

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 5, 2022**

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Greg McCunn; Councilwoman Jolene McGee; Councilmen Aaron Alvarado, Payton Norvell, Bruce Nupp, Evan Schalock and John Kabosky

Staff Present: City Administrator Jim Caruso, City Attorney Mike Waters, Clerk/Treasurer Pam McCart, Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal

Officials Absent: Councilwoman Tracy Ling

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

*A Motion by Councilman Nupp to excuse the absence of Councilwoman Ling, seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Audience Comments: City resident Cory Hanmer asked the Council to reconsider the zoning on R1 and R1B, regarding parking on restricted streets and to keep duplexes and multifamily dwellings from being built on North 5<sup>th</sup> St East.

Approval of/Changes to Proposed Agenda: Mayor McCunn proposed two changes to the Agenda under Old Business; First is to remove the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the School District regarding School Resource Officer (SRO) and second to add the scheduling of one more Budget Workshop while the Council is all together tonight. *A Motion by Councilman Norvell to approve the Agenda as amended, seconded by Councilman Schalock. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

### Announcements/Appointments:

- Mayor McCunn, Chairman of the Emergency Management Committee updated the committee with the addition of City Administrator Jim Caruso and Fire Chief David Watts.
- Mayor McCunn, on behalf of the Chewelah Chamber of Commerce, Chewelah Festival Association and the Firefighters Association presented a \$5000 check to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from funds raised during the Fall Festival to benefit the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. Paul Nelson and Nondis Taylor accepted the check for DNR. Paul gave a brief history of the Wildland Firefighters Association including when and how it was started and how the donated funds are used. Debbie Akers from the Chamber, Chewelah Assistant Fire Chief Colby Dollar, Justin Schramm and Michelle Williams from the Festival Association were also present.

### Presentations:

- Brock McMillan, Park Pavilion Painting Project Volunteer, gave an update on the project with an overage of the estimated and approved costs. Brock asked for additional funds from the Hotel/Motel Funds to cover the overage. *Motion by Councilman Norvell to Approve \$1,150.76 from the Hotel/Motel Tax, seconded by Councilman Alvarado. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*
- Becky Washington, volunteer at Stevens County Animal Outreach (formerly Northeastern Washington Humane Society) is requesting on behalf of the dog-loving, dog-owning citizens and visitors of Chewelah to have the current signs in the park that say "No Dogs Allowed" to be replaced with something similar to "Leashed Dogs Only. Please Pick Up After Your Pets". Stevens County Animal Outreach will donate the waste stations. The Lions Club will install, starting at the camping area. Councilman Norvell suggested the Code Committee look into this request.
- Larry Fetter, a Retired Parks & Rec Director with 40 years of service and currently on the Chewelah Parks & Recreation Task Force, created a Feasibility Study for the City. Larry grew up in Chewelah and has since retired and returned to Chewelah. His last ten years were spent with the City of Hermiston Oregon where, along with his small staff, developed a

comprehensive park and recreation program that covered all seasons and all ages as well as being involved in redeveloping the downtown Main Street into a festival street as the City of Hermiston had a concentrated interest in bringing festivals downtown as well as the economic development that comes with that.

Mayor's Report (including):

- Business & Economic Development - The Five-Year Strategic Revitalization Plan was rolled out in the Civic Center about 6 weeks ago. We've launched the Leadership Team for each of the four pillars;
  - Economic Vitality
  - Design
  - Policy & Administration
  - Tourism & Promotion



These leaders will be reaching out to the citizens who signed up that night and tackle the different priorities within than one – three – five - year visioning document.

- Enforcement
  - I want to acknowledge Officer Watts, Officer Lever and Officer Harding for a hardworking three-person team during the Fall Festival. Their presence was felt, and their engagement was high.
  - I want to commend the Code Enforcement Committee for the hard work that was done on the Potentially Dangerous Dog Ordinance, which the Council will review tonight.
- Communication - We anticipate the Mass Notification System to launch within two weeks, which will enable broad communication when our garbage truck breaks down among other things.
- Youth – From the Parks & Rec Feasibility Study, a future that includes a Parks & Rec Department including a Parks & Rec Director for the City would be a wise move.
- Budget – We appreciate the work being done by the Council to balance the 2023 Budget , especially Councilman Norvel with his skill set and due diligence to help us to make good progress through the complex work of balancing the budget.

City Administrator's Report (including):

- Fall Festival Recap – I was better than what we imagined when we started planning this a few weeks ago. I want to thank Councilman Nupp for stepping up when we needed a shuttle driver to get people from the park to downtown.
  - The Mayor and I attended a VFW Gold Star Ceremony where the family of a serviceman that was killed in action was presented with a "Remember and Never Forget" flag.
  - Firefighter Olympics – Great weather, kids everywhere, families having fun and firefighters slinging burgers. We are already planning for next year; what we can do to make this better and to bring more people in.
  - Kids Firefighter Olympics – Kids were lined up to do a miniature version, rolling up a garden hose, squirting water over an inflatable fire. Each participant received a firefighter helmet and a box of things that Fire Chief Watts put together.
  - We are working on a Winterfest to be held February 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Teamster negotiations will start soon on a three-year contract with the Police Department.
- RCO Grant for the Splash Pad was turned down by the State. Out of 59 submissions, Chewelah came in at 45.
- Stevens County painted the yellow line on Main Street today, as well as the yellow line down the taxiway at the airport.



Consent Agenda:

*Motion by Councilman Schalock approving Consent Agenda consisting of:*

- *September Payroll and Claim Vouchers*
- *September 7th Regular Minutes*
- *Special Minutes;*
  - *September 20<sup>th</sup>*
  - *September 21<sup>st</sup> 5:00 PM & 6:00 PM*
  - *September 28th*

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

Committee/Commission Reports:

- *Councilman Schalock, Public Safety Committee – Chief Watts attended our recent meeting. We came up with ideas on how to better work together as a community.*

Old Business:

- *The next Budget Workshop will be Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.*

New Business:

- *Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Approve the Road Work Reimbursable Agreement with Stevens County, seconded by Councilman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with Councilman Norvell abstaining, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.*
- *Motion by Councilman Norvell Establishing a Method of Wage Adjustment for Non-Union Employees, seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*
- *Motion by Councilman Norvell to Read Ordinance 971 By Title Only, seconded by Councilman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion passed. Deputy Clerk Konzal read Ordinance 971 by Title Only.*
- *Councilwoman McGee gave an overview of what led up to the Ordinance needing to be revised, the research done to get to the rewrite of the current Ordinance. Motion by Councilman Norvell to Adopt Ordinance 971 Revising Chapter 6.04 DOGS of the Chewelah Municipal Code, seconded by Councilman Schalock. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Adjournment:

*At 8:00 pm, motion by Councilman Nupp to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Alvarado. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor M. Gregory McCunn

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal