

ELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 22, 2022
6:00 P.M. ON ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the February 22, 2022 City Council Meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Wendy Collins called roll. Mayor Sorensen, Josh Collette, Mike Cooper, John Heater, Pat Miller, Bethany Whipple-Boling, and Attorney Rick Hughes

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dennis Braumbaugh informed council that he was in favor of Real LeBeauf's plans for putting in an RV park at 4722 State Route 12. Mayor Sorensen informed Mr. Braumbaugh that he would be better off making his testimony with the hearing examiner.

Jodi Indrebo informed council that the owner of the Saginaw building has decided to sell.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Approval of consent calendar February 22, 2022. Approval of Minutes February 22, 2022. Approval of Claims in the amount of \$111,040.65. Approval of Claim in the amount of \$333.03 from Andy's Parts and Service, Totaling \$111,373.68. Approval of Claims for the January handwrites totaling \$187,127.78-Claims #56748-56773. Approval of payroll January 2022-Checks #43688-43717, including EFT's, in the amount of \$197,127.78. Rick Hughes informed Council and the Mayor that there was no need for John Heater to abstain from voting on Andy's Parts and Service invoices. Pat Miller made a motion to approve the consent calendar seconded by Mike Cooper. Josh Collette would like the February 7, 2022 minutes regarding the executive session to make it clear that council did not take action in the executive session and instead of saying roll call was taken and members were present; that it needs to say roll call vote was taken and the vote was 4-0. Wendy Collins informed council that the amount for Accounts Payable is actually \$110,998.26 not \$111,040.65 due to a correction. Pat Miller amended his motion to approve minutes and the amounts with the above corrections, seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

POLICE REMODEL DESIGN-HARBOR ARCHITECTS

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the police remodel design. Allen Gozart from Harbor Architects and council had discussions regarding the design, parking space, and bathrooms of the new police building.

PERMISSION TO BID THE N 12TH STREET WATER & STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding permission to bid the N 12th St. water and street improvement project. Jim Starks requested from council permission to bid the N 12th St. water and street project. **Josh Collette made a motion to authorize the bid for the N 12th St. water & street improvement project, seconded by Pat Miller. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

DRAFT RFQ FOR A PROJECT MANAGER

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding drafting an RFQ for a project manager. **Pat Miller made a motion to move forward for a project manager with an RFQ, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling.** Mike Cooper expressed concerns about the project manager and to make sure there is a more inclusive list of projects and to be able to negotiate what the projects are once a qualified project manager is hired. Council had discussions regarding Mike Cooper's concerns. Mike Cooper recommended that the Capital Facilities Committee could help with additional vetting. Council members unanimously agreed regarding this topic. **Pat Miller amended his motion as stated and agreed by council, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

CHEHALIS TRIBAL JAIL SERVICE AGREEMENT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Chehalis Tribal Jail Service Agreement. Chief Shultz informed council that she had not seen the contract at the time of the council meeting. Mayor Sorensen and council agreed that Chief Shultz needs to look at the agreement. Mayor and council agreed to table this topic until the next meeting.

ELMA CHAMBER PARADE ROUTE STREET CLOSURE APPROVAL FOR MAY 29TH

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Elma Chamber parade route street closure approval for May 29th. Elma Chamber briefed council on their plans for the parade. **Pat Miller made a motion to allow the Memorial Day Parade, seconded by John Heater. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

REAL LEBEUF RV PARK AT 4722 STATE ROUTE 12

Mayor Sorensen informed Real LeBeuf that council does not normally make land use decisions. Mike Cooper raised the question as to why this issue was on the agenda. Rick Hughes briefed council on why this issue was on the agenda. Mayor Sorensen informed council that they may not comment on this topic but can hear Mr. Lebeuf's testimony. Council agreed to hear from him with a time limit of 10 minutes and with the understanding that council cannot take any action.

LAURIE BREMER & JODI INDREBO

Mayor Sorensen opened the floor to Laurie Bremer and Jodi Indrebo regarding utility billing issues. Council heard Laurie Bremer's and Jodi Indrebo's concerns about the way the city bills for water/sewer. Council decided not to take any action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks & Public Works - Josh Collette informed council that they have had their first meeting. There are still some challenges getting surveying done on the parks. Mayor Sorensen would like to give a proposal regarding the Memorial Park to the Park & Public Works committee and requested an invite for the March 10th meeting. In-person meetings were discussed. Pat Miller from the Public Works Committee informed council that they discussed the N 12th St. water/sewer project.

Public Safety - Mike Cooper informed council that they will have a meeting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed ordinance for the Boise decision. Mike Cooper informed council that he and John Heater met for lunch to discuss public safety and they are going to develop the emergency management plan.

Finance Committee - Josh Collette informed council that they probably won't meet until the second week of March.

Tourism - John Heater briefed council on all the upcoming events that the Elma Chamber is planning.

Capital Facilities-Mike Cooper informed council that they will be meeting Thursday at 1:00 p.m. and gave an overview of what will be discussed.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Fulbright - Gave an overview of the Fire Departments activities. Chief Fulbright requested two volunteers on the interview panel for fire commissioner candidates. Council had discussions regarding this topic. Public Safety committee members Mike Cooper and John Heater volunteered for the interview panel.

Jillana Bickford - Gave council a short briefing on upcoming events.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Bethany Whipple-Boling thanked everyone for reaching out to her and congratulating her.

Josh Collette requested having a council retreat. Mayor Sorensen suggested something in April or May. Council agreed. Josh Collette informed council that he attended the COG meeting. Josh Collette felt that the city should lead an effort for a clean-up event. Council had discussions regarding this topic.

Mike Cooper gave a shout out to Donovan Bishop for his achievements in the wrestling tournament and the rest of the Elma wrestlers.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen informed council that he has been working on a replacement for Attorney Rick Hughes and would like to bring in Chris Coker as his replacement. Mayor Sorensen informed

council that he would submit Chris Coker’s proposal at the next council meeting. Mayor Sorensen requested from council to go out and find a person to update the council chambers with the latest technology. Council had discussions regarding this topic.

Josh Collette recommended making a motion to cancel the work session next week. Council had discussions regarding this topic. **Josh Collette made a motion to cancel the work session scheduled for February 28, 2022, seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RCW 24.30.110 TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL LITIGATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL.

Mayor Sorensen and council went into a 5-minute executive session at 8:33 p.m. and stated no action will be taken. Mayor Sorensen and council returned at 8:37 p.m. and resumed the council meeting. No action was taken, and no decision was made. Rick Hughes requested someone make a motion to authorize the Mayor to pay 21 hours of overtime of paid leave split evenly between three officers resolving an FOP grievance that was brought on December 29, 2021. **Mike Cooper made a motion to authorize the mayor to pay 21 hours of overtime to be split evenly between three officers, seconded by Josh Collette. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Next council meeting will be Monday March 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Pat Miller made a motion to adjourn seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Sorensen – Mayor

Wendy Collins – City Clerk/Treasurer