MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING 11/23/2021

Mayor Sean Simmons
6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members: Jon Isbelle, Mark Swayne, Jennifer Dunaway, Shannon Schrader, Josh Tilley and Doug Donner

Staff: Administrator-Ryan Smathers, Clerk-Janet R. Montambo, Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Building Official-Todd Perry, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin, Police Chief-Jeff Wilson and Fire Chief-Jon Hoyt

Guests: Mike Gladhart, Jessie Ruppe, Angela Teal, John Erbst and Tina Lauria

Media: Elizabeth Morgan and Nancy Butler

MINUTES

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes held on November 9, 2021 as written. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the regular bills and the additional bills and the payroll dated November 20, 2021. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

PETITIONS, APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roll deck Reimburse Request/Chuck Ruland-Administrator Smathers reported he was contacted by Chuck Ruland regarding an error on the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Registration by one number on the Title of the Roll deck. Ruland had to go through steps to get it corrected on his Title. Smathers inspected a copy of the Title and this whole time that it was registered in the City’s name it was incorrect on the Title. The year of the Roll deck was also incorrect. Instead of it being a 1996 Roll deck with the correction of the VIN it turns out the Roll deck is a 2000, which is worth more than the estimated $19,000 that the City was asking for a minimum bid. Mr. Ruland was the only bidder on the Roll deck and he put in a bid of $23,500. Mr. Ruland was asking for the City to reimburse him back the amount that he paid over the bid. After Council discussion it was noted during the Surplus Sale Mr. Ruland inspected the truck and on the side of the truck door the sticker shows the gross weight of the vehicle. On the surplus bid sheet it was printed that all City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 11-23-2021
sales are final. After the correction on the Title now the Roll deck is worth more. It was noted Mr. Ruland is now trying to sell the Roll deck because with the heavier GVW it requires the driver to have a CDL.

Councilmember Dunaway announced this appears to be a conflict of interest to her. Mr. Ruland’s wife works with Councilmember Dunaway and was asking for her input. Councilmember Dunaway told Mrs. Ruland to have her husband put the request on the agenda. Councilmember Dunaway recused herself from voting on this topic.

After no further comment Councilmember Isbelle made a MOTION to not return the difference of the bid money to Chuck Ruland on the Roll deck and all sales are final. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

Mouth of Orofino Creek Permitting-Administrator Smathers reported the design work was completed but the City still needs to apply for the necessary permit to allow work in the mouth of Orofino Creek to remove all of the debris. Smathers commented he is unsure if Clearwater County will help with the cost, so if the Council approves Ryan Forbes to apply for the permit on behalf of the City to pay the full amount if Clearwater County does not want to pay half of the cost of the permit. Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to go forward with Ryan Forbes to apply for the permit and the city to pay up to full amount if Clearwater County does not approve to pay half of permit application. Councilmember Donner seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrator-Administrator Smathers reported he will need three Councilmembers to review the RFQ’s for Engineering Services, and submit their recommendation at the next council meeting for approval. Councilmember’s Swayne, Tilley and Mayor Simmons will review the RFQ’s. In other news, Smathers was accused through rumor that he was trying to remove signs at the Krystal Cafe. Smather’s wanted to clarify it was not him but a local resident who filed a complaint. After investigating the complaint and checking with the Prosecuting Attorney he was told nothing can be done about the signs, that it was a freedom of speech.

Treasurer-Treasurer Wilson submitted the Revenue vs Expenditure by Fund Report ending September 2021 and the Clearwater County Tax Recap Report for Council review.

Building Official-Building Official Perry submitted the October 2021 Building Permit Report for Council review. In other news, Perry reported he is helping the police department find a contractor to finish the conference room in the new building. The police department will get three competitive bids. It was noted a Business applied for a new License to do business in the downstairs of the Clearwater Club. Perry will schedule a meeting with the property owner to inspect the building before a license is issued.
Perry reported he along with the Mayor attended AIC training in Moscow. Perry asked the question if public comment is placed on the agenda and the public engages Council for discussion and answers then Perry was told the Council will need to refer the issue on the next Agenda for proper answer and questions of the issue and that way by placing it on the agenda then all of the public will know what was discussed at the meeting.

