

# City of Cosmopolis

Regular Council Meeting  
February 16, 2011

Mayor Vickie L Raines presided

Councilmembers Present: Jim Ancich, Carl Sperring, Frank Chestnut, Debbi Moran and Karen Cox

Staff Present: Finance Director Kathy Welch, Attorney Stephen Hyde, Public Works Director Darrin Raines, Fire Chief Al Burrows and Police Chief Casey Stratton

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Vickie L. Raines. It was moved by Debbi Moran and seconded by Frank Chestnut the Agenda is approved. Mayor Raines said the ordinance addressing second readings of ordinances was removed from the agenda after research showed that this requirement has already been rescinded.

MEETING  
CALLED TO  
ORDER –AGENDA  
APPROVED

It was moved by Debbi Moran and seconded by Frank Chestnut to approve the minutes of the previous meeting and approval of claims Vouchers #16574 through #16620 in the amount of \$69,220.28 Motion carried. Mayor Raines said that Deputy Finance Director Turner asked Mayor Raines to tell Council and public that the agendas that are posted prior to the meeting at the Post Office and City Hall are preliminary only and are subject to change.

VOUCHERS and  
MINUTES  
APPROVED

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Planning** – Councilman Sperring said that the Planning Commission met February 7<sup>th</sup>. Bob Buchanan, VP Government Relations at Cosmo, was present. He said that they are going to be painting the mill and thought that they could possibly paint a mural on the side of the large warehouse adjacent to the parking lot. He asked the Planning Commission if they had any ideas. Judy Lohr will take the lead on looking into this. Everyone thought this was a great idea and were pleased that Cosmo approached the City with this idea. The Planning Commission also heard a report from Public Works Director Raines regarding some changes to the Downtown Corridor project. They are looking at using stamped concrete instead of pavers. This would save a lot of money now and in the future with maintenance. The current benches that have a white cedar for slats are deteriorating. Darrin is looking into using synthetic slats. The Planning Commission did not like the idea of changing the design of the lights at the ends of the project.

COMMITTEES

**Council of Government** – Councilman Chestnut attended his first meeting and said that he is just learning the names of the people on the committee. They reviewed last year's accomplishments, including acquiring funding for our Downtown Corridor completion.

**Legislative** – Councilman Sperring said not much has been done yet. Lawmakers are scrambling to find places to cut in order to balance the budget.

## CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

**Police** – Chief Stratton said the Police department acquired the Tahoe from the City of Snoqualmie. They had it checked out and it will need ball joints and some other minor work for around \$1500.00. It came fully equipped with \$4,000.00 worth of equipment. Clerk Willet has completed her training for the electronic ticketing program.

POLICE

## **February 16, 2011**

**Fire** – Chief Burrows said three Cosmopolis Firemen went to McCleary to assist with a fire. This is a great training opportunity for our dept. They also toured the pulpmill. This went really well and will schedule

FIRE

another tour after the mill is up and running. Fire Chief Burrows said they have two more applications for the fire department and said they need a Fire meeting before the next council meeting.

**Public Works** – Public Works Director Raines said that the environmental permits have been approved for the Downtown Corridor project. Darrin said he will be meeting with Qwest, DOT and the PUD to discuss the utilities for the Downtown Corridor project. Qwest will probably not pay to put the utilities underground, but the City can use our match funds that are not federal funds.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Raines spoke with Tammi Hickel about the bird problem at the school. Tammi’s initial reaction was that she and the kids loved the birds. Mayor Raines explained the problem we have with someone throwing raw garbage in the street for the sea gulls. She spoke with the two residents that were feeding the birds and thinks the problem has been solved. Tammi also thanked the Public Works crew for their assistance in changing the lights in the score board. Mayor Raines said that we try to work together and reciprocate the cooperation.

**MAYOR**

Mayor Raines said the Council will hold a retreat March 12<sup>th</sup> (date agreed upon by Council). Canfield and Associates will give a workshop on Council liability. Staff has been asked to give a written report on goal for the current year and the next three years. We will also discuss the utility tax issue for Cosmo and the B & O tax rate. Mayor Raines would also like to discuss getting an interactive web site for the City. Chief Stratton has done a great job getting our current web site up and running.

Mayor Raines pointed to an article in the Daily World about the City of Hoquiam proposing a levy to fund a new fire truck. She said that this way the people get to decide if they want to spend the money on a new truck. Frank Chestnut said that he was not talking about purchasing a new truck now, just trying to set up a revenue stream to set aside money for a future purchase. Mayor Raines said that she thinks we need to address the employee’s wages that have not been addressed for the last five years. Frank said that he thinks this is a worthy topic of discussion.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. Park Advisory Board**

Mayor Raines said that we initially had requested a workshop for this issue, but due to a previous engagement for Chairman Bridges, the discussion was moved to the meeting. Debbi Moran said that she spoke with the Advisory Board and said that the City could not afford to sponsor the Festival in the Park. Ms. Bridges said that she thought this was a done deal and that the City would no longer be involved. She is not interested in creating a non-profit to sponsor the Festival. Debbi Moran said she was sorry for the misunderstanding, but thought that Stephanie understood that this was up for discussion with the Council. Mayor Raines said that the auditor frowns on the way we have been handling the funds for the Festival. We do not budget anything and the Park Advisory Board raises the funds that are then passed through the City budget. We then have to do a budget amendment to process these funds and account for them.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Ordinance No. 1239 – Governing the disposal of seized firearms**

Attorney Hyde read Ordinance No. 1239 in its entirety and on duly carried motion by Carl Sperring and seconded by Debbi Moran Ordinance No. 1239 Governing the disposal of seized firearms was passed.

**February 16, 2011**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**B. Ordinance No. 1240 – Modifying Council Meeting dates**

Mayor Raines said we spoke of this issue in October and discussed that she could just cancel the meeting if we did not have any reason to meet. Mayor Raines also said it was after the cancellation of the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting when Attorney Hyde advised her that the Mayor could not cancel a Council meeting. Mayor Raines said that we can call a special meeting at any time if we need to with the appropriate notification. Councilman Jim Ancich said that he would like to table this for discussion at the March 12<sup>th</sup> retreat. On duly carried motion by Jim Ancich and seconded by Frank Chestnut Ordinance No. 1240 will be readdressed at the March 12<sup>th</sup> Council retreat.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Ancich said that he would like to discuss the possible sale of part of Franklin Park. Councilman Chestnut stated at the last meeting that he thought we should have public input. Finance Director Welch reminded Council they have a public hearing March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss this issue.

COUNCIL  
COMMENTS

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Moulton, Stanford Drive, thanked whoever worked on the pathways at Makarenko Park. She really appreciated the two culverts that were installed. She also had a question regarding the seized weapons. She understood that after an incident where a gun that was traced back to Cosmopolis was used in a violent crime, the council decided to destroy any weapons that were seized. Mayor Raines said that we did not have a comprehensive policy in place at the time and that this issue has since been addressed. Chief Stratton has worked for the last several years to make sure that our policies are all in place and inventory is up to date.

PUBLIC  
COMMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

