

ELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2022
6:00 P.M. In-Person Meeting with Zoom Option

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the December 5, 2022, City Council Meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE FINAL 2023 BUDGET

Mayor Sorensen closed the regular council meeting and opened the public hearing at 6:01 PM, regarding the final 2023 budget. Upon hearing no comments, Mayor Sorensen closed the public hearing at 6:01 PM, and resumed the regular council meeting.

SWEARING IN OF OFFICER HELLER

Mayor Sorensen swore in Elma Police Department's new police officer, Samuel Heller.

Chief Schultz surprised and honored Officer Garcia for helping a citizen in distress and going above and beyond the call of duty.

PRESENTATION FROM ALAN GOZART, HARBOR ARCHITECTS

Mayor Sorensen tabled this presentation for this council meeting because of the large amount of material that was presented to council; there was not enough time to go through it completely before this council meeting. Mr. Gozart will come to the first meeting in January to make his presentation.

KYLABENTOW

Mayor Sorensen introduced Kyla Bentow who stated she would like to see the old fire engine donated to East Grays Harbor Fire Fighter's Association. Council had discussions regarding this topic.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Agenda: December 5, 2022. Approval of minutes for November 21, 2022.

Approval of payroll for November 2022 in the amount of \$177,781.98 including EFT's.

Josh Collette made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the amendment to push the presentation to the following meeting, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY TESTING SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding Public Safety Testing Subscriber Agreement. Council had discussions regarding this topic.

Mike Cooper made a motion to authorize Mayor Sorensen to sign the Public Safety Testing Subscriber Agreement, seconded by Josh Collette. All council members voted in favor.

Motion carried 5-0.

CHAIR OF HONOR PROGRAM

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Chair of Honor Program. Council had discussions regarding this topic.

APPOINT MEMBER TO NEGOTIATE WITH GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY COURTS

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding appointing a member to negotiate with the GH County Courts. Bethany Whipple-Boling agreed to be on the committee to negotiate with the GH County Courts. Judge Blauvelt addressed the council regarding this matter.

Josh Collette made a motion to appoint Bethany Whipple-Boling to be a part of the negotiating team, seconded by John Heater. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

APPOINT MEMBER TO WORK WITH STAFF AND MAYOR ON RENTAL AGREEMENT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding appointing a member to work with staff and Mayor on the rental agreement. Mike Cooper volunteered for the position.

Josh Collette made a motion to appoint Mike Cooper to be on the committee to work with staff and Mayor on the rental agreement, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the Vision and Mission Statement.

Josh Collette made a motion to approve the Vision and Mission Statement as well as core beliefs, seconded by Mike Cooper. Council had further discussions regarding this topic. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

2023 BUDGET ORDINANCE

Mayor Sorensen opened the discussion regarding the 2023 budget ordinance, if adopted it would be Ordinance 1209. Council had discussions regarding this topic. **Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to adopt the 2023 Budget Ordinance #1209 seconded by Pat Miller. The council had further discussions regarding this topic. All council members voted in favor. Roll Call was taken by Wendy Collins. Ordinance 1209 Adopted 5-0.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Capital Facilities-Mike Cooper reported to council that Rock Project Management had been vetted by three different cities and requested that the proper documentation be prepared so that council can approve the agreement in the first meeting of January so that the project can get

going. The Capital Facilities Committee has recommended putting this request on the Agenda for January 2023. The project will cost \$79,000.00 and the committee is confident they can get a grant for \$50,000.00 of the \$79,000.00. Mayor Sorensen will start working on the documents and have them ready for the council's packet.

OTHER STAFF REPORTS

Chris Coker - Informed council he can have the paperwork finalized by the end of the year regarding the Transportation Benefit District. Council and Attorney Chris Coker discussed looking at all applicants regarding the Capital Facilities projects.

Chief Fulbright- Updated council on the activities for the month of November for the Fire Department.

Elma Chamber of Commerce - Jillana Bickford updated council on the activities of the Chamber.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Bethany Whipple - Boling thanked the fire department for the tour that her daughter's class attended.

John Heater - Inquired about hiring a Deputy Public Works Director. Mayor Sorensen informed Mr. Heater they will be going through the applications tomorrow. John Heater volunteered to be on the hiring committee.

Josh Collette - Would like to see two council members on the tourism committee. Would like to see committee assignments discussed. Council had discussions regarding committee assignments.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen enjoyed the Lighting of the Christmas Tree event that the Elma Chamber of Commerce put on. He thanked Jillana Bickford for a job well done.

Next council meeting will be December 19, 2022.

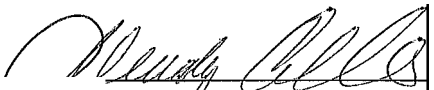
Mike Cooper made a motion to cancel all remaining meetings until January 3, 2023, seconded by Josh Collette. Council discussed their options, and they would like to meet on the 19th to appoint committee members for 2023 so they will be ready to go to work in January. Mike Cooper amended his motion to hold a council meeting on December 19, 2022, and cancel the work session meeting on December 26, 2022, seconded by Josh Collette. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Next Meeting will be December 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Josh Collette made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members vote in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Jim Sorensen - Mayor


Wendy Collins City Clerk/Treasurer