

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Regular City Council Meeting
October 20, 2021

Mayor Kyle Pauley presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Attorney Steve Johnson, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Asst. Fire Chief John Bramstedt, and Finance Director Julie Pope

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Wenzel made a motion to amend the agenda by adding under Item A New Business for the purchase of a 2016 Tahoe from the Hoquiam Police Department. Councilmember Moran seconded. Motion carried. Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Item A under New Business. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve. Councilmember Wenzel seconded. Motion approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Sub Committee – Councilmember Wenzel stated they met last night to discuss the draft of the City Budget. We are waiting on final revenue numbers and ironing out the remaining items along with the Fire Department budget.

Public Safety – Councilmember Wenzel stated that they met on Monday with Chief Stratton. They discussed the purchase of the Tahoe from the Hoquiam Police Department.

CITY OFFICIALS

City Administrator – Mayor Pauley went over Administrator Raines' written report. Public Works will be restarting the installation of the new water meters in the next couple of weeks. It should be completed by March, 2020. We are working on solutions for animal control and the feral cat situation. We are looking at options for Code Enforcement as well. The Stormwater Utility stated we won't start charging for this until January. We are looking at issues with the billing system and what is best for citizens going forward. There will be changes coming to the Council by the end of the year.

Finance Director – Director Pope stated with the end of the utility moratorium we gave all past due customers until October 31st to make payment arrangements or seek funding. Our past due balances have dropped over \$8700. Shut offs will resume in November. At the next meeting, we will have a workshop to discuss remaining funds. At the second meeting in November, we will have a public hearing for the budget and property tax levy.

Police Chief – Chief Stratton stated the 2016 Tahoe from HPD price has gone to \$2700. This is to recover the exact amount they spent on repairs. The radar unit that is in the vehicle will now come with the vehicle. This should wash with the previous cost of \$2,000 for the vehicle. The cost of a transmission for the vehicle is \$6,610. He feels that this is an amazing deal. We can surplus and sell the Crown Victoria that we purchased from Westport. We will be able to get what paid or more for the vehicle. He stated that Councilmember Ancich recommended that they retain the older Tahoe in case we have a vehicle that breaks down. We have a new provisional officer. Joshua Lefor has been working on his own for a couple of weeks now. For Code Enforcement, we had a couple of issues. One is a tree that had fallen. The homeowner will take care of it as soon as he can. He has also been asked about the Feral Cat situation. We need to find a solution for animal control.

Asst. Fire Chief – With the vaccine mandate, we have 8 that have submitted their cards. They are waiting on an answer on their proposal of Chief.

Attorney – Municipal Court will be on zoom tomorrow. If anyone would like to observe, the information is on the City's website. He welcomed the Councilmembers to observe if they would like. Regarding the Tahoe, it won't be on Hoquiam's agenda until the second Monday in November.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pauley stated we had 8 firefighters submit their vaccine verification and one exemption was submitted. He approved the exemption and an accommodation was made. City Hall will get the

information from the Assistant Fire Chief to keep on file. The three that had not provided information would be allowed to take leave until they provided the information. The Council received a letter from the Finance Director regarding there is an Elected Officials training coming up. This is required within 90 days of office and done every four years. Halloween is coming up. We should see an increase in trick or treaters. The Great Washington Shake Out is occurring tomorrow at 10:21 a.m. This will be the full alert. It is just a drill. The Grays Harbor Transit Board is moving forward with the purchase of 18 acres of land by the Lemay's transfer facility.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 2021-07 (Volunteer FF Pay)** – Attorney Johnson read the changes in the resolution. The meal stipend for Sunday duty will be increased from \$25 to \$50 per Firefighter for no more than 2 Firefighters per Sunday. Councilmember Wenzel made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Councilmember Wenzel stated that Asst Chief Bramstedt would like the resolution to reflect the actual name of the association within the Resolution. The name registered by the Secretary of State is Cosmopolis Association of Firefighters, not the Cosmopolis Firefighters Association. Attorney Johnson stated that the wording was taken directly from the City's Code. He said that if we change it here, we should change it within the City's Code. Asst. Chief Bramstedt would like it to be consistent with how they are listed with the Secretary of State. Attorney Johnson stated that the council would need to make a motion to change the name in Section 1 to the Cosmopolis Association of Firefighters. It was seconded by Councilmember Cummings. Motion carried on the amendment. Motion carried on the original motion as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Purchase of 2016 Tahoe from Hoquiam Police Department** – Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2016 Tahoe from the Hoquiam Police Department for \$2,700. Seconded by Councilmember Wenzel. Councilmember Wenzel stated that the prices of surplus vehicles has gone up. He believes this is an opportunity to take. This would be taken out of the Equipment Reserve Fund. Director Pope stated that the Equipment Reserve has the funds available for this purchase. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Moran – She thanked everyone for excusing her at the last meeting.

Councilmember Makos – She thanked Councilmember Wenzel for doing the background work of researching used vehicles.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Davis – He asked why we can't see the other participants in the meeting with the new format. Mayor Pauley stated that the webinar format is what many organizations are using. It is a cleaner format.

Mayor Pauley adjourned the meeting.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor