

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 17, 2024

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Greg McCunn; Councilwoman Tracy Ling; Councilmen Aaron Alvarado, Ron McCoy, John Kabosky, Bruce Nupp, Ben Carpenter.

Staff Present: City Administrator Jim Caruso, City Attorney Mike Waters, Operational Support Tech Julie Culverwell, and Deputy Clerk Catherine Konzal

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

Councilman Carpenter joined the meeting at 6:31

Audience Comments:

- Chuck Ritchie, President of Chewelah Creative District – Presented an updated letter for Council to sign to allow the Creative District to apply for the \$70,000 grant to be able to do the improvements in the park that will include new spaces for vendors, some art pieces, a base for a rotating art sculpture gallery.

Approval of/Changes to Proposed Agenda: Councilwoman Ling asked to add the Creative District letter presented under Old Business. The Mayor stated the administration wasn't ready to introduce Ordinance 990 Moratorium on Behavioral Health Facilities, it will be moved to the February 21st Council meeting. *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve the Changes to the Agenda as Amended, seconded by Councilman Kabosky. Roll call vote taken with all in favor.* Motion carried.

Announcements/Appointments:

- Mayor McCunn restated that the committees can choose a chairperson as the state law RCW gives you full authority to design and run your committee meetings as you see fit, including selection of a chairperson.

Presentations:

- Larry Fetter, Quartzite Partners – PROS Plan, Parks and Rec and Outdoor Spaces
 - \$95,000 Planning Grant
 - \$1.5 million Civic Center Improvement Grant
 - \$100,000 Deferred Maintenance Grant
 - Youth Sports Complex
 - Chewelah Recreation Association pledged \$200,000
 - Chewelah will be applying for \$750,000
 - Discussion regarding developing a Park District and community involvement in prioritizing projects

Mayor's Report (including):

- Summer of 2024 Sidewalk to Sidewalk Renovation
- \$150,000 available for chip sealing, double what we usually have. Mike Frizzel, PW Director gets the credit for pursuing the grants.
- Civic Center Renovation and parking lot will begin in 2024
- Skate Park Committee led by Councilman Alvarado from the Parks and Rec Committee
- Repurpose the middle school for NEW Health University
- Contracting with The Keller Group for applying for a \$150,000 grant, to replace 20 trees on Main Avenue by DNR.
- Sety's rebuild

City Administrator's Report (including):

- Councilmen McCoy and Carpenter will be attending the AWC conference in Olympia February 6th to 8th.
- The February 7th Council meeting will have several people on the Council missing. With Councilmen McCoy and Carpenter in Olympia and the Mayor and myself in DC, there will be 4 Councilmembers in attendance. It is up to the Council if the meeting should be canceled.
- We will be postponing the seating of the Council At-Large position. Due to an error in the information sent to the Independent, we have extended the deadline to February 14th.
- Civic Center has been closed due to a catastrophic heating failure.

Department Head Report – Keith Cochran, Chewelah Police Chief(including):

- 1670 calls for service since June 1st
 - 377 traffic
 - 234 agency assist
- January 6th incident at City Hall ended peacefully.

Public Hearing on Chewelah PROS Plan

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing

No written public testimony.

No public comment.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Committee/Commission Reports:

- Councilman McCoy gave an overview of the committees and the importance of their involvement and reporting at Council meetings.
- Councilwoman Ling, Finance Committee – The committee is recommending awarding \$5,000 to Winterfest.
Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve \$5000 to Chewelah Festivals for Winterfest, seconded by Councilman McCoy. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.
- Councilman Alvarado, Parks/Rec/Cemetery Committee – Received an email from the President of the Board of the Golf Course regarding the Disc Golf Course. We will be meeting with the President and the Pro. It will be on Zoom.

Old Business:

- *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve and Sign the Creative Districts Letter of Intent for the Park Improvement Funds, seconded by Councilman Kabosky. Discussion regarding the Chewelah Creative District and how they are doing this right, this is a good recommendation/upgrade. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*

New Business

- *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Adopt Resolution 24-03 Adopting Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS), seconded by Councilman Nupp. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*
- *Approve Interlocal Agreement with Stevens County Commissioners (reimbursement of medical expenses for inmates who commit crimes within Chewelah, Auto renewal, not vote needed).*
- *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve Contract Between City of Chewelah and McGrane & Schuerman, seconded by Councilman Alvarado. Roll call vote taken with Councilmen McCoy, Kobosky and Carpenter abstaining, Councilman Nupp voting against, Councilwoman Ling and Councilman Alvarado voting in favor. Motion failed.*
Discussion regarding the impact of not having a contract with the City Attorney.
*Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve Contract Between City of Chewelah and McGrane & Schuerman, seconded by Councilman Kobosky. Roll call vote taken with Councilwoman Ling, Councilman Alvarado, Kobosky and Carpenter in favor. Councilman McCoy and Nupp abstaining. **Motion carried.***
- *Motion by Councilwoman Ling to Approve Contract Between City of Chewelah and Airport Manager, Tyrone Bryant, seconded by Councilman Kobosky. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*
- *Motion by Councilman Kobosky to approve moving 2/7/2024 regular meeting to 2/21/24 regular meeting, seconded by Councilman McCoy. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.*
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Adjournment:

At 7:58 pm, Councilman Alvarado *motion by to adjourn*, seconded by Councilman McCoy. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor M. Gregory McCunn

Clerk/Treasurer Julie Culverwell