

PALOUSE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Regular Council Meeting

August 9, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

Palouse City Hall 120 E. Main St

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tim Sievers called the Council Meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

ROLL CALL:

City Administrator Misty La Follett took Roll Call.

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

Councilmember absent: Sarah Bofenkamp

Councilmember Barrington introduced a **MOTION** to excuse Councilmember Bofenkamp; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Sena. All other council members present approved, and the **MOTION** passed.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Brooks introduced a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on July 26, 2022, with a spelling correction; the **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Deerkop, and the **MOTION** passed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Supt. Wolf presented his report to the Council.

Supt. Wolf updated the Council on the status of the pool repairs. He is getting quotes to repair the pipe in the wall and rebuild the filter pump. These repairs could be between \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Supt. Wolf met with Grant from JR Massie and Rich Utzman with TD & H regarding the ongoing main looping project. The project is progressing well, and they are moving forward quickly. Supt. Wolf and Rich also discussed the projects on the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) that TD & H will submit grant applications for to the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB).

*PW report attached to the minutes.

POLICE REPORT:

Officer Anderson presented his report to the Council. There have been eight calls for service and six call-outs, and the Whitman County Sheriff's office responded to two calls while Officer Anderson was on vacation.

Officer Anderson updated the Council on the status of the new police vehicle. The vehicle is still 4-6 months out from being produced.

Councilmember Barrington asked Officer Anderson if he received call-out pay while on vacation. He stated that he did.

*PD report attached to the minutes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/DEPUTY CLERK REPORT:

CA La Follett provided the Council with a copy of the annual inspection report for the Bridge Street bridge completed by the Washington State Department of Transportation.

CA La Follett also informed the Council that the three-year audit would take place in September.

CA report is attached to the minutes.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Libby Akin, the YAB advisor, addressed the Council on behalf of the YAB. She stated that there would be two vacancies on the YAB this fall, and one person has submitted an application. On June 7, 2022, the YAB would like to hold a community fair event to connect the various youth organizations in the area. One hundred kids and parents attended the night swim on August 2, 2022.

Ms. Akin will resign at the end of September, and she would like someone from the Council to apply for the position. The Mayor appoints this position.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Sievers spoke via Zoom at the Public Works Board (PWB) meeting regarding the emergency loan that TD & H applied for on the City's behalf for the F Street Bridge. The City was awarded the loan, and Michele Bly, with TD & H, asked for a vote from the Council to allow the Mayor to approve the open bid dates for the F Street Bridge project.

Councilmember Sena introduced a **MOTION** to allow the Mayor to approve the bid date based on the engineer's recommendation; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Slinkard. All other council members present approved, and the **MOTION** passed.

Ms. Bly also asked for a vote to allow the Mayor to sign any grant applications from TIB. The deadline to submit the grant application is August 19, 2022.

Councilmember Slinkard introduced a **MOTION** to allow the Mayor to sign any grant application as needed for the TIB grants; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Deerkop. All other council members present approved, and the **MOTION** passed.

Supt. Wolf stated the main on Coulton will be installed tomorrow as part of the looping main replacement. They will start in the alley between J and K tomorrow.

Councilmember Slinkard addressed the allegations that the City staff had been negligent in the enforcement of building codes and City codes. He discussed the complaints in more detail with Officer Anderson and Supt. Wolf. The City cannot address violations unless we are aware of them.

NEW BUSINESS:

Todd McLaughlin, from Avista, addressed the Council regarding the gas pipeline upgrade. The proposed natural gas pipeline would run through the Hayton Green Park, under the Palouse River, the Lions Club RV park, and Palouse Cove Road.

When they submit the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) application, they will offer a mitigation plan for the park. They hope to have the SEPA application submitted to the City this fall. There will be a public hearing after the City receives the permit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy & Administration, Chair Barrington reported that the pool fee schedule resolution had been submitted to Eric Hanson for his review. It should be ready for approval at the next Council meeting. She also presented to Council the revised RV Park policy. Council discussed this policy in more detail, and they will make some changes to the policy.

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

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

Personnel, Chair Sam Brink reported that the committee had met to discuss employee reviews and compensation.

Water and Sewer, Chair Slinkard stated that his committee would be meeting to discuss water/sewer rates and ADU.

Joint Fire Board, Chair Sena: No report

OPEN FORUM:

With the Haunted Palouse Committee, Libby Akin addressed the Council regarding the tentative plans for haunted Palouse.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Sievers reported the conversation with SVS, the company that conducted the value planning study at the sewer plant, regarding their final report.

Also, Eric Hanson is reviewing the contract with Varela regarding their feasibility studies for the sewer plant.

ALLOW PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Councilmember Sena introduced a **MOTION** to allow the payment of bills. Councilmember Barrington seconded the **MOTION**; the **MOTION** passed.

The following checks are approved for payment:

Payroll		Ck. #12523-12542	\$50,868.30
Claims Paid	08/09/2022	Ck. #12543-12575	\$38,638.13

In response to the email from former Palouse Police Department reserve Officer Terry Snead, Councilmember Barrington recognized his service to the City of Palouse.

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

The council meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____