

Minutes
1439th Regular Council Meeting
October 9, 2024

5:00 p.m. Executive Session

RCW 42.30.110 (1)

(b) To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price;

(d) To review negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contracts when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased costs;

(g) - To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.

Mayor Poch opened the executive session at 5:03pm. and estimated the end time to be 6:00pm.

Attendees: Mayor Poch, Councilmembers Schmidt, Adkins (joined at 5:09pm) and St. Jeor, Clerk Stefani Bowden, and Attorneys Mick Howe and Ron Van Wert. Police Chief Paul Bowden joined around 5:40pm.

Mayor Poch closed the session at 5:59pm. No action was taken in the executive session.

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Poch called the 1439th regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Merv Schmidt, John Adkins and Keith St. Jeor. Kevin Black and Larry Hall were excused absent.

Staff Present: Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Police Chief Paul Bowden.

Scott Hunter of the Star Newspaper and Berdie Hensley were also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

John Adkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

Berdie Hensley presented information on the National Purple Heart Association and wanted to let the community know that there is a registry for Purple Heart holders to be added to the database. She has applications for any local individuals that hold a Purple Heart to be added to the registry. She is also looking into forming a local Purple Heart Organization.

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

(m/s Adkins/Schmidt) to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

(m/s St. Jeor/Adkins) to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – September 11, 2024

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No. 41873 through 41892 and EFTs dated September 25, 2024 in the total amount of \$ 56,045.16.

Claim Voucher No. 41902 through 41934 and EFTs dated October 9, 2024 in the total amount of \$ 88,960.07.

Payroll Checks: Payroll Check No.'s 41870 through 41871, 41893 through 41901, EFT's and direct deposits dated September 15, 16, 27 and 30, 2024 in the total amount of \$180,798.00.

Action Agenda

- a. Echo Ridge Cinema – HVAC & Approval of Building Improvements
Echo Ridge Cinema owner Larry Hernandez requested approval to replace HVAC system with new roof mount units. The units will sit on the curbing of the roof. Superintendent Mike Steffens had some concerns regarding foot traffic on the old roof in order to maintain the new units. The council has been researching and budgeting to replace the roof for many years but the city has not had enough funds to complete the project. Hernandez is also requesting council's approval to replace the broken glass windows in the box office. The HVAC and repairs will be done at the owner's expense. (m/s Adkins/Schmidt) to approve the installation of the HVAC units and replacement of the box office window as requested.. Motion carried.
- b. Ferry Ave Trees – DNR Grant
Clerk Stefani Bowden updated the council on the status of the grant received from DNR to replace the trees on Ferry Ave. The grant agreement should be close to execution. The work plan has been submitted by the Town's engineers to DNR.

c. Lease Agreement – Fish & Chips Truck

Captain's Cod has been re-branded and is now On the Hook Fish & Chips. They are requesting a new lease under the new name to park their truck on Mead Way on occasion. (m/s Schmidt/St. Jeor) to approve the lease as written. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

a. Fiber Optics Franchise Agreement – Colville Tribes

The Colville Tribes is asking for an agreement to install and operate a Fiber Optics system in the Town of Coulee Dam. The requested area indicates that it will also include west Coulee Dam. An agreement has been drafted and is still under review by the Town's committee and the Tribes. The Clerk was asked to verify that tree trimming was included in the agreement.

b. 2025 Budget

The 2025 budget season is here. The Clerk asked the council when they would like to hold workshops. It was agreed that the hour before each upcoming council meeting should work well. The Clerk will schedule budget workshops for every Wednesday evening at 5pm, beginning October 23rd through the 2nd council meeting in November.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Public Works

Superintendent Mike Steffens reported that the TIB Chip Seal Project is closing out. The project went well.

Clerk

Clerk Stefani Bowden informed the council that an Arbor Day Tree Planting Event will take place on Tuesday morning on Stevens Ave.

There are a couple of activities currently going on for the employee wellness program. The Clerk pointed out that the Superintendent and Police Chief were both wearing their uniforms with a pink Coulee Dam logo. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and all employees were provided with pink logo shirts to show support and bring awareness. There is also a challenge provided by AWC taking place called "Step to the Summit" in which city employees across the state form and join teams to track steps taken each day. Coulee Dam has 3 teams competing in the challenge. 11 out of 13 employees are participating, which is the highest participation rate Coulee Dam has ever had. The Clerk expressed how proud she was of everyone for stepping up the challenge and for participating in the wellness program.

Police

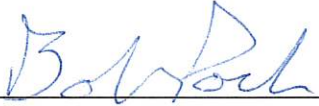
Chief Paul Bowden reminded the council that Mead Way will be closed the coming Friday afternoon and evening for the Chamber's Art's and Culture Festival. The south lane of Roosevelt Way will also be closed on Saturday for the event.


Public Input

None

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm.

Mayor 
Bob Poch

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden