

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Regular City Council Meeting
April 21, 2021

Mayor Kyle Pauley presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

City Administrator Darrin Raines, Attorney Steve Johnson, Fire Chief Cody Bridges, Public Works Superintendent Jeff Nations, and Finance Director Julie Pope

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Makos moved to delete item D under New Business and add Performance of a Public Employee to the Executive session. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Makos made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Councilmember Ancich. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works – Public Works Superintendent Nations stated that they had met on the 14th. He said they were discussing preliminary items. No action needed from the Council at this time.

CITY OFFICIALS

Finance Director – Director Pope stated that revenues are down \$119,517 for the first quarter. It is normal to be down the first quarter of every year. B&O taxes are down 62 percent from the first quarter of last year. First quarter of last year was prior to the pandemic affecting us. At this point, revenues are starting to climb.

City Administrator – Administrator Raines had an update on the new building. We had hoped to have all the construction documents ready for bid opening in July. Construction materials are up as high as 300% due to the pandemic. We feel that it's best to hold off on going out to bid to see if market conditions improve in order to keep costs down.

Police Dept – Chief Stratton was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Mayor Pauley read a statement by Deputy Chief Layman. He stated that we have received the two 2014 Ford Taurus Police Vehicles. They appear to be in good condition. They should be online quickly. Reserve Officers and Officer Miskell went to Soap Lake to get the vehicles. We are also looking at grants to purchase additional vehicles. We still are responding to increased calls due to mental health issues.

Fire Chief – Chief Bridges stated that they are looking for more volunteers. Brad Clark is still in EMT class. He is scheduled to graduate next month. They have been responding as mutual aid for wildfire calls. Grays Harbor County has put out a burn ban, but Cosmopolis already has those restrictions in place so there are no changes. During recent inspections, one of our ladders failed. We will be looking to replace it.

Public Works Superintendent – Public Works is still installing new water meters. They have also been working on mowing the parks and cemetery. In the public works committee meeting, they discussed outfitting the 2019 F150. The total cost is \$3600.00. This was approved during the prior budget, but due to the pandemic, it was not purchased. They would like to pay for it out of the funds received from the items surplussed on GovDeals. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to approve the purchase with an amount not to exceed \$3400.00. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pauley thanked all the applicants for the open Council position. He encouraged any applicants to apply for committees if they are not selected for the Council position. Next month is filing week for the next elections. We have two council positions will be up. With spring clean up coming up in June, he is encouraging residents to hold a garage sale the Saturday before.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance 1358 (Feeding of Deer)** – Councilmember Ancich made a motion to bring back the ordinance. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried. Councilmember Ancich asked if there are any issues in the community regarding this. Mayor Pauley stated that he had received a couple of comments from residents on Altenau. Councilmember Ancich stated that he had spoken to neighbors and they were not aware of any issues. Councilmember Cummings asked how this would be enforced. Mayor Pauley stated that it would begin with warnings and would progress to citations. No motion was made to adopt the ordinance.

- A. Resolution 2021-04 (RV Park Water/Sewer Fees)** – Administrator Raines stated that with the new RV park coming in, we need to set rates for them. We compared it to other services in the City that are similar in size. Councilmember Cummings made a motion to accept. It was seconded by Councilmember Makos. Motion carried.
- B. Ordinance 1359 (Flood Damage Prevention)** - Administrator Raines stated this is a housekeeping item. This ordinance comes from FEMA to make sure we are enforcing and planning for areas in the City that are in the flood hazard. Most of the changes from the previous ordinance comes from updated definitions from FEMA. There is no overall change. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to approve. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried.
- C. Surplus Police Vehicles** – Administrator Raines stated the Police department is wanting to sell the three Chargers and the maroon Tahoe on GovDeals for a total of four vehicles. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to sell the four vehicles. It was seconded by Councilmember Cummings. Councilmember Ancich asked if we should hold onto the Tahoe as a backup. Administrator Raines stated that the Police are worried about the condition of the Tahoe. Councilmember Ancich made a motion to amend the original motion to leave out the Tahoe and only surplus the Chargers. It was seconded by Councilmember Cummings. Motion carried. On the motion to surplus, motion carried.
- D. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Qualifications of an applicant/candidate for appointment to elective office. RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) and Performance of a Public Employee** - Mayor Pauley stated the meeting would last fifteen minutes and would return at 7:58. Mayor Pauley came back at 7:57 and extended the meeting until 8:17. Mayor Pauley came back at 8:17 and extended the meeting until 8:23. Meeting resumed at 8:23.
- E. Vote for New Councilmember** – Councilmember Makos made a motion to appoint Miles Wenzel to Council Position 5. Councilmember Cummings seconded. Motion carried. Mayor Pauley welcomed Mr. Wenzel to the Council and stated the appointment lasts until the end of this year as the position is up for election this year.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Ancich – He asked about the Fire Dept surplussing equipment on GovDeals. He felt we have done well with other equipment that was auctioned. Chief Bridges stated that the surplus list would have to be scaled back due to budget cuts. The only equipment they can now sell is the 74 Mack and the old ambulance. Councilmember Ancich stated that during the Public Works Committee meeting that they are looking at a Stormwater Utility Tax and a possible urn wall at the Cemetery. There will be another meeting next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ann Peery – She asked about the status of the Festival in the Park. Mayor Pauley stated that due to the pandemic, it will not be held this year. She stated that she is trying to put something together for the Police Reserves.

Mayor Pauley adjourned the meeting.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor