



🏠 **Location:** Telephonically
📅 **Date:** October 13, 2020
🕒 **Time:** 6:00pm

City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes October 13, 2020

The Electric City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Present by Roll Call: Council Members Willie Bott, Brian Buche, Bob Rupe, Cate Slater, Cheryl Hoffman

Staff members/Others present: Steve Nelson, CenturyWest Engineering, Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer, Mark Payne, Fire Chief, Harrison Stenberg, Time Value Investments, Paul Townsend, Grand Coulee Mayor, Jacob Wagner, Star Newspaper,

Motion to Excuse: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda

M/S (Slater/Buche) CU

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda

- September 8, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes
- October 7, 2020 Special Council Meeting Minutes
- Expenditure approval September 9 – October 12, 2020
- Police Report
- Fire Report

M/S (Hoffman/Bott) CU

Public Comments

- No public comments were submitted to the Mayor or City Clerk before the meeting.

Guest Presentation

- Harrison Stenberg from Time Value Investments (TVI) gave a presentation on the merits of investing in the bond market. The current LGIP rates are exceptionally low and the City is earning substantially less on their LGIP investments. TVI has over 200 public entity clients in Washington State, including the Town of Coulee Dam, the City of Ephrata and Lincoln County.

Unfinished Business:

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering went through his project list for the City.
 - The Lift Station has broken ground and Mr. Nelson will be in Electric City on Thursday, October 15, 2020 to oversee the compaction testing.
 - The Complete Streets/Sidewalk project is waiting on WSDOT to complete a boundary survey.
 - The FHWA Bike/Pedestrian Pathway Project heard back from WSDOT regarding speed limits through town. The topic will be discussed later in the meeting as a separate topic.
 - The Sewer Line Investigations Project is on hold until the Department of Ecology can complete a income survey to determine whether Electric City is eligible for CDBG funding.
 - CenturyWest will schedule a meeting between themselves and Fire Chief Payne to go over specifications needed for a proposed Fire Rescue Boat.
 - A request has been submitted to the Department of Ecology for funding to conduct an income survey. If funded, the survey would be completed in the spring of 2021 and would help determine whether the City is eligible for CDBG grants.
 - The Water System Improvements Plan is approximately 75% complete and should be ready to submit to Department of Health within the next two weeks.
- COVID-19/CARES funding.
 - The City has disbursed \$23,500 of their allotted COVID-19/CARES funding as local small business grants. An additional \$6,000 has been spent on City related expenses due to COVID-19 restrictions (sanitation supplies, laptops for the councilmembers and staff to facilitate tele-distancing computer equipment and technical support to program and set-up new equipment). Approximately \$14,000 remains in the allotment to disburse.
- Ice Age Park Levy
 - Councilmembers Buche & Hoffman have given the City Clerk information that she will turn into a flyer that will be sent to residents of Electric City through the USPS "Every Door Direct" program. The flyer is projected to mail on October 16, 2020.
 - Councilmember Hoffman will work on setting up a public meeting at the Vet Center on Saturday, October 24.
 - A telephone number will be included on the flyer. Councilmember Hoffman will answer any calls that come in and respond to questions.
- Wastewater Treatment Facility
 - Councilmembers Buche & Hoffman met with councilmembers from Grand Coulee, Wastewater Treatment Plant operator Travis Irwin and Grand Coulee City Clerk Lorna Pearce.
 - Pumps have been recently professionally calibrated at the Treatment Plant.
 - Going forward the City's monthly Wastewater bill will be determined by the City's usage flow rate.
 - The City's Capital Expenses will remain at the current contract's rate of 37%.
- Lodging Tax Applications
 - Applications for those wishing to apply for Lodging Tax Grants are now available at City Hall and on the City's website. The deadline to apply is Friday, November 6, 2020.
 - Lodging Tax revenues are currently up 8% year/year.

Executive Session

- Mayor Kohout stated that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session for 15 minutes for discussion of employee performances.
- The council adjourned at 6:59pm
- The council resumed at 7:14pm with no actionable items to discuss.

New Business

- Ordinance 574-2020
 - Extends Ordinance 570-2020 for 30 calendar days. The new Ordinance will expire on November 13, 2020.
 - A motion was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 574-2020.

M/S (Bott/Buche) CU
- Ordinance 575-2020
 - An Ordinance Amending the 2020 Budget of the City of Electric City, as Adopted in Ordinance 566-2019.
 - A motion was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 575-2020.

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- Land use and Development Permits
 - A resolution was adopted in 2008 (Resolution 2008-05) setting forth a fee schedule for land use and development permits. It is out of date and needs updating to better accommodate variance requests.
 - Councilmember Buche has agreed to take on this task.
- Policy & Procedure 2020-01
 - A clarification was made to item 6.1.3 in this Council Rules of Procedure changing the words regarding voting from "5 affirmative votes" to "a majority plus one of affirmative Council votes."
 - A motion was made and seconded to adopt Policy & Procedure 2020-01 with the revision.

M/S (Buche/Slater) CU
- Office Hours
 - The City Clerk/Treasurer & Deputy Clerk would like to continue each working four 10-hour days. The Deputy Clerk work 7:00am-5:30pm Monday – Thursday, the City Clerk/Treasurer works 7:00am-5:30pm Tuesday – Friday. The office is open throughout the day with no closure for lunch. The council agreed that this was acceptable with them.
- Investments
 - The Councilmembers discussed the Time Value Investments presentation. There was an agreement that they would be interested in taking a portion of our current LGIP investments and re-investing them the current Bond Market. Clerk Nevsimal will come up with a recommendation that the Council will consider at the next Council meeting.
- The Mayor has been working with Scott Cervine at WSDOT regarding speed limits within the city limits of Electric City.

- After their on-site analysis, WSDOT is recommending changing the speed limits in Electric City as follows:
 - From where the current 35mph sign to just North of the DOT building would be 40mph.
 - From the DOT building to just north of Coulee Playland's upper campground would be 30mph.
 - From the north end of Coulee Playland to the intersection of Hwy 174 & Hwy 155 would be 40mph.
- The councilmembers were in agreement that "Congestion ahead" or "Left turns ahead" signs would be helpful.
- There will be further discussion on this topic as the pathway project gets underway.

Reports

- Chief Payne wanted to remind the council that the county burn ban had been lifted as of October 1, 2020. He also wanted to let the council know that he would be burning at the golf course in November and he would be seeking a permit to do that burn.
- Mayor Kohout stated that the new Planning Commission would be holding a public meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2020. She also stated that she had spoken to Sunrise Disposal about the upcoming increase in tipping fees at the Ephrata Landfill. The impact of the city may not be as large as previously thought to be.
- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

M/S (Buche/Hoffman) CU



 Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



 Diane Kohout, Mayor