be done in the City but asked for patience by the citizens.

Mayor Chestnut said he received a letter from Councilmember Moran. The letter is a request by Linda Springer to be a member of Park Advisory Board. Councilmember Sperring moved to put Linda Springer on the Park Advisory Board. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Moran. Motion approved.

New Business

A. Authorize Mayor to sign Grays Harbor County addendum to the Interlocal Agreement for the jail.

Councilmember Moran moved to authorize Mayor to sign the addendum to the Interlocal Agreement for the jail. Seconded by Councilmember Pauley. Motion approved.

B. Resolution 2015-01 Water rate increase and other water schedule changes

Public Works Director Raines explained that this increase is part of the water system plan. The water system plan is part of the Capital Improvements Plan which includes well drilling, water rights and connecting to the existing system. The improvements will make us less dependent on Aberdeen and will give us more control over water rates. The Capital Improvement Plan also includes the Franklin pump house which is the alternate water system for both hills and part of the plan would improve water flow in case of fire. Darrin said the Stanford pump station is not efficient and changing pumps would save \$250 per month. He said replacing the main lines on 3rd St. are also included in the plan. The water system plan is why we are increasing the water rates. Attorney Hyde read Resolution 2015-01. Darrin gave examples of the increased cost to customers.

Examples:

- 300 cu. ft. the increase per month would be \$1.14
- 500 cu. ft. the increase per month would be \$1.44
- 750 cu. ft. the increase per month would be \$1.81
- 1000 cu. ft. the increase per month would be \$2.18

It was moved by Councilmember Moran to approve Resolution 2015-01. Seconded by Councilmember Sperring. Motion approved.

The increases per Resolution 2015-01 (April 1, 2015)

- Service rate per month for ¾” line was \$20.00 will be \$20.70
- Service rate per month for 1” line was \$25.08 will be \$25.96
- Cubic foot rate per month was \$.04234 will be \$.04382
- Delinquent fee was \$10.00 will be \$12.50
- Water turn on fee was \$10.00 will be \$12.50
- Reminder Notice fee was \$2.75 will be \$5.00

C. Discussion on laptops or tablets

Council discussed the possible purchase of laptops or tablets for the Councilmembers. No decision was made. This item will go on unfinished business for the April 1, 2015 meeting.

Council Comments

Councilmember Fischer said he was approached by a citizen about speeding on Altenau. Police Chief Stratton said they would put out the speed trailer.

Councilmember Ancich said he was hearing citizens complain about Makarenko Park being cleaned. Public Works Director Darrin Raines said they will not be cleaning any further into the Park. The idea was to create a picnic area and to give more light in the area. Darrin also said they will be having Asplund in to take care of some of the alder trees. Councilmember Sperring thinks the clean-up enhances public safety.

Audience Comments

Susie Marie Brenenstahl, 1025 6th St. made a request to hold her annual lemonade stand behind the Fire and Police Depts. in the grassy area. The lemonade stand will be held the 1st weekend of August. It was moved by Councilmember Moran and seconded by Councilmember Sperring to allow Susie to hold her lemonade stand behind the Fire and Police Depts. Motion approved.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor

