



Elma City Council Meeting

December 4, 2023

Minutes

In-Person Meeting with Zoom Option

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sorensen called the December 4, 2023, City Council Meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

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

MAYOR SORENSEN CLOSED THE MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION AND OPENED A PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AT 6:01 P.M.

The public hearing is regarding the final 2024 budget.

AT 6:02 P.M. MAYOR SORENSEN CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REOPENED THE MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION.

PRESENTATION – HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PRESENTATION OF RISK

Chief Susan Shultz reported on the 2023-2024 Hazard Mitigation plans and updates. This assessment is to make the public aware of our risks and dangers in the surrounding areas.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Agenda: December 4, 2023.

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting November 20, 2023.

Approval of Accounts Payable for November 2023 in the amount of \$34,647.15. Checks #59828-59840.

Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Pat Miller.

All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS – A2Z CLEANING CONTRACT FOR 2024

Mike Cooper asks what total price this contract would cost the city for the whole year of custodial services. Amy Durga reported that it would come to just under \$30,000.00 for a year under this contract.

Mike Cooper made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the contract with A2Z Cleaning for 2024 custodial services, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS – SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

Pat Miller reported that he would like to see a speed study done down by the elementary school for our community's safety. Josh Collette mentioned that since we are going to be receiving a grant for Safe Streets and Roads for All, then the speed study should be a part of those funds. The council is in support of getting a flashing school speed zone sign so the community knows when to go 20 MPH. Mike Cooper would like to table the topic until the speed study is completed to see what the results of that are. New Business of Speed Limit Changes has been tabled.

The City of Elma Council reserves the right to take action on any item placed on the agenda regardless of the manner in which it is stated.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodation is Provided Upon Request.

The City of Elma is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

La ciudad de Elma es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades y el empleador.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES – ORDINANCE #1213 – 2024 BUDGET

If so adopted, this would be Ordinance #1213.

Josh Collette made a motion to adopt Ordinance #1213, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CALANDER YEAR 2024, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Roll call taken in affirmation. Ordinance #1213 adopted 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES – RESOLUTION #713 – UTILITY RATE INCREASE

If so adopted, this would be Resolution #713.

Mike Cooper made a motion to adopt Resolution #713, A RESOLUTION RELATING TO UPDATING FEES AND CHARGES IN RELATION TO THE CITY WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS; ESTABLISHING RATES RELATING THERETO; SUPERSEDING THE RATES ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION #575, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Resolution #713 adopted 5-0.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS – BODY CAMERAS

Chief Shultz reported that she had some videos to show council. The first video is part of an elude that occurred in Elma with Officer Miller and an officer from the City of McCleary. The second and third videos portray some great de-escalating tactics by Sergeant Cristelli. Chief mentions that the cameras are working great, and she will be signing off on the contract very soon. This item can be removed from agenda.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS – THEATER DEMO & 10TH STREET PARK MAINTENANCE

Jim Starks reported that the City of Elma is still waiting to hear back on the grant for the theater demolition project as well as waiting on some paperwork for the park maintenance updates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety – Josh Collette mentioned that at the last public safety meeting they discussed the speed limit changes on each end of town.

Finance – Bethany Whipple-Boling thanked council for approving the 2024 budget.

Legislative – Mike Cooper reported that they are going to be putting together a request for the capital budget for the theater project based on what Rock Project Management suggests. A Senator has agreed to put in for \$30,000.00 for our AED's.

OTHER STAFF REPORTS

Police Chief – Susan Shultz reported that she will not be at the 1st council meeting of the year, so she wanted to share that it has been a joy working with both Jim Starks and Mayor Jim Sorensen.

Public Works Director – Jim Starks reported to council that he has also enjoyed the last 8 years working with Jim Sorensen as our Mayor.

Librarian – Dee Depoe thanked Chief Shultz for assisting with an in-service at the Elma Timberland Library. They had a successful VIP gaming event after the tree-lighting.

Chamber of Commerce – Jillanna reported on the tree-lighting event and mentioned that they had a great turn out. Lastly, she also wanted to thank Mayor Sorensen for everything he's done for the chamber. David, Assistant Director of the Chamber of Commerce, added that there are 28 wineries, 15 wine venders, 3 food vendors and approximately 70 tickets sold for the Winter Wine Festival.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Bethany Whipple-Boling – Echoed everyone’s sentiments about how great Mayor Sorensen was and how much he will be missed.

John Heater – Reported that he was thankful for the lessons and the knowledge that both Jim Sorensen and Jim Starks showed him over the last couple of years.

Josh Collette – Also thanked our public figures that will be leaving us very soon. Also reported that he wanted to give a shout out to the business owners for being so festive this year.

Mike Cooper – Reported that it has been a great year. He acknowledges council for all their accomplishments thus far. Mike mentions how irreplaceable Jim Starks is and what a pleasure it was.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Sorensen reported that the last 8 years have been amazing for him. Dealing with Covid-19 as a mayor is not an easy task. He also mentions that it has been a pleasure working with everyone at the City of Elma, he learned a lot and he looks forward to seeing what the future holds for him.

Josh Collette made a motion to cancel the regular council meeting on December 18, 2023, seconded by Pat Miller. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:05 p.m., Pat Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Josh Collette. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Jim Sorensen, Mayor

Amy Durga, Clerk-Treasurer