

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 6, 2023

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Greg McCunn; Councilwomen Tracy Ling, Jolene McGee; Councilmen Aaron Alvarado, Ron McCoy, Bruce Nupp, Evan Schalock, John Kabosky

Staff Present: City Administrator Jim Caruso, City Attorney Mike Waters, Clerk Treasurer Jordan Roberts, Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal

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

Audience Comments:

- Shane Cody Fairweather, City resident - Thanked firefighters for their work at the Sety's fire, commented on the need for more money for fire and mental health services
- Matt DeRyan, Chewelah resident - Thanked the Independent on their reporting and the Chewelah Law Enforcement, commented on crime & drugs in Chewelah, affordable housing and the proposed new Stevens County jail
- Chuck Ritchie, Chewelah Creative District - Gave an update on the Govedare project and talked about the need for a sound system in the park
- Laura Ritchie, City resident - Commented on the Civic Center upgrade and having a shared use kitchen when it's complete

Approval of/Changes to Proposed Agenda: Mayor McCunn requested to add Resolution 23-07 Amending the Personnel Policy, and Resolution 23-08 Authorizing Representative for RCO under New Business, also to add a discussion by Councilman McCoy regarding City Council Wages under Old Business.

Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Approve the Agenda as Amended, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Announcements/Appointments: None

Presentations:

- *Motion by Jolene McGee to Table the Parks & Recreation Presentation, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with all votes in favor. Motion carried*
- Keller & Associates gave a presentation including their background, approach to achieving fund success for their clients, track record with other municipalities, their team of professionals, and the funding needs of Chewelah.

Mayor's Report (including):

- Emergency Management Plan for Chewelah

City Administrator's Report (including):

- CDBG Scope of Work for the Civic Center remodel
- Current State of Plastic Recycling

Department Head Report:

- Josh Duke, Fire Chief - Reported on the fire at Sety's, the suspected cause, the number of fire departments and fighters, and the amount of time involved to get the fire under control.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Councilwoman McGee approving Consent Agenda consisting of:

- *August Payroll and Claim Vouchers*
- *August 2nd and August 16th Regular Minutes*

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

Committee/Commission Reports:

- Councilwoman McKee met with Councilman McCoy to discuss changes to the Committee structure
- Parks & Recreation, Councilmember Kabosky – Committee members met and discussed the possibility of the Govedare Horse being placed in the park

Old Business:

- Ron McCoy – Discussed the Councilmembers, Committees, and Wages. *Motion by Councilman McCoy to Increase Councilmembers Stipend (Wage) from \$100 per Month to \$500 per Month effective January 1, 2023, seconded by Councilman Kabosky. Discussion regarding the availability of those funds in the budget and waiting until the Budget Workshops are held before deciding on an increase. Roll call vote taken with Councilman McCoy and Councilman Kabosky voting for, the remaining votes against. Motion failed.*
- *Motion by Councilman Nupp to Increase Councilmembers Stipend (Wages) from \$100 per Month to \$300 per Month, seconded by Councilman Kabosky. Discussion regarding the availability of those funds in the budget and waiting until the Budget Workshops are held before deciding on an increase. Roll call vote taken with Councilman McCoy, Councilman Nupp, and Councilman Kabosky voting for, the remaining votes against. Motion failed.*

New Business:

- Clerk Treasurer Roberts presented to the Council to change the wording on the April motion and approval regarding the Downtown Retail Strategies Funding with ARPA funds from matching funds to include “appropriate documentation”. *Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Change the Verbiage April 5th, 2023, Council Meeting to State that the \$93,100 for Matching and Startup Costs is Approved for the Downtown Retail Strategies 5-Year Chewelah Revitalization Plan Project Execution, no second as there was discussion regarding the wording. Councilwoman McGee withdrew her motion. Motion withdrawn.*
Motion by Councilwoman McGee to Amend the April 5th, 2023, Approved Motion from City Council From Only Stating Matching Funds to the Following; the \$93,100 for Appropriately Documented Matching and Startup Costs from ARPA Funds for the Downtown Retail Strategies 5-Year Chewelah Revitalization Plan Project Execution is Approved, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with Councilmen McCoy and Nupp voting against, all other votes in favor. Motion carried.
- Clerk Treasurer Roberts introduced the background on advertising for open positions. *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Adopt Resolution 23-07 Amending Personnel Policy (Hiring), seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Discussion regarding the need to seek out the most qualified applicant by advertising and*

not hand picking a candidate, also regarding the need to have the Resolution read. Roll call vote taken with all voting against. Motion failed.

Deputy Clerk Konzal read Resolution 23-07. Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Adopt Resolution 23-07 Amending Personnel Policy (Hiring), seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Roll call vote taken with Councilmen McCoy, Nupp, and Kabosky voting against, all other votes in favor. Motion carried.

- Municipal Lease contract for Tara Borders Dollar Room 219 A-F. Motion by Councilman Schalock Approving Municipal Lease for Tara Borders Dollar Room 219A-F Lease, seconded by Councilwoman Ling. Roll call vote taken with Councilman Alvarado Abstaining, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried*
- Deputy Clerk read Resolution 23-08. Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve Resolution 23-08 to Allow Larry Fetter to be the Authorizing Representative for Recreation and Conservation Office Local Parks Maintenance Program Application Authorization and Electronic Signature so that he can read the information and continue what he's doing with the ADA Access and Fall Protection, seconded by Councilman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all votes in favor. Motion carried.*

Adjournment:

At 9:04 pm, motion by Councilwoman Ling to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman McGee. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.



Mayor M. Gregory McCunn



Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal