

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Regular City Council Meeting
November 18, 2020

Mayor Kyle Pauley presiding

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

Debbi Moran, Dale Andrews, Candice Makos, Jim Ancich, and Stana Cummings.

STAFF PRESENT

City Administrator Darrin Raines, Attorney Steve Johnson, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Fire Chief Cody Bridges, and Finance Director Julie Pope

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Moran made a motion to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Councilmember Ancich. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET & PROPERTY TAX

Councilmember Moran made a motion to open the public hearing. Councilmember Andrews seconded. Motion carried. Finance Director Julie Pope went through the preliminary budget and the property taxes for the upcoming year. There were no public comments. Councilmember Moran made a motion to close the hearing. Councilmember Makos seconded. Motion carried. Hearing closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Moran to accept the consent agenda. It was seconded by Councilmember Andrews. Motion carried.

CITY OFFICIALS

Police Chief – Chief Stratton stated that he had been contacted by Bob Wilson from the Montesano Police Department regarding the purchase of a reporting module for Spillman. If the cities purchase together, the cost is greatly reduced. Cosmopolis' portion would be \$2998. There is a yearly maintenance fee of \$330 which we would not have to pay the maintenance fee until 2022. If we do not purchase now, we would have to pay \$30,000 as the other cities would have already purchased. Councilmember Andrews made a motion to purchase with the other cities. Councilmember Moran seconded. Motion carried.

Fire Chief – Chief Bridges stated that there has been many calls since the last meeting. A Tacoma firefighter came down and put on a class regarding hydraulics. It went really well and very informative. He has been talking to vendors for pricing of equipment including building maintenance items that have been discussed for a bond or possible levy. He is making a purchase with the trauma grant money the department receives every year. He is receiving a radio, a flashlight, and medical supplies for the aid rig. Brad Clark is almost through his probationary period. He only has two months left.

City Administrator – Administrator Raines stated that he and Finance Director Pope have been working on the budget. He said this is the toughest budget process he has seen. He thanked all the department heads for working hard to help us. He said we are doing the best we can.

City Attorney – Attorney Johnson stated that court will be held tomorrow. This will be the first time for Judge Arnold and for Court Administrator Tracy Dugas.

Public Works Superintendent – Superintendent Nations stated that we are working hard on the budget numbers.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pauley stated the governor issued new restrictions set to end on December 14, 2020. We will keep adjusting as needed. He encouraged everyone to be safe use their best judgement. With the budget, this year has been hard. It isn't easy, but we will get through this. He will be meeting with the other mayors this weekend. He is hoping they have an idea that we haven't thought of. Tomorrow night is the Greater Grays Harbor meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Greater Gray Harbor Agreement** – Mayor Pauley stated that he has spoke to the director of Greater Grays Harbor. She said that we could make quarterly payments instead of one lump sum. This new contract would have quarterly payments. Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the contract. Councilmember Ancich seconded. Councilmember Andrews stated that we should wait that we have more pressing issues for our City. He feels this wouldn't be too much of an impact to the City and not a necessary expense. One -aye, Four – nays. Motion rejected.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), (c) to discuss potential real estate transaction. Mayor Pauley called the executive session. It started at 7:39 for fifteen minutes. The executive session ended at 7:54 p.m. and regular session resumed.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Real Estate Transaction** – Councilmember Andrews made a motion to surplus Parcel 417091423003. It was seconded by Councilmember Ancich. Motion carried. Councilmember Andrews made a motion to sell the property to Daniels Industrial Group for \$31,727 minus \$4,400 for surveying fees paid by Daniels Industrial Group for a total of \$27,327. Seconded by Councilmember Moran. Motion carried.
- B. Ordinance 1350 (Property Tax) and Refund Levy** – Councilmember Ancich made a motion to read by title only. Councilmember Moran seconded. Motion carried. Attorney Johnson read the title of the ordinance. Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the ordinance. It was seconded by Councilmember Ancich. Motion carried. Director Pope went over the refund levies for the Fire Hall Bond and for the Basic Levy. Councilmember Moran made a motion to levy these items. Councilmember Makos seconded. Motion carried.
- C. Water & Sewer Rates** – Administrator Raines stated that Aberdeen will be raising our rates by 4% for the upcoming year. This increase is 5% to help for maintenance and other debt service with general operations. We have cut back this year and can't absorb any more loss due to reduced revenue from the moratorium. This will help to get us by during the remainder of the pandemic. Councilmember Andrews made a motion to approve the resolution. Seconded by Councilmember Moran. Motion carried.
- D. Spillman Module for Police Department** – This will be approved during Chief Stratton's report.
- E. Preliminary Budget for all Funds except General Fund** – Director Pope, Administrator Raines, and Superintendent Nations discussed the budget for the remaining funds within the City. The next meeting will have the complete budget report presented to the Council. Director Pope stated the Council will have the final budget report presented to the Council at the last meeting in December which would be December 16, 2020.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Andrews thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Davis 825 5th Street – He stated that the administrator had mentioned an urn wall or mausoleum in the cemetery. He said that years ago there was a discussion regarding something like this. He said it could possibly be funded through pre-sales. There are some businesses in town that are marketing businesses and could help.

Meeting adjourned.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor