

CITY OF COSMOPOLIS
Regular City Council Meeting
June 16, 2021

Mayor Kyle Pauley presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

Candice Makos, Stana Cummings, Jim Ancich, Debbi Moran, and Miles Wenzel

STAFF PRESENT

City Administrator Darrin Raines, Attorney Steve Johnson, Asst. Fire Chief John Bramstedt, Public Works Superintendent Jeff Nations, and Finance Director Julie Pope

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Ancich seconded. Mayor Pauley proposed two changes. He asked to remove Item B under New Business to table for a future meeting. He asked to add a Request for Letter of Support for the Port of Grays Harbor and another Letter of Support for a Behavior Support Grant. Motion carried. Councilmember Moran made a motion to accept the agenda with the changes. Councilmember Ancich seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – SIX YEAR STREET PLAN

City Administrator Raines stated this is our annual six-year street plan and is a requirement of the Washington State Department of Transportation. This does not guarantee they will be done but will make the projects grant eligible. These are projects that will fit with the current funding. Administrator Raines read off the list of projects that are on the plan. They are not listed in any particular order. These projects have been on the list for many years due to lack of funding. Citizen Ashley Arcangel asked the City Administrator to elaborate on the Corbin Road. City Administrator Raines stated that there is no Corbin St. It is Washington Street from Corbin Road to the dead end. It is a one block paving project. Citizen Carl Sperring asked if there was some place the public can see the list of projects. Finance Director shared her screen to show the list of projects. Citizen Carl Sperring stated that if the public can't see the list prior to tonight then how do you get public comment. Mayor Pauley thanked him for the comment. Councilmember Wenzel asked when the due date is for the plan. Administrator Raines said it is due June 30th. Citizen Allan Somerville asked about Stanford Drive and Corbin Road. Administrator Raines said that it doesn't rank within the criteria set by the State Department of Transportation. They are considered maintenance issues. Mayor Pauley closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carl Sperring, 1006 Bell Drive, noted that in last month's meeting minutes that ordinance 1361 was passed. We are dealing with ordinance 1363 tonight. He asked what happened to ordinance 1362. Finance Director Pope stated that it was passed in the last meeting. She will correct the draft minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Moran made a motion to approve the consent agenda with an amendment to include ordinance 1362. Councilmember Wenzel seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Sub Committee - Councilmember Cummings stated that they discussed the American Rescue Act Funds. The City will receive \$463,944 in two payments of \$231,972. We are recommending that it be put back in to reserves. Reserves had \$511 at the end of 2020.

Public Safety - Per Councilmember Wenzel, they met tonight with Asst Chief Bramstedt and Firefighter Steve Davis. They discussed the budget cuts as to how it affects the Fire Department and the need to get the committee meetings going again.

CITY OFFICIALS

Finance Director - Finance Director Pope stated that as of June 10th, City Hall no longer processes business licenses. It is all done by the Washington State Department of Revenue. When the Finance Sub Committee met with the Finance Director and City Administrator, they also discussed setting a policy for Fund Balances and Reserves.

Police Chief – Chief Stratton stated that Officer Coleman has accepted a job offer from the Monroe Police Department. His last day with us will be June 28th. We have been in contact with several lateral officers who are currently unemployed. On Friday, we will be offering one of them a provisional job. The advertisement for the Lateral Police Officer position closed yesterday. We will be conducting interviews and submitting the results to the Civil Service Commission for evaluation and certification. All officers received training for the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course. All completed it successfully. Reserve

Officer Bruce Watts, has been accepted to become an instructor in PIT maneuvers. We are also due for our Biannual audit for Access. Reserve Officer Adam Johnson will help to facilitate that. Deputy Chief Layman conducted Firearms training jointly with the Hoquiam Police Department. Our officers passed one hundred percent. The Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Cosmopolis Police Departments are applying for a grant for a Mental Health Professional. This is titled a Navigator's position. They would work with law enforcement for those suffering with mental health issues.

Attorney – Attorney Steve Johnson stated that court will not convene tomorrow but will meet at on June 23rd instead. Zoom information is listed on the City's website under Municipal Court. Court Administrator Tracy Dugas introduced herself stating that she is working 100% remotely. Court revenues are up twenty percent from last year. Filings are tracking the same as last year. We have had 99 cases filed this year.

Public Works Superintendent - Superintendent Nations stated that they finished flushing the Fire Hydrants. They have been concentrating on mowing.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pauley stated that E-911 Admin Board will be discussing a new facility. Mayor Samuel from Montesano has offered to house the E-911 facility on a piece of land that would be developed. It is near the entrance to the city. This would be a brand-new facility. They would be paying rent. Construction Costs would be paid for by bonds in the City of Montesano. He received a lot of feed back from the proposed City-wide garage sale. It went great. Hopefully this is something we can encourage the public to do in the future. He stated that he has discussed since the beginning of his tenure that there are Municipal Code changes that need to be made. We will be starting with a few different departments and notch them down as we go. There is a lot of outdated language. As for the proposed opening date of June 30th where the state will reopen. There are still questions regarding how much will reopen. There is a tentative plan to return to in person meetings in July. It will depend on the State limitations. These limitations are set to expire when the governor's state of emergency expires, not June 30th. Mayor Pauley has been encouraged by the public participations due to the online meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution 2021-05 (Six Year Street Plan)** - Administrator Raines did a recap of the Public Hearing. Councilmember Moran made a motion to accept the resolution. It was seconded by Councilmember Ancich. Motion carried.
- B. **Letter of Support** – Mayor Pauley stated that he has received a request for a letter of support for the Port of Grays Harbor for a Department of Transportation Infrastructure Grant Request for the Aberdeen US 12 Separation Project. This letter would be sent to Representative Pete Buttigieg. Councilmember Wenzel made a motion to move forward with a letter of support for the project. It was seconded by Councilmember Moran. Motion carried.
- C. **Behavioral Health Support Grant Request** - Mayor Pauley stated that this would be for the cities of Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Cosmopolis for a mental health professional. They would work with law enforcement for those suffering with mental health issue. This would be funded entirely by the grant. Councilmember Moran made a motion to accept. It was seconded by Councilmember Wenzel. Councilmember Wenzel stated that officers are required to have mental health training but having a specialized person would be extremely beneficial to this area. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Wenzel - He would like to bring back the discussion of the Stormwater Utility funding to the next meeting. He also wanted to set a Public Safety Committee prior to the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Ancich – He stated that the Public Works meeting will be meeting to discuss the Stormwater Utility funding.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ashley Arcangel, Ocean Avenue – She asked the Council to weigh in on an issue that is occurring on Ocean Avenue. She showed a map with the lots that were affected. She also showed pictures of the affected areas and the public access. She has been in discussion with the City since December of 2020 and thought the issue was resolved. The City has stated that this is private matter. She feels that if a fire truck, an ambulance or garage truck, there is no turn around and no way to back out without going into the driveway of a private structure. She feels there should be a turn around on this street and this is a City issue. Mayor Pauley thanked her for her comments.

Mayor Pauley adjourned the meeting.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor