

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Regular City Council Meeting
October 6, 2021

Mayor Kyle Pauley presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

Candice Makos, Stana Cummings, Jim Ancich, and Miles Wenzel. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to excuse Councilmember Moran. Councilmember Makos seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF PRESENT

Attorney Steve Johnson, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Asst. Fire Chief John Bramstedt, and Finance Director Julie Pope, Public Works Superintendent Jeff Nations

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pauley asked to have Ordinance 1369 (No Parking Zones) added to the agenda as item D. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of Ordinance 1369 as item D. Councilmember Makos seconded. Motion carried.

GREATER GRAYS HARBOR PRESENTATION

Lynnette Buffington, CEO of Greater Grays Harbor, gave a presentation showing how Greater Grays Harbor helps businesses. During the pandemic, they have helped 96 business with Covid-19 relief options. Total relief funding was \$618,500.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Asst. Chief Johnson Bramstedt – He asked if Resolution 2021-07 and Ordinance 1368 were drafted per the Public Safety Committee. Mayor Pauley stated that they were drafted per the instructions from the last Council meeting. Asst Chief Bramstedt asked if the committee had reviewed them and stated that the fire association had not. Councilmember Wenzel stated the committee had not reviewed them. Asst. Chief Bramstedt asked if they could be tabled. Mayor Pauley stated that it would be up to the Council when the items come up under new business.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Makos made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Councilmember Wenzel seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety – Councilmember Wenzel stated that they have met with the Fire Department and the Police Department. With the Fire Department, they discussed the items that are on the agenda tonight. They also discussed drafting policies for medical reimbursement and hepatitis B reimbursement. They also discussed the Fire Chief position. For the Police Department, they discussed a new police officer. They are asking for three computers in the near future. Chief Stratton will discuss this.

CITY OFFICIALS

City Administrator – Administrator Raines stated that the Friends of Highland Park group submitted an application through T-Mobile for a Hometown Grant in the amount of \$50,000. Linda Springer led the group. He thanked the group for putting their time into getting this done and help with maintaining the park. Today we received official notice from the Dept. of Health that our water system plan is approved. It is valid for ten years. We will be working on our well development next year.

Police Chief – Chief Stratton stated that Officers Tarnowski and Officer Johnson have both fully recovered. Both are back to work. Reserve officers Bruce Watts and Jeff Seeman helped to cover shifts. For code enforcement, there are missing criminal codes in our city's municipal code have not been listed or updated in our code or sent to JIS. Updating the Code is an undertaking that needs to be addressed. Our newest reserve officer is Joshua Lefor. He is a commissioned offer from Arlington PD. Currently he is a reserve but is expressing interest in becoming a full-time officer. Chief Stratton stated that they, City Hall, and possibly the Fire Department are in need of new computers. Asst Chief Bramstedt stated that he would have to check on their computers to see if they need any new ones. The department is now in compliance with the CJTC regarding military equipment that we have been issued.

Asst Fire Chief – Asst Fire Chief Bramstedt stated that they have had 180 calls year to date. They submitted a nomination for a chief in August and are waiting for resolution regarding that. He said they waiting to know what the status of the supplies request is.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pauley stated that the redistricting maps are out and will be discussed during the next couple of months. Cosmopolis is in a hot zone for the redistricting maps. We fall along the border. October 18th is

the deadline for the vaccine mandate. Our fire department falls under this. We will need exemption forms or vaccine cards submitted to City Hall by this date.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 2021-07 (Volunteer FF Pay)** – Councilmember Ancich asked what the resolution was for. Mayor Pauley stated that this is for volunteer firefighter pay as discussed in the last meeting. Councilmember Wenzel made a motion to table this so that the committee and the association can discuss it. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Councilmember Makos asked Motion carried. 3-aye, 1 no.
- B. Ordinance 1368 (Volunteer FF Assoc Practice Fund)** – Councilmember Ancich asked if this was regarding the Sunday Duty pay for the Fire Fighters. Mayor Pauley stated that this topic was brought up at the last meeting. Attorney Steve Johnson stated that this is not the Sunday duty ordinance. This is to set May 1st as the date the annual payment is made to the Fire Association each year. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to approve. Councilmember Wenzel seconded. Attorney Johnson read the changed portion of the code. Councilmember Makos asked if Asst. Chief Bramstedt wanted this tabled. Assistant Chief Bramstedt stated that neither the Public Safety Committee nor the Fire Association had reviewed the verbiage of the ordinance. Motion carried. 3-aye, 1-no.
- C. Greater Grays Harbor Contract** – Mayor Pauley stated this is a municipal services agreement between the City and Greater Grays Harbor Inc. Finance Director Pope stated that this is the same contract as in prior years. The yearly fee is \$2,700. Councilmember Makos made a motion to accept the contract. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried. 3-aye, 1-no.
- D. Ordinance 1369 (No Parking Zones)** – Attorney Johnson read the ordinance. He stated the only change is the code is adding the South side of the 1100 block of Stanford Drive. Administrator Raines stated we have received requests for the no parking zone as the result of a cross-country meet two weeks ago. We will work with the school district to create a parking area within the park for the next cross-country meet. Councilmember Wenzel made a motion to approve. Councilmember Makos seconded. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To discuss Acquisition of Real Estate per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and to discuss Performance of a Public Employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). No action will be taken. Mayor Pauley stated the executive session will last 20 minutes to return at 8:27 p.m. At 8:27 p.m., Mayor Pauley extended the session another 10 minutes. At 8:37 Mayor Pauley extended it another 10 minutes. At 8:47, regular session resumed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ashley Arcangel, Ocean Avenue – She commented that there is still a wall located in the middle of her street. The wall is being built on an easement that the City has interest in. She wants to know why the City is not handling the public safety issue. The building of the wall removes the turnaround needed for emergency access in the middle of Ocean Avenue. She says the City is not following its own codes regarding the building of this wall. This issue was brought up with the City in August, 2020. One of the codes to review is 12.11.260 which is in regard to retaining walls. Councilmember Ancich stated that he knows the property owner in question. He says that the property is not City property. It is the landowner's property that he is building a wall on. If he were building a fence, it would be the same thing. The land was vacated from the City to the property owner. Mayor Pauley stated the City has had numerous meetings with both property owners. There is nothing the City has for any enforcement actions at this time.

Sue Perry – She stated she is opposed to the Disc Golf at Makarenko Park. She said the park is filled with wildlife, flora and fauna plus many people walk the park daily. There is no room for disc golf.

Linda Springer – She is concerned about disc golf at Makarenko Park. She has had several people voice safety concerns for disc golf at the park. This park is not open enough to have that type of activity safely in the park.

Mayor Pauley adjourned the meeting.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor