

PALOUSE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Regular Council Meeting
February 22, 2022 @ 7:00 pm
Palouse Community Center 220 E. Main St

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sievers called the Council Meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Deputy Clerk Misty La Follett took Roll Call.

Council members present Sarah Bofenkamp, Leslie Jo Sena, Bill Slinkard, Samuel Brink, Travis Deerkop, Robert Brooks, and Ann Barrington.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Sena asked that the minutes be amended under the Police Report that at the end of Officer Anderson's statement relating to the mask mandate, be changed to say: Officer Anderson wanted to remind everyone that it is a misdemeanor not to wear your mask indoors, according to RCW 70.05.120(4). If he receives a call about someone not following this statute, he will investigate and forward it to the proper authorities, including L and I for businesses and the Whitman County Prosecutor's Office for individual violation.

Councilmember Sena introduced a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on February 8, 2022, with the amendment to the Police Report; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Bofenkamp, and the **MOTION** passed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Supt. Wolf presented his report to the Council.

Councilmember Bofenkamp thanked Evan Weagraff, public works assistant, for his hard work on refurbishing the City's benches.

*PW report attached to the minutes.

POLICE REPORT:

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

*PD report attached to the minutes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/DEPUTY CLERK REPORT:

DC La Follett presented a liquor license renewal for the Palouse Caboose. There were no objections, and the license will be renewed.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Ainsley Sievers presented the YAB report to Council. Ms. Sievers informed Council that the YAB discussed the survey results at their last meeting, and they did receive positive feedback. They will present their findings to the Council shortly. They also met with former Councilmember Mary Welcome regarding using the American Rescue Plan Act funds and using the Library for a game night.

Councilmember Brooks asked how many members were on the YAB, and Ms. Sievers stated that there were 5.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: No old business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy & Administration, Chair Barrington: They are working on a revised flag policy. Councilmember Bofenkamp stated that there was some concern from the community as to why the flags were not flown on President's Day, and Mayor Sievers that it was not on the City's current flag policy.

Budget, Finance, & Major Acquisitions, Chair Bofenkamp: No report

Streets, Properties, & Facilities, Chair Deerkop: No report

Personnel, Chair Sam Brink: No report

Water and Sewer, Chair Slinkard: No report, but Chair Slinkard asked about the completed Value Planning Study report. Mayor Seivers stated that he had not received it, but he would forward the draft report to Chair Slinkard.

Joint Fire Board, Chair Sena: Chair Sena stated she had concerns that the City did not have reverse 911 functional on cell phones, which she addressed with the JFB and Whitman County. Another option might be to allow the residents listed in the community phone book to sign up for reserve 911.

Budget, Finance, & Major Acquisitions, Chair Bofenkamp: No report

OPEN FORUM:

Cynthia Johnson addressed the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor called for an Executive Session at 7:29 pm to discuss personnel. The regular city council meeting resumed at 8:09 pm.

Upon their return for Executive Session, Mayor Sievers asked for Council's consent to appoint Officer Anderson as interim head of the Palouse Police Department. His salary is equal to the previous department head.

Councilmember Slinkard introduced a **MOTION** to approve Mayor Sievers's request to appoint Officer Anderson as the interim department head and adjust his salary accordingly; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Barrington, and the **MOTION** passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Sievers wanted to make sure that the Council was prepared to attend the training regarding Public Officials' liability before the next council meeting.

According to TD & H, the bid process for the looping main was delayed slightly. It was published, the prebid meeting will be on March 16, and the project will be open to bid on March 23, 2022.

Mayor Siever's offered the open City Administrator position to DC La Follett, and she has accepted the position. Mayor Siever's asked the Council for their approval to make this appointment.

Councilmember Bofenkamp introduced a **MOTION** to confirm Misty La Follett as City Administrator; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Brink, and the **MOTION** passed.

ALLOW PAYMENT OF BILLS:

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

The following checks are approved for payment:

Claims Paid	02/22/2022	Ck. #12232-12246	\$27,093.67
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ADJOURN: Councilmember Sena MOVED to adjourn; Councilmember Bofenkamp seconded the **MOTION**; the **MOTION** passed.

The council meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____