

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 5, 2023

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

Staff Present: City Administrator Jim Caruso, Code Enforcement Officer Andy Harbolt, and Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal

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

Audience Comments: None

Approval of/Changes to Proposed Agenda: Mayor McCunn proposed changes to the Agenda with the deletion of the Civil Service Presentation by Dorothy Knauss and Ordinance 978 Amending the Budget, both to be moved to the next scheduled meeting. Councilwoman McGee proposed a change to the Agenda with the addition under Old Business of the New Bee code we need to officially approve to take it forward to a Public Hearing. *Motion by Councilman Schalock to Accept the Agenda as Proposed with the Included Addition, seconded by Councilman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Announcements/Appointments: Mayor McCunn is proposing the formation of a committee to help design the current committees by getting input on how they are organized and to assess their value (i.e. are they needed, should any be eliminated). The Mayor will reach out to the Councilmembers in the coming week.

### Presentations:

- Downtown Retail Strategies Progress Update and Startup Funding
  - Economic Vitality, Brandon Hansen
    - Create a custom Business Recruitment packet with downtown property inventory & information for potential new businesses
    - Host monthly meet-up events for existing and potential entrepreneurs, like business luncheons and evening social hours with half-hour presentations for networking
    - Quarterly business forum
    - Virtual workshops & training for business owners
  - Policy Administration, Don Olson
    - Provide ways to incentivize local business owners to rehabilitate, lease or sell some of their downtown properties
    - Facade improvement plan with matching funds
    - Incorporating form-based codes
    - Establishing relationships with other groups like Main Street USA
    - Establishing a Sister-City program with other small towns
    - Eventually establishing a Development Manager position
  - Design, Stephanie Wuesthoff
    - Replacing existing seasonal banners on light poles around Chewelah
    - Creating an entrance to Main Street through stenciling of four crosswalks
    - Place donated 49° North lift-benches strategically around town to enhance and create a connection to the greatest asset we have, the ski hill
    - An access bridge with bump outs and a connecting trail that leads to the Downtown Creative District
  - Tourism and Promotion, Mike Bentz
    - Select approximately 5 seasonal festivals/events to serve as pilots
    - Work with appropriate businesses to remain open during select events
    - Develop a centralized community calendar/website to promote the community events
    - Enhance success of Farmer's Market into downtown by hosting Farm to Table events

Mayor's Report (including):

- Update on an important topic related to Quail Hollow;
  - On March 27th myself, County Commissioners; Wes McCart and Mark Burrows, Providence CEO Ron Rehn, Chewelah School District Superintendent Jason Perrins, NE WA Alliance Counseling Services Dr. David Nielson, and Sheriff Brad Manke, engaged in Olympia with an audience along with State Senator Shelly Short and State Representative for Northeast Washington's 7<sup>th</sup> District Jacquelin Maycumber along with approximately 15 other representatives who are all leaders from 3 different health agencies within our state. These representatives spoke up from their respective area of expertise and the prevailing impact of the development of an Intensive Behavioral Health Facility (IBHF) on the resources that we have and the crisis that this will create.
  - On April 4<sup>th</sup>, the Eastern Washington leadership of those same agencies came to Chewelah and, together for 3 hours, toured Jenkins High School, Guess Elementary, Providence Chewelah Hospital, and the Chewelah Police Department to give an overview of the security needs and measures that would need to be put into place.

City Administrator's Report (including):

- City Auction will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the City Shop on Hunt Street
- Police Chief Position Announcement
- Entry and Lateral Police Officer Eligibility List Announcement
- Department Head Update
  - Code Enforcement Officer, Andy Harbolt gave an overview of his position, and the goal of enforcing codes to make the City a safe environment for everyone to enjoy.



Consent Agenda:

*Motion by Councilwoman McGee approving Consent Agenda consisting of:*

- *March Payroll and Claim Vouchers*
- *March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup> Regular Minutes*

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

Committee/Commission Reports:

- Lodging Tax, Councilwoman Ling – The Committee met and approved the following applications for the 2023 Hotel/Motel Funds;
  - Chewelah Chamber for City Sidewalks \$2,500
  - Chewelah Chamber for Huckleberry Festival, 3-on-3 Basketball \$2,500
  - Walt Goodman Historical Museum \$4,450
  - Chewelah Little League \$1,000
  - Chewelah Arts Guild \$1,000
  - Chokes & Spokes \$300
  - Farmers Market \$2,500

*Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve the Funds as Recommended from the Hotel/Motel Tax, seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Old Business:

- Interlocal Agreement with the Chewelah School District for the Reader Board. *Motion by Councilman Schalock to Approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Reader Board with \$7500 from the General Fund, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with Councilman Norvell voting against, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.*
- Councilwoman McGee has been researching beekeeping in the Code and determined it's under Zoning, Title 18, which requires a Public Hearing by Examiner. Councilwoman McGee would like to take it out of zoning and move it up to animals, as well as change the language to allow beekeeping in City limits. *Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Approve moving forward with the Hearing Examiner for Approval and to Make the Code Changes Regarding the Addition of Beekeeping, seconded by Councilman Alvarado.*



Discussion by Councilman Norvell regarding why beekeeping was put into Chapter 18, as he was involved when this was done. The reason for it being under Chapter 18 was to require a public hearing on these types of things because someone owning livestock next door to your house can affect you just as much as someone building a duplex next door. It is much more important than just the will of the Council's vote and deserves public input, that's a major decision. I don't know that I want beehives within 5 feet of my window. That could affect me much more than anything else, it could ruin my way of life and I think moving it into Title 6 is a mistake. *Roll call vote taken with Councilman Kabosky voting yes, all others voted no. Motion failed.*

*Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Bring forward to the Public Hearing Examiner Changes to the Language of the Special Standards for the Keeping of Livestock Section and Adding the Beekeeping Language, not Moving from Title 18 to Title 6. The Beekeeping Language Would Fall Under Chapter 18.12 Supplementary Standards, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with Councilman Norvell voting against, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.*

New Business:

- *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve \$93,100 for Matching ARPA Funds Request for the Downtown Retail Strategies, seconded by Councilman Schalock. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

Adjournment:

*At 8:36 pm, motion by Councilwoman McGee to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*



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Mayor M. Gregory McCunn



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Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal