

ELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2022
6:00 P.M. ON ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the March 21, 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, John Heater, Pat Miller, Bethany Whipple-Boling. **Pat Miller made a motion to excuse Mike Cooper, seconded by Josh Collette. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Barbara Nias from the small business administration Office of Disaster Assistance addressed council regarding the flooding disaster on January 5-16, 2022 and to offer their assistance for loans for small businesses and personal property that suffered damage because of the storm.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Approval of consent calendar March 21, 2022. Approval of minutes March 7, 2022.
Approval of Claims for March 2022 in the amount of \$74,869.30.
Approval of Handwrites March 2022 in the amount of \$34,903.86 Check #59094 and \$149.36 Check #590095 and February Handwrites in the amount of \$27,071.84 Check #59072-59093.
Approval of payroll February 2022 Check #43731, 46001-46035, including EFT's in the amount of \$162,634.50. **Pat Miller made a motion to approve the consent calendar, seconded by Brittany Whipple-Boling. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS IT UPGRADE ESTIMATE

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Council Chambers IT upgrade estimate. The Mayor informed council that the estimate came in at a lower cost than expected. **Josh Collette made a motion to move forward with the project and executing any agreements as needed, seconded by Brittany Whipple-Boling. Mayor Sorensen requested a 10% buffer regarding the Council Chambers upgrade. Josh Collette made a motion to allow Mayor Sorensen a \$3,500.00 buffer, seconded by John Heater. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

APRIL 16, 2022 CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the April 16, 2022 retreat. Josh Collette informed council that he sent an email out to council regarding the retreat. Council had discussions regarding this topic. Mayor Sorensen requested \$300.00 to have Miller House cater the council retreat. Council agreed to have further discussions regarding this topic at the March 28, 2022, work session. **Pat Miller made a motion to approve Mayor Sorensen to spend**

\$300.00 to have Miller House cater the council retreat, seconded by Josh Collette. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL SUMMER SCHEDULE

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the City Council summer schedule. **Pat Miller made a motion to approve the City Council summer schedule, seconded by Josh Collette. Council discussed the options of keeping the summer schedule versus keeping the regular meeting schedule. Pat Miller amended his motion to extend the summer schedule to meet the third Monday of the month and to include the months of June, July, August, and September, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. Council members Pat Miller, Bethany Whipple-Boling and Josh Collette voted in favor of the summer schedule. John Heater voted against. Motion carried.**

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING TO MEET REGARDING PRO/CON COMMITTEE AND SURPLUS WEAPONS OPTIONS FOR ELMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion for the Public Safety Committee to meet regarding the pro/con committee. Mayor Sorensen requested the council make a motion to temporarily appoint a replacement for Mike Cooper. **Josh Collette made a motion to temporarily appoint Pat Miller to the Public Safety Committee, seconded by John Heater. Council discussed the matter. Josh Collette, Bethany Whipple-Boling, and John Heater voted in favor; Pat Miller abstained. Motion carried.**

TIB-N 12TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding TIB-N 12th St. Improvements and Waterline Replacement Project. Jim Starks informed council that they opened the bids last week and Rognlins won the bid. Jim Starks recommended awarding the project to Rognlins. **Josh Collette made a motion to award the N 12th St. Project to Rognlins, seconded by Pat Miller. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

YOUNGLOVE & COKER CONTRACT FOR CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES

Mayor Sorensen received a proposal for city attorney services from Chris Coker at Younglove & Coker. The contract is not final so the Mayor will bring it back to the council at the April 4th meeting.

POLICE LEVY RESOLUTIONS FOR PRIMARY & GENERAL ELECTIONS

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Police Levy Resolutions for primary and general elections. Language regarding the police station renovation will be added. Council will be asked to adopt the resolutions at the April 4th meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Public Works: Josh Collette informed council the Parks Board met. Mr. Borden will be joining the Parks Board. The next meeting will be the second Thursday in April. Pat Miller requested that they have a public works meeting to discuss the streets. Mayor Sorensen advised reaching out to Jim Starks.

Public Safety: John Heater informed council that they have been at a standstill, but since they now have Pat Miller as a substitute on the committee, they will be moving forward.

Finance Committee: Bethany Whipple-Boling informed council that the committee had met today. Finance committee will be taking on code review and tackling Title 2. The committee will not be holding their next meeting until June since Wendy is in the middle of the software conversion and will be working on the annual financial report.

Tourism: John Heater informed council they had a ribbon cutting this weekend and they are moving right along.

STAFF REPORTS

Jim Starks: Jim informed council that they have started on the Lift Station again and it is operable. They are still working on the RFQ. He also was able to speak to the structural engineer regarding the Theatre. He also informed council they are working on the language regarding the asbestos in the fire department. Jim also informed council that the Senior Center opened today.

Chief Shultz: Informed council that she had a successful meeting with the Set-Free program regarding procedures when they bring folks in from out of town and the process or program doesn't work. A subject has been detained that was involved in destruction.

Wendy Collins: Gave an update on the new software. Wendy thanked her staff and the city for all their support.

Joe Chrystal: Informed council Jim Starks was called out because the Dollar Store had some bricks breaking and had to close off the sidewalks. Joe Chrystal informed council that he has received plans for the new Arby's that will be located near Starbucks.

Adam Fulbright: Gave council an update regarding Fire District #5.

Dee Depoe: Invited council to the Library this month in honor of Women's History Month. Dee Depoe gave an update on the Library activities.

Jillanna Bickford: Thanked Jim Starks for taking care of the water leak. She thanked Josh Collette for meeting with the businesses. Jillanna informed council regarding the ribbon cutting at the new salon. The new signs will start to be installed the first part of April. The Citizen Banquet will be held in April.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Bethany Whipple-Boling: Bethany expressed concerns about citizens parking in city right-of-way and buses having issues turning around. Chief Shultz informed council that they are paying a lot of attention to the Edgewood area and staying in touch with the school district regarding this issue.

Josh Collette: Josh thanked Jillanna for all her help regarding the Community Clean-up event and updated council regarding this subject. Josh Collette requested permission to hold the lunch at the Chamber under the covered area. Mayor Sorensen offered the Young St. building. Josh Collette also informed council that John Heater has been rallying the business community regarding this event. Mayor Sorensen requested a motion to allow Josh Collette to use the city facilities for the Community Clean up event. **Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to allow Josh Collette to use the City's facilities for the event, seconded by Pat Miller. All four council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen requested to take out a full- page ad in the amount of \$300.00 for the City of Elma in the Elma High School Yearbook. **Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to allow Mayor Sorensen to take out a full -page ad in the Elma High School Yearbook for \$300.00, seconded by Josh Collette. Council had discussions regarding this topic. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.**

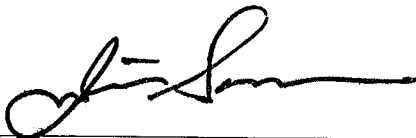
Mayor Sorensen also informed council that he attended the Grays Harbor Transit Board retreat.

There will be a Work Session on March 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

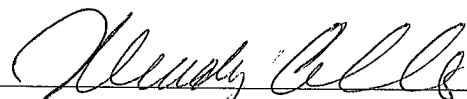
Next council meeting will be April 4, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

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



Jim Sorensen – Mayor



Wendy Collins – City Clerk/Treasurer