



🏠 **Location:** Electric City City Hall  
📅 **Date:** March 10, 2020  
🕒 **Time:** 6:00pm

## City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes March 10, 2020

The Electric City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

Willie Bott, Councilmen for Council Position #1 was sworn into office by Mayor Diane Kohout.

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

**Staff members/Others present:** Stacie Clear & Don Tulloch, Gray & Osborne, Gary Moore, Police Sargent, Mark Payne, Fire Chief, Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer, Diana Parrish, Deputy City Clerk, Jacob Wagner, Star Newspaper

**Motion to Excuse:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda

M/S (Buche/Hoffman) CU

**Consent Agenda:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda

- February 11, 2020 Council Minutes
- Expenditure approval February 12-March 10, 2020

M/S (Hoffman/Slater) CU

**Police Reports**

- 16 calls, 1 arrest, wrote 4 tickets within the city limits

**Public Comments**

- Daniel Greeley (20 Western Ave) – He is hearing complaints about Stevens street being too narrow, but it is 22 feet wide, which is the acceptable width of a residential street. He likes that the new Western Avenue configuration has slowed down traffic on Western Avenue. He would like to remind the council that as a community we need to move away from a “all about me” mentality and focus on making our community a place that is both a resort friendly town as well as great place to live for all age groups.
- Birdie Hensley (216 Sunny Dr) – She would like to community to consider bringing back Coulee Clem as part of the upcoming Spring cleanup efforts. She would like to remind people that Colorama, the biggest

festival of the year is in May and it would be nice to have our community looking clean and presentable by then.

- Mark Payne (1 Washington Pl) – As the Fire Chief for Electric City, he would like to be added to future council agendas to give a monthly fire activity report. The fire department responded to four calls in the month of February and had to use Western Avenue three of those times. The approach and exit from the fire station are a big issue with how Western Avenue is currently configured. Council members are welcome to place orders for Electric City sweatshirts with the fire department. Sweatshirts are \$30.
- Ian Turner (124 Silver Dr) – Mayor Diane Kohout read an email sent to the city from Ian Turner. Based on what he has read and heard from community members and leaders, he is concerned that outright opposition to a park, any park, is symptomatic of a greater opposition to change from a vocal few in our community. Stating that there are "no children in Electric City" is not only naïve (there are 15 children within 5 houses of his house) but shows a greater disdain for attracting demographic diversity to our City. This vocal minority does not represent the whole of the community. Electric City has much to offer but lacks a public park with attractive features for children. Please invest in amenities, attract growth and watch the small business ventures grow.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- Ice Age Park Bid Selection:
  - According to the RCO grant we must begin construction on the Ice Age Park by March 31, 2020. A motion was made to ask for an extension through 12/31/2020.

M/S (Hoffman/Buche) CU
  - Hoffman is not opposed to the park but is unclear how the city can afford it and where the revenue stream will come from to pay for maintenance costs.
  - Buche stated that we have a financial responsibility to the community to not put in a park the city cannot pay for. He also wanted to know who had asked the SPVV representatives to attend the last park's committee meeting. Their attendance cost approximately \$1,000 in travel and hourly rate fees. He stated that we have already incurred \$53,000 in expenses with SPVV before a single scoop of dirt has been moved. It was determined that former council member Lonna Bussert asked Deputy Clerk Diana Parrish to call SPVV and invite them. It was agreed by the council and the mayor that moving forward, only the active council member that is on the committee should be requesting outside consultant participation.
  - There was much discussion on how much money there is in the Park Fund and the Reserve Park Fund. Bott stated that he would like clarification on whether the city can use Hotel/Motel money for this project.
  - A motion was made to have SPVV look at the existing bid and give the council a price on how much it would cost for them to divide up the bid into various components or phases.

M/S (Slater/Hoffman) CU
- Municipal Court Clerk Position Discussion:
  - Deputy Clerk Parrish added this to the agenda and would like to let the council know that she has received money for outstanding traffic tickets issued within Electric City. Because there is currently not a Court Clerk to record and process the money, these checks are being returned back to the sender. Does the city want to consider hiring/funding a Court Clerk?
  - Officer Moore added that without a Court Clerk the City's current nuisance ordinance can't be fully enforced. In previous years City Clerk Perman acted as the Court Clerk as well.
  - New City Clerk Nevsimal will research what amount of training and expense is required to become a Court Clerk and report back to the council at next month's council meeting.

