

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 03, 2015

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Dorothy Knauss; Councilmen John May, John Wight and Payton Norvell; Councilwomen Sharon Ludwig, Carra Nupp, Roberta McMillin and Krisan LeHew.

Staff Present: City Administrator Mike Frizzell, City Attorney Charles Schuerman, Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Audience Comments:

- *Sarah English, Chewelah Branch Library Manager*, discussed the various summer reading programs.

Announcements/Appointments, including:

- Mayor's Youth Award to Natalie Kitzmiller.
- The Mayor read email from State Representative Shelley Short stating that the Attorney General's Office has not yet responded to the City's inquiry with regard to use of surplus Utility funds for general purposes -- most likely due to backlog of opinion requests and the large scope of the issue.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig approving Consent Agenda consisting of:

- >May 6th and May 20th Regular Minutes
- >May Payroll and Claim Vouchers

Seconded by Councilwoman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all votes in favor. Motion carried.

Committee/Commission Reports: None

City Administrator Report:

- Pothole repair and street washing is complete at this point – the crew will be focusing on mowing and dust control up thru Chataqua.
- Electric is just about done trimming trees – next project is the upgrade of street lights to LED's. This will include the park, all along HWY 395, West Main, and the lights at City Hall – better energy efficiency and a bit better lighting.
- With regard to the airport, DNR will be forwarding a memorandum of understanding that outlines the entire process and we should be sharing that with Council at the next meeting.
- An insurance audit was recently conducted by Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) covering Personnel Policies, Law Enforcement and Public Works. We were good in just about every aspect – there's a training that Chief Burrows will be attending which he was already aware of and we need to post our "Whistleblowers Policy". Training requirements for the year are now complete with the exception of attorney training – I have a CD for Charlie to view.
- Chataqua meeting was held yesterday and it looks like everything is ready to go -- Gary composed a detailed list of things that need to be done from 2 weeks prior up until the day after the event. Community Celebrations will be closing the awning on the west side of the boy scout cabin to store tables and chairs -- that will be new.
- Park/Cemetery Committee needs to meet to review the use of the beer garden area in the park. This matter was never discussed when the park ordinance was recently revised. It's a City facility but there are items that Community Celebrations owns in there and we want to find a way to ensure that those are protected.

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pym*

- Park upgrades are proceeding well. The merry-go-round should be installed by the end of next week. Staff removed the sand north of the boy scout cabin in order to lay sod. They had to take three of the tires out in order to maintain the proper spacing around the merry-go-round – one was relocated. A few more sprinklers need to be installed to cover dry spots.
- The rest of the shrubs/grasses should be planted at City Hall next week.

City Attorney Report: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

- With regard to discussion as to whether the City, as a code city, should have a Planning Commission, the City Attorney offered to bring back an outline of options/choices for a Code City with regard to planning for the July meeting.
- This lease amendment is pretty simple and is based on the fact that the old lease stated that if the property were sold and the lease ended, every improvement on the airport property would be under DNR ownership and would have to be removed at City cost. The adjustments here are so that if we find a way to purchase it over the next few months that would no longer be the case – everything that is on that airport will be City owned. . . . unless we go the full 21 years left on our lease at which point DNR would tell us if we have to remove anything or not. But it fixes what we need right now and that's a way to purchase the airport and not have to remove all the hangers and pavement. It's really that simple. This is just so we can actually talk about the purchase process. Motion by Councilman Norvell to approve Amendment to Airport Lease No. 63721 with Washington Dept. of Natural Resources, seconded by Councilman May. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried. The Mayor added that WSDOT-Aviation is concerned about small airports in Washington as they are disappearing at the rate of one every eighteen months – they really want us to hang on to this airport as do the County Commissioners. It's an important economic piece of our county.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM.


 Mayor Dorothy L. Knauss


 Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart