



# Elma City Council Meeting

February 20, 2024

## Minutes

In-Person Meeting with Zoom Option

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### CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Collette called the February 20, 2024, City Council Meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL:

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

### CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Agenda: February 20, 2024.

Approval of Minutes: February 5, 2024.

Approval of January 2024 Treasurers Report

Approval of Accounts Payable, including EFTs, for February 20, 2024, in the amount of \$55,166.69.

Andy's Auto Parts & Service in the amount of \$3,180.38 for a grand total of \$58,347.07. Checks #60090 – 60130

Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

### NEW BUSINESS – TEAMSTERS MOU ADD CLERK TREASURER ASSISTANT POSITION

Mayor Collette informed council that this concerns our Assistance Clerk Treasurer joining the Union.

Mike Cooper made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with Teamsters to add the Assistant Clerk-Treasurer to the bargaining unit, seconded by Jacob Borden. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

### NEW BUSINESS – TEAMSTERS MOU ADD PW FOREMAN POSITION

Mayor Collette informed council that this concerns adding a Public Works Foreman position to our Teamsters bargaining unit.

Mike Cooper made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with Teamsters to add a supervisor position titled Public Works Foreman to our bargaining unit agreement, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

### NEW BUSINESS – CONSULTANT AGREEMENT – ALLEYWAY SEWER REPLACEMENT

Public Works Director, Rick Eaton stated that this sewer line replacement would extend from South B Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. They will pull a new line through the existing line, eliminating the need to dig such large trenches. Bethany Whipple-Boling mentions that this business went to the Community Services committee, and they recommend approval for this project.

Bethany Whipple-Boling made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with Gibbs & Olson for the Alleyway Sewer Replacement, seconded by Mike Cooper. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

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.

## **NEW BUSINESS – YOUTH SMOKING & VAPING IN PARK – M RAINS AGENDA REQUEST**

Michael Rains informs the council that smoking and vaping is very harmful and can be a cause for concern. He mentions that other areas/cities already have ordinances or proclamations in place. Mr. Rains adds that in 2020, 43 cities in WA have laws/policies about smoking. Council members Mike Cooper, Bethany Whipple-Boling, Pat Miller, and Jacob Borden would like this business to go to the Public Safety committee for further discussion. Council member John Heater would like to see this business go to the work session first, then to the committee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Capital Projects – Mike Cooper reported that he spoke with Senator Van De Wege's office and the City of Elma's requested \$30,000.00 for defibrillators was put into their budget.

Community Services – Pat Miller reported that at their meeting, they discussed lighting for Main Street, the alleyway sewer replacement project with Gibbs & Olson, and lastly, they talked about updating the fee schedule in the Building Department.

Arts Commission Liaison – Bethany Whipple-Boling asks the mayor about the representatives or appointed members of this commission. She recalls there being a passed document, such as a resolution, stating who was appointed. Bethany Whipple-Boling would like to see this item on the next agenda for possible revision. Mike Cooper mentions that we can remove appointed positions if necessary.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Police Chief – Susan Shultz gives a written report stating that the Elma Police Department had 451 calls for service in the month of January 2024 which is averaging about 14 calls in each day. There were 180 traffic stops, 18 arrests, and lastly, their office staff helped 127 people who came in looking for assistance.

City Attorney – Chris Coker reported that he would need to check the code to be sure, but he believes that council member Mike Cooper is correct, if a committee or the appointed members of a commission are not performing their duties as assigned then they can be replaced if deemed necessary by the mayor.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORTS**

Chamber of Commerce – Jillanna reported that the attendance at the Winter Wine Festival was down about 300 people from the count last year, but they made up for that in some other departments of the festival; the silent auction raised about \$600.00 more than last year, and there were many more sponsors. Enhance Elma, Friday Market, City-Wide Garage Sale, and Heat on the Street are the next upcoming events for Elma's Chamber of Commerce.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Cemetery Grant Update – Mayor Josh Collette informs council that we received some correspondence from Kristen Bryant from Rock Project Management Services to let the City of Elma know that we were not selected for the Historic Cemetery Grant.

Steve Fox Letter – Mayor Josh Collette explained to council that a previous letter received by Steve Fox referred to a code from Grays Harbor County, not from the City of Elma. Our code currently does not address situations like this, but our staff will be in the works of coming up with a complaint form for matters that go against our codes. Bethany Whipple-Boling would like to see this matter go to the work session. Mike Cooper reminds the council that we need to tread lightly on telling people that they cannot camp in their own backyard, Chris Coker agrees with council member Mike Cooper. Council would like this discussion added to March's work session.

### **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Pat Miller – Reports to the council on the unsafety of the intersection at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Young Street. He believes that vehicles should not be parked so close to the intersections due to the lack of visibility it causes drivers.

Mike Cooper – Wanted to congratulate the Elma High School wrestling team for having 3 wrestlers place in the state level. Lastly, he mentions the great lunch menu at the Senior Center to promote them.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Josh Collette reported that he intends to have a written mayor's report at the first meeting of every month.

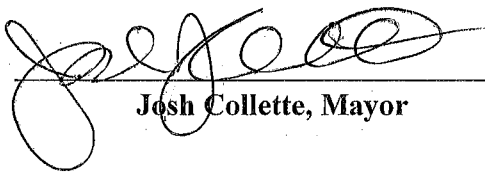
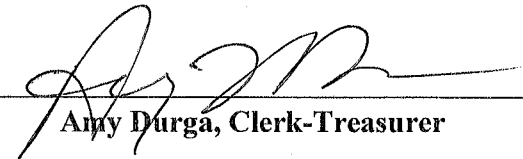
### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Work Session will be Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

The next Council Meeting will be Monday, March 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:51 p.m., Pat Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bethany Whipple-Boling. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

  
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Josh Collette, Mayor  
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Amy Durga, Clerk-Treasurer