Public Works-No report. Public Works Supervisor Miller was not in attendance of the meeting.

Police-Police Chief Wilson reported the department is consistent with their work load during the day and night on a variety of things. This past week after shifting to the new building they are still working on the building. Wilson thanked the Fire Department for their help in moving to the new building. There is a few things that they are still working on with Compunet. There is no radio system in place. Right now things are done via cell phones and outside of the building there is an automatic call system to Clearwater County dispatch that is not working, but hope to have it fixed soon.

Police Chief Wilson is pleased to announce that he was approved for the full amount of $67,536.00 through the Emergency Corona Virus Grant. The funds will go toward the new updated telecommunications system that was installed in the police building. Councilmember Swayne was inquiring when does Wilson think the building will be done and if there will be lights installed by the sign on the side of the building to make it more visible to the public. Wilson responded, they are still working and organizing inside of the building.

Water/Wastewater-Water/Wastewater Supervisor Martin reported they are finally receiving parts and supplies for the Rota mix system which was installed to enhance the quality of the sludge and reducing the cost of energy for processing. In other news, the City will collect samples of raw sewage three (3) times a week and send to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) for them to study which diseases might be present in the community.

Fire-Fire Chief Hoyt reported the call volume for rescue/fire calls are consistent. In other news, Hoyt reported that he is at full capacity for accepting more volunteers. There hasn’t been a very high turnover, as the new people are staying. Hoyt was very proud to report every one of the department’s cadets appeared on the honor roll list.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Questions/Concerns-John Erbst-John Erbst had submitted a Question/Concern Form to the Council for review. The questions are as follows: Why do Council Members get paid if they don’t attend a meeting? Is their salary pro-rated based on attendance? Mayor Simmons responded to John Erbst stating the Council still gets paid for the full amount even if they are absent for one meeting. All Councilmembers work all day at their full time jobs. They have families that in some case’s prevent them to attend a council meeting. Most Councilmembers make themselves available by phone and attend the meeting that way if cannot be in person. There are other meetings or training classes through-out some months where he and Councilmembers attend City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 11-23-2021
during the day or after the initial Council Meetings. There is nothing in place to pro-rate their pay if they miss a meeting or two. Councilmember Dunaway reported if any councilmembers miss a meeting they stay abreast and stay informed on any issues. John Erbst commented he is making a point to get more resident’s to attend the meetings.

John Erbst inquired from the Council who is in charge of the Agenda. He was told by Clerk Montambo that the issue of Council’s pay was already mentioned at last meeting. John Erbst stated that he did not get an answer from the Council and would like to have discussion this time regarding the Council’s pay. Councilmember Dunaway answered Erbst and told him it’s the City Clerk’s job to acquire the exact information to put on the agenda, and his Questions/Concerns were placed on the agenda in the appropriate place.

Erbst was asking City Council if they would look into an Audio System so people can attend the meeting and listen what goes on at the council meetings. Mayor Simmons responded and said city staff is looking into different systems and hope to put something in place in the future.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Mayor Simmons thanked all of the departments where you don’t have to micro-manage and where all employees work together as a team. Mayor Simmons commented “it’s awesome” and other city’s don’t have that in place of working well together. It was noted the Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 3, at 6:00 p.m., and the streets will be blocked off with the Police Department to assist with the parade.

Councilmember Schrader wanted to thank everyone who participated in the Orofino Park Christmas Light decorating. The Orofino Park looks very nice with all of the decorations and Christmas lights.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:00 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 subsection 1 (e) to consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations. The motion included a request to have a roll call vote. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Isbelle. The motion passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:42 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

ATTEST: Janet R. Montambo, City Clerk

Sean Simmons, Mayor

City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 11-23-2021