

City of Cosmopolis
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2016

Mayor Frank Chestnut presiding

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

Staff Present: Public Works Director Darrin Raines, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Attorney Steve Hyde and Deputy Clerk Candice Makos, Fire Chief Schreck is excused by Mayor Chestnut.

Mayor Chestnut announced that he will interrupt the council meeting in a few moments to call on Public Works Director Raines to facilitate a meeting to discuss the 3 tenths of 1% sales tax.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Moran moved to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Sperring. Motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Ancich and seconded by Councilmember Sperring to approve the consent agenda consisting of the June 15, 2016 regular meeting minutes, the Workshop on June 27th and public hearing and special meeting on June 29, 2016 and vouchers #21879 through #21903 in the amount of \$72,734.74.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Police – Police Chief Stratton said they would be taking possession of the new police vehicle on Friday, July 22.

Public Works – Public Works Director Raines stated his committee would like to have the language in the animal control waste ordinance changed. Mayor Chestnut suggested moving the discussion to item B. under New Business.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chestnut recessed the Council meeting and introduced Public Works Director Darrin Raines. Public Works Director Raines stated this was an informational meeting only for the Criminal Justice ballot issue on the primary ballot. The panel will discuss the 3 tenths of 1% sales tax. Raines introduced County Prosecutor Katie Svoboda, Grays Harbor Sheriff Rick Scott, Superior Court Judge Dave Edwards and Cosmopolis Police Chief Casey Stratton. Prosecutor Svoboda stated with the economic decline in 2007 to 2009, she lost office personnel that have not been replaced but case load has increased by more than 1/3. This means that a number of cases will go unfiled. She stated several of these cases are drug or mental health related. Grays Harbor Sheriff Rick Scott stated that funding for many of his programs lands directly on the backs of the county. The State is doing more and more unfunded mandates. He has lost personnel that have not been replaced. He needs bodies and bodies need money. Superior Court Judge Edwards said that if the 3 tenths of 1% sales tax passes it will mean an additional .03 cents on \$10.00. The judicial system has seen that 2 out of 3 people from the moment they are arrested, goes to trial, gets sentenced and serves their time in jail will be rearrested again within 1 year of his release. He stated that all departments are running very lean. Judge Edwards said that if the 3 tenths of 1% sales tax passes it will mean an additional .03 cents on \$10.00. One third of this tax has to be spent on Public Safety the other two-third's allocation is left to the County Commissioners. Police Chief Stratton agreed with the other panel members regarding maintaining a healthy personnel level and being able to update outdated equipment.

Mayor Chestnut reconvened the Council meeting. He stated that finances are very tight because of a shortfall. He is asking for the departments heads to put together a plan to show us how we can buttress ourselves for the first part of next year. Mayor stated we may need to make a

supplemental budget. It was agreed that a Workshop on Finances which will be scheduled for 5:30 PM before the next Council meeting which will be held on August 17th.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval by Council for use of City Property (Susie's lemonade stand)

A motion was made by Councilmember Sperring and seconded by Councilmember Moran to allow the use of City property on the corner of 1st & C St. on Saturday August 6th and Sunday July 7th for Susie Marie's Lemonade Stand. The proceeds of which benefit the Cosmopolis Fire Department.

B. Animal Control Waste issue

Mayor Chestnut asked Council member Pauley to meet with his committee to come up with the verbiage they would like to see put in the already existing ordinance. Councilmember Pauley will bring his suggestions to the City Council on August 17th.

Meeting adjourned.

Deputy Clerk

Attest

Mayor