- Truck Proposal Discussion
  - Public Works Manager Armstrong stated that a diesel truck is what the city needs based on engine and transmission weight and the placement of these components in a diesel truck vs. a gasoline truck.
  - In past years we have purchased used trucks/equipment and they have typically lasted 10-15 years and have needed a fair amount of maintenance.
  - This is still a discussion topic and will need to be placed out for bid as well as a determination will need to be made on how to budget and pay for this truck.

## **New Business**

- Utility Bill Discussion:
  - City meters are read on the 1st of each month. Bills are sent out on the 10th of each month and citizens have until the 25th of each month to pay their bill. The Deputy Clerk is requesting that the bills be mailed out on the 5th of each month. The current 10th of the month mailing date coincides with a very busy time each month when council meeting materials need to be compiled. Changing the bill mailing date will alleviate this congested timing issue.
  - A motion was made to change the Electric City utility bill mail date from the 10th of each month to the 5th of each month.

M/S (Rupe/Buche) CU

- Repeal Ordinance No 211 Brad Parrish
  - Councilmen Buche stated that Mr Parrish has indicated that he has spoken to legal counsel regarding this issue and is asking whether we can continue this discussion without our attorney present.
  - Mr. Parrish stated that he had consulted with a legal representative, but had not to-date taken any legal action. He is seeking a letter from the city requesting that ordinance no 211 be repealed and that original Ordinance 122 be reinstated.
  - Councilmen Bott looked at the ordinance documents submitted to the council and determined that this issue dates back to inaccuracies from the adoption of Ordinance 211 in 1981.
  - Mayor Kohout will speak to our attorney to see what steps the city would need to take to repeal Ordinance 211.

- Resolution 2020-06 NCNB Accounts
  - Resolution No. 2020-06 repeals Resolution No 2020-05 and authorizes new City Clerk/Treasurer Peggy Nevsimal to have access to the, and authority to make deposits and withdrawals to Electric City's accounts at North Cascades Bank.
  - A motion was made to accept Resolution No. 2020-06

M/S (Slater/Rupe) CU

- Complete Street Project March 23
  - Wheeler Construction has stated that they would like to return to Electric City on March 23, 2020 to continue work on the streets and sidewalks project.
  - There are many issues that the council say need to be addressed, including:
  - Moving the curbing located on Hwy 155 back

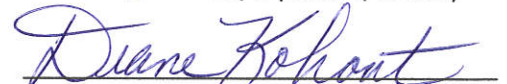


- Wheeler Construction has stated that they would like to return to Electric City on March 23, 2020 to continue work on the streets and sidewalks project.
- There are many issues that the council say need to be addressed, including:
- Moving the curbing located on Hwy 155 back
  - Reducing space between the curbing and yet to be installed sidewalks
  - Moving the stop sign at the intersection of Hwy 155 & Western Avenue
  - Striping and painting
  - The poor access into and out of the parking lots at Electric City Bar & Grille, City Hall and the residential dwellings around both businesses.
- Councilman Buche believes we should meet with both Gray & Osborne and Wheeler construction as soon as possible to address the many issues that need fixing.
- Stormwater Management Plan Discussion
  - Stacie Clear and Don Tulloch from Gray & Osborne presented the Stormwater Management Document to the council. Copies can be found at City Hall.
- Spring/Fall Cleanup
  - There was a motion made to adopt the dates of April 13-17 for curbside debris pick up by city workers and April 18-25 as days residents can drop of debris at the Transfer Station.
 

M/S (Hoffman/Buche) CU
  - Councilwoman Hoffman stated that there is quite a bit of debris that has been dumped out towards Osborne bay that is within the city limits.
- Deputy Clerk hourly wages
  - Councilwoman Hoffman would like the Deputy Clerk to be compensated for duties she performed above and beyond while there was no City Clerk.
  - A motion was made to compensate Deputy Clerk Diana Parrish at a City Clerk rate for the 200 hours she has worked in the last 5 weeks at an increased rate.
 

M/S (Hoffman/Rupe) CU
- Reports/Miscellaneous
  - Mayors Report: The Mayor reminding the council that they need to complete the Open Public Meetings Act training and the Public Records Act training that can be found on MRSC's website. Training must be completed within the first 90 days of service.
  - Council Member Reports:
    - Councilman Rupe reported that he will attend the upcoming GTA meeting.
    - Councilman Buche reported that he will work with the Wastewater Treatment Board to better define Electric City's portion of the monthly expenditures.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

  
 Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer

M/S (Buche/Slater)  
  
 Diane Kohout, Mayor