

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 3, 2016

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

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.

Executive Session to Discuss Pending/Threatened Litigation:

At 6:33PM the Mayor announced that the Council would go into executive session for 30 minutes. At 7:03PM the Mayor called the meeting back to order.

Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig authorizing Mayor to engage services of attorney Mike Connelly to work on and pursue the Kaiser matter, seconded by Councilwoman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Audience Comments: None

Announcements/Appointments, Including:

- Mayor's Youth Award to Sammy Triplett.
- The Mayor stated that last week she attended City Action Days in Olympia during which she and other city officials had the opportunity to speak with legislators. Some of the legislation discussed pertained to homelessness, public records, local government fireworks ordinances, liquor revenue, water/sewer utility taxes, etc.
- The Mayor stated she had been appointed to the AWC Board of Trustees for Employee Health Benefit Program.
- The Mayor asked if the Council wished to change their seating arrangement. Motion by Councilman May to keep seating arrangement the same, seconded by Councilman Wight. Roll call vote taken with Councilman May voting in favor, remaining votes against. Motion Failed. It was agreed to change the future seating arrangement in order of council position.

Presentations: None

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Councilwoman Nupp approving Consent Agenda consisting of:

- >January 6th Regular Minutes
- >January Payroll and December/January Claim Vouchers

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

Committee/Commission Reports:

- *Finance, Councilwoman Ludwig:* Looking into the possibility of forming a Transportation Benefit District which would raise revenue for specific transportation projects through vehicle license fees.
Currently 50% of Chewelah Cemetery plot/niche sales are channeled to reserves – we've asked Mike to review and recommend revision to that percentage so that operating expenses are covered.

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- *Park/Rec., Councilwoman Ludwig:* We are looking at the possibility of installing handicap-friendly park equipment; placing flower baskets here at City Hall that would match downtown; a field trip when it gets warmer to determine which trees need to be removed in the park.
- *Lodging Tax Advisory, Councilwoman McMillin:* Courtesy letters and applications were recently mailed and are due back February 22nd.

City Administrator Report, including:

- An automatic door opener is scheduled to be installed at City Hall on February 18th.
- The new Shop is complete. It will take a while to move everything. The City will hold an open house on March 3rd.
- We have two grant funded street projects this year. 1) Reconstruction of Ehorn Lane/Sidewalks on Lincoln from Ehorn Lane West to Stevens 2) Sidewalks on both sides of HWY 395 from King South to Old McDonald's site. Surveys will be ordered when snow is off -- planning from that point takes about a month to complete. Then out to bid around April.
- Software conversion is still in process. Didn't go as smoothly as we hoped. The meter readers were not working so there are 5 additional days of electric usage on the January bills -- payment arrangements may be requested. Also, there has not been any change in the utility taxes charged but they are presented differently on the new bill. These taxes used to be lumped as one line item -- now they are broken down in multiple lines.
- Our server is almost 6 years old and it's at that critical point where it is near filled to capacity. It needs to be replaced at an approximate cost of \$10,000 which will be presented in a budget amendment.
- Regarding recycling: We have the site ready to go. That committee met last month to go review rules/signage. It's coming - easily by summer.

City Attorney Report:

- Reviewed handout of MRSC publication regarding two points dealing with Robert's Rules of Order: "calling the question" and "friendly amendments".

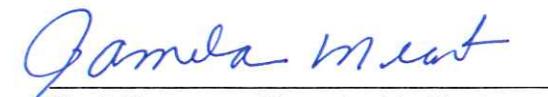
Old Business: None

New Business:

- Motion by Councilwoman Nupp approving Municipal Lease with NEW Alliance Counseling for Room #214, seconded by Councilwoman McMillin. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.
- The C/A explained that this resolution reflects an increase in the rate/square foot charged for utilities as per annual review. Motion by Councilman May approving Resolution #16-01 Amending Rental Rates for Chewelah Municipal Building, seconded by Councilwoman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.


 Mayor Dorothy L. Knauss


 Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart