

ELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 1, 2021

6:00 P.M. ON ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the February 1, 2021 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 Rick Hughes present.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion made by David Blackett seconded by Pat Miller to approve the minutes from January 19, 2021. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

A RESOLUTION #682 AMENDING RESOLUTION #673 DATE CHANGE FOR FIRE MERGE ELECTION FROM FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2021

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding a resolution amending Resolution #673 date change for fire merge election from February to April 2021. Council had discussions regarding this topic. **David Blackett made a motion to approve Resolution #682 amending Resolution #673 due to a date change for the Special Election from February to April, 2021, seconded by Tom Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

A RESOLUTION #683 REGARDING AN INTERFUND LOAN FROM W/S CONSTRUCTION TO CE TO PAY FOR THE NEW FIRE ENGINE-THIS RESOLUTION ALSO ALLOWS US TO TAKE OUT A LOAN WITH THE STATE TO REIMBURSE W/S CONSTRUCTION

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding an interfund loan from W/S Construction to Current Expense to pay for the new fire engine. This resolution also allows us to take out a loan with the State to reimburse W/S Construction Fund. **Mike Cooper made a motion to approve Resolution #683 regarding an interfund loan from W/S Construction to Current Expense and to allow a State loan, seconded by Pat Miller. All voted council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

A RESOLUTION #684 REGARDING SURPLUS OF FIRE & POLICE VEHICLES

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding Resolution #684 for the surplus of a fire engine, police car, and an ambulance. **Pat Miller made a motion to approve Resolution #684 seconded by Josh Collette. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CONNECTIONS FOR 2021
(FORMERLY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY)**

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Municipal Services Agreement with Connections for 2021 (Formerly Children's Advocacy) for \$4000.00. **David Blackett made a motion to approve Municipal Services Agreement with Connections for \$4000.00, seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

**ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH G.H.C. AMENDING SPECIAL ELECTION
DATE**

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the annexation agreement with G.H.C. amending special election date. **David Blackett made a motion to approve the Annexation Agreement with G.H.C. amending special election date seconded by Pat Miller. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

PARK BOARD-REQUEST DIGITAL DOOR LOCKS AT 10TH STREET PARK

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding Park Board's request for digital door locks at 10th Street Park. Yvonne Trail requested locks on the bathroom doors at 10th Street Park and the bathrooms to be opened back up in phase 2. Council had discussions regarding this topic. The locks can cost up to \$1500.00. **Josh Collette made a motion to purchase four digital locks up to \$6000.00 dollars to be installed by the City as soon as possible seconded by Mike Cooper. Discussion. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

**BRAD OLSON AND WILLIAM MCGAFFEY REQUEST PARK OPENING FOR
SPORTS**

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion requesting that the parks be opened. Mayor Sorensen thanked Brad Olson and William McGaffey for putting a safety plan together. Mayor Sorensen put forth the question of how hard would it be to schedule one field for Little League and one field for softball. Mr. McGaffey responded that it would be a challenge, but possible. Mike Cooper put forth the question of what kind of plans are in place for spectators attending the baseball and softball games. Mr. McGaffey responded that during practices they will ask parents not to come and for the games he will ask the parents to sit in their cars and not hang out at the field so they are not shut down again. Board members will take on the responsibility during practices to make sure no one hangs out at the fields. Mike Cooper encouraged Mr. McGaffey to look at the WIAA's guidelines for games. Mr. McGaffey agreed that they could follow the WIAA's guide for baseball games. He also said that the concession stand staff can help keep the facilities clean to help out the City staff. Mike Cooper asked Attorney Hughes if any of the

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liabilities are going to change with WCIA. Attorney Hughes recommended that Mr. McGaffey check with his pool to see what extent they are covered for liability. Mayor Sorensen reiterated safety first. There was further discussion regarding insurance and liability. **Josh Collette made a motion to open up the parks and have the Mayor and City staff do the scheduling for the parks seconded by Pat Miller. Mike Cooper reiterated that he is all for the parks opening as long as all the safety precautions are being taken, such as social distancing wearing masks, no spectators etc. Mayor Sorensen stated that all tournaments must be pre-approved through his office. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks-Josh Collette reported that they have advertised the vacant park board positions on Facebook.

Diana Easton reported for Chief Schultz and the Civil Service Commission has met and they extended the provisional officer up to 120 days in 2021 which includes the 31 days in January, (ending April 30th) and the commission also certified a lateral list and Chief Shultz will be doing background checks on the top three. Council had further discussions regarding this topic. **Pat Miller made a motion to extend the provisional position with the police department up to 120 days seconded by David Blackett. Council had further discussion regarding this topic. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Boling informed council that he had sent pictures of the new fire engine to all council members and staff. Chief Boling will do a virtual inspection next week.

Dee Depoe informed council that the library will not move to the next phase for at least the next couple weeks.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Josh Martin from the Summit Pacific Medical Center informed council that they had received the letter that was sent to them from the City of Elma. Josh Martin is proposing that himself and one board member to be the delegates to find the path forward regarding the Oakhurst Dr gate. Mike Cooper agrees that it would make perfect sense to have elected officials as well as staff to represent each side. Mike Cooper thanked Josh Martin for sending delegations to the public health board meeting and speaking out about the needle program. Josh Collette expressed his displeasure in the Oakhurst Dr gate being open and felt the focus should be on Main Street.

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COUNCIL REPORTS

David Blackett informed council that he spoke to Joe and was informed that developers are talking to contractors regarding Bi-Mart.

Josh Collette requested that they get the Chamber Lease Agreement back on the table to negotiate.

Mike Cooper informed council that he had a conversation with the Mayor about finding transportation funds for the Summit Pacific gate on Oakhurst Drive . He reported that he had a good conversation with Representative Chapman and Congressman Kilmer regarding this. Mr. Cooper also had a conversation with Representative Chapman about park improvements and the intersection of highway 12 and Main St. and about seeking some capital budget funds and the need to put forth a plan for these projects. He would like to have discussions regarding these topics on the next meeting. Mayor Sorensen said that these kinds of topics are usually discussed at work sessions. Mayor Sorensen set up a work session for February 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen will be having a meeting with Senator Patty Murray's team regarding COVID relief and would like council to email him with their questions by Wednesday. He is hoping to bring relief aid to the City of Elma's businesses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION LITIGATION 42.30.110(1)(i)

Mayor Sorensen called an executive session regarding litigation 42.30.110(1)(i) for 5 minutes at 6:59pm. Mayor Sorensen and council returned from executive session and the meeting was reconvened at 7:04 p.m. No action taken and no action made.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Pat Miller made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Sorensen – Mayor

Diana Easton – City Clerk/Treasurer

