

ELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 16, 2020
6:00 P.M. ON ZOOM APP (INFO. BELOW)

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the November 16, 2020 Elma City Council Meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Diana Easton called roll with Jim Sorensen, Josh Collette, Mike Cooper, Tom Boling, David Blackett, Pat Miller, and Attorney Dan Glenn present.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion made by David Blackett seconded by Tom Boling to approve the minutes from November 16, 2020. Claim warrants October 31 and November 16, 2020 #55473 through #55548 totaling \$395,643.56. Payroll warrants for November 2020 #43099 through #43138 totaling \$182,404.08. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL BUDGET

Mayor Sorensen closed the council meeting and opened up the public hearing meeting on an ordinance for the final budget. Hearing no response, Mayor Sorensen closed the public hearing and reopened the council meeting.

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR 2020 (INTRODUCTION ONLY)

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding an ordinance relating to the adoption of a Supplemental Budget for 2020. (Introduction Only). Diana Easton informed council that it was an annual housekeeping to keep from going over in departments so we won't have an issue with the auditor. It will be adopted at the next meeting and this was just an introduction only.

REFUND LEVY TO RECOVER POLICE LEVY LOST TAX DOLLARS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$380.08 AND REFUND LEVY TO RECOVER LOST TAX DOLLARS IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1204.13

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the refund levy to recover police levy lost tax dollars in the amount of \$380.08 and refund levy to recover lost tax dollars in the regular property tax levy in the amount of \$1204.13. Diana Easton informed council that these were lost tax dollars that can be reclaimed by re-levying and collecting the amounts in 2021. **A motion was made by Tom Boling to approve the refund levy to recover police lost tax**

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dollars and the refund levy to recover lost tax dollars on the property tax levy seconded by Pat Miller. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

REVIEW/SCORING-CARES ACT GRANT APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS ON AMOUNT & APPROVAL.

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding review/scoring-CARES ACT grant applications/decisions on amount & approval. Mayor Sorensen informed council that there were three applications that were eligible and recommended to council that each of the three applicants receive \$10,000.00 for a total of \$30,000.00 of the \$50,000 that council put into the grant. **A motion was made by Josh Collette to authorize grants of \$10,000.00 to each of the three businesses on the condition that the City Clerk confirms they submitted the appropriate documentation and Tom Boling seconded.** Diana Easton informed council that she talked to Lynnette and she wanted applications to be scored and that she had informed Lynnette that she thought that the council members were going to score the highest that the businesses could get. **A motion was made by Tom Boling to score the eligible businesses the highest score possible David Blackett seconded.** Council had further discussions regarding this topic. **All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.** Diana Easton gave council the breakdown of the monies being spent from the CARES ACT that is approximately \$83,000 dollars. Diana Easton wanted council's permission to use the balance of the approximate \$60,000 left over to reimburse payroll. **David Blackett amended his motion that if grants are extended, that it can be used for grants or reimburse payroll with the Mayor's discretion seconded Tom Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks-Mayor Sorensen informed council the Parks Committee had a meeting in the prior week and the committee wanted to come up with a comprehensive plan for the parks and reached out to the COGS and they are willing to do most of the leg work with some help with city staff. Josh Collette added to the discussion that he would like to see advertisement out there to solicit more parks board members.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

Chief Schultz informed council that the new police vehicle should be here by the end of the month.

Dan Glen suggested to council that the city sets up a committee to address the Chamber of Commerce lease agreement. Mayor Sorensen and Josh Collette are already on that committee and have agreed to a zoom meeting with Attorney Dan Glenn and the Chamber of Commerce.

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Dee Depoe informed council that due to the new Covid restrictions they have scaled back the hours at the library.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Tom Boling informed council that the gate on Oakhurst Dr behind Summit Pacific Wellness Center is in the open position and maybe too close to the fire hydrant and may have to be removed. Mayor Sorensen and council had a discussion regarding the letter that will be sent to Summit Pacific Wellness Center regarding the open gate at Oakhurst Dr.

Mike Cooper informed council that when the final budget documents are ready for council to vote on that the money for the park, the police evidence shed, reet money etc are in the budget. Mike Cooper also wanted to see if possibly there would be federal funding for the park and street improvements and would like to set up a meeting with the state representatives and city representatives to have that discussion. Mike Cooper inquired about the closing of City Hall due to new Covid restrictions, and Mayor Sorensen informed council that he was closing city departments due to new Covid restrictions. Police Department will be open only for those seeking gun permits and one person at a time. Mayor Sorensen requested a motion to close City Hall to the public until December 14, 2020. **Mike Cooper made a motion to close City Hall until December 14, 2020 Josh Collette seconded. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Josh Collette questioned if there was going to be another work session regarding the budget and in particular the police levy. Council had a discussion on this topic and agreed to wait until January to revisit this topic.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen updated council the status of hiring a city attorney and has chosen Rick Hughes, and are currently in negotiations with Mr. Hughes and will hopefully be announcing his hire at the next council meeting. Mayor also informed council that he would like to buy a banner from out of his own pocket to put up at 10th street park. Council had a discussion on this topic. Mayor Sorensen withdrew his offer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION COLLECTIVE BARGAINING 42.30.140(4)

Mayor and council went into executive section regarding collective bargaining 42.30.140(4) for 10 minutes at 6:54 p.m. and reconvened at 7:04 p.m. with possible action being taken. **A motion was made by Tom Boling to bring the Police Clerk, Utility Billing Accounts Manager up to the Court Clerk's wage so that they all receive the same wage Mike Cooper seconded.** There was discussion among council members and **Tom Boling amended his**

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motion to include a letter that this is a one time deal that council felt was fair and the letter would be drafted by the city attorney Mike Cooper seconded. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Tom Boling made a motion to give department heads 1% longevity pay for every 5 years worked Josh Collette seconded. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

The next meeting will December 7, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Josh Collette made a motion to adjourn Pat Miller seconded. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Sorensen – Mayor

Diana Easton – City Clerk/Treasurer