

PALOUSE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Regular Council Meeting
January 11, 2022 @ 7:00 pm
Palouse Community Center 220 E. Main St

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sievers called the Council Meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Deputy Clerk Misty La Follett took Roll Call.

Council members present Sarah Bofenkamp, Bill Slinkard, Samuel Brink, Travis Deerkop, Robert Brooks, Ann Barrington, and Leslie Sena (After Appointment later in meeting).

City staff present: Deputy Clerk (DC) Misty La Follett, Public Works (PW) Supt. Mike Wolf, and Police Officer Joel Anderson.

Mayor Sievers gave the Oath of Office to Samuel Brink.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Barrington introduced a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on December 28, 2021; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Deerkop, and the **MOTION** passed.

OPEN FORUM:

No residents present asked to address the Council.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Supt. Wolf provided Council with his written report.

The PW staff have been busy plowing the streets and snow removal, which has taken approximately 80% of their time. A large tree limb came down in the wind storm and required PW staff to remove.

Supt. Wolf stated that Bigfoot Technologies came and will have a quote by the next Council meeting for the cost to install alarms at the sewer and wells.

Councilmember Slinkard asked if there had been any equipment breakdowns during the snowstorms, and Supt. Wolf stated that there had been some, but all the equipment had been repaired.

Councilmember Brooks asked about a tour of the City's infrastructure, Supt. Wolf stated that he would encourage all Councilmembers to contact him to schedule a time for a tour.

*PW report attached to the minutes.

POLICE REPORT:

Officer Anderson presented his report to the Council. There have been eight calls for service and zero call-outs since the last council meeting.

Officer Anderson has been assisting State and county law enforcement by responding to calls slightly outside the City limits to help with the numerous calls during the recent snowstorms.

Officer Anderson updated the Council regarding a generator that was stolen from the back of a pickup. Officer Anderson stated that the Moscow Police Department called and the generator had been found at a pawn store, and once the serial number was verified, it would be returned to the owner.

*PD report attached to the minutes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/DEPUTY CLERK REPORT:

DC La Follett presented Council with a liquor license application for Brewfest at the Palouse Community Center. Mayor Sievers asked if the Council or Officer Anderson had any concerns, and there were none.

Councilmember Brooks asked where the event was held and confirmed that no open containers were allowed outside the designated area.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Brandon Hallan presented the report to Council. Mr. Hallen informed Council that the YAB is continuing to work on the survey of the local youth and hopes to finalize it at the next YAB meeting. They would like to meet with Mr. Jones at the school to get their involvement with the survey. They would also like to meet with the City Librarian to see about the availability of grants for the YAB.

Councilmember Brooks asked what the YAB was, and Mr. Hallen explained their purpose was to connect with Palouse's youth to improve the community.

Councilmember Deerkop asked what the purpose of the survey was. Mr. Hallen explained that it was to determine what improvements the youth would like to see within the community and what they like to do for fun in Moscow and Pullman to decide whether we can apply those things here in Palouse.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Sievers presented to Council a list of questions for the two candidates for the open Council position number 3. Leslie Jo Sena and Ron Weller submitted a letter of interest to the Council for this position.

Ms. Sena was the only person present for the interview by Council. The Council proceeded to ask Ms. Sena a series of questions.

Once the Council completed their list of questions for Ms. Sena, the Council went into Executive Session at 7:31 pm to discuss the candidates, and Council returned at 7:42.

Mayor Sievers asked Council how they would like to proceed.

Councilmember Brooks introduced a **MOTION** to appoint Ron Weller to the vacant Council position #3. **MOTION** failed for lack of a second.

Councilmember Slinkard introduced a **MOTION** to appoint Leslie Jo Sena to the vacant Council position #3; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Bofenkamp, the **MOTION** passed.

Mayor Sievers gave the Oath of Office to Leslie Jo Sena.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget, Finance, & Major Acquisitions: No report

Streets, Properties, & Facilities: No report

Personnel: No report

Water and Sewer: No report

Policy & Administration: No report

Joint Fire Board: No report

Mayor Sievers gave Council a list of possible committee appointments, and these appointments will be finalized at the next City Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Sievers gave the new Council a general overview of the Value Planning Study that is currently underway to explore other options to upgrade the City's sewer plant. The previous estimate to make the upgrades was \$18 million. The Department of Ecology (DOE) has given Palouse a \$100,000 grant to explore other options.

Councilmember Brooks asked if there was a deadline to make the upgrades, and Mayor Sievers said 2024.

ALLOW PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Councilmember Bofenkamp introduced a **MOTION** to allow the payment of bills. Councilmember Brooks seconded the **MOTION**; and the **MOTION** passed.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Slinkard MOVED to adjourn; Councilmember Barrington seconded the **MOTION**; and the **MOTION** passed.

The council meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____