



Minutes
1440th Regular Council Meeting
October 23, 2024

5:00 p.m. - 2025 Budget Workshop

Attendees: Mayor Poch, Councilmembers Merv Schmidt, John Adkins and Keith St. Jeor, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden. Renata Rollins of The Star newspaper was also in attendance.

Funds reviewed and discussed included Public Safety Capital Reserve (004), General Municipal Purposes Reserve (006) and Realty Excise Tax (301). Discussions took place on what the ¼% Realty Excise Tax can be used for. Any expenditures from that fund must be included in the Town's capital facilities plan. A copy of the current capital facilities plan was distributed to the council members. The Clerk stated that the stairs in front of Town Hall are, and have been, for many years, in need of repair which is included in the capital facilities plan. Estimates are currently being obtained. The community building roof is another area where the funds can be used. The town has earmarked \$150,000 in the past few years' budgets but has been unable to carry the project out with that dollar amount. More research and estimates will be obtained. No final decisions were made during the workshop.

Mayor Poch adjourned the workshop at 5:29pm so that an executive session could be conducted.

5:30 p.m. Executive Session

RCW 42.30.110 (1)

(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 5:30pm. and estimated the end time to be 5:40pm.

Attendees: Mayor Poch, Councilmembers Schmidt, Adkins and St. Jeor, Clerk Stefani Bowden, Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens and Attorney Ron Van Wert.

The Clerk notified the public at 5:40 that the executive session was extended by an additional 5 minutes.

Mayor Poch closed the session at 5:45pm. No action was taken in the executive session.

6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Poch called the 1440th 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.

Renata Rollins of The Star Newspaper and Larry Hernandez were also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Poch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

None

Updates and Modifications to Agenda

Theater Lease Amendment Request and a Special Occasion Liquor License application were added to the Action Agenda. (m/s Schmidt/St. Jeor) to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

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

Minutes Regular Council Meeting – October 9, 2024

Vouchers: Claim Vouchers and Checks:
Claim Voucher No. 41935 through 41954 and EFTs dated October 23, 2024 in the total amount of \$ 61,562.01

Action Agenda

- a. Ordinance No. 822, 2024 Budget Amendment
(m/s Adkins/Schmidt) to adopt Ordinance No. 822 amending the 2024 Budget.
Motion carried.
- b. Theater Lease Agreement
Lessee Larry Hernandez requested an extension of one additional year of waived rental payments due to the high costs of renovations, which would be a total of 2 years of waived rent. (m/s Adkins/Schmidt) to accept the request contingent upon the attorney's review. St. Jeor questioned the requirement in the existing agreement regarding opening the business prior to renovation completion. After further discussion, Adkins rescinded his motion. The Clerk will work with the attorney to draft an amendment to the agreement.
- c. Special Occasion Liquor License
A request for a Special Liquor License was received from the Liquor Control Board for the Chamber of Commerce's fundraiser event being held in December in the

Coulee Dam Town Hall Ballroom. With no objections voiced by the council, the Mayor will approve the application of the license.

- d. Approval of Town Attorney to continue negotiations
(m/s St. Jeor/Schmidt) to direct Attorney VanWert to proceed with negotiations as discussed during the executive session. Motion carried.

Discussion Agenda

- a. Community Town Hall Meeting
A community-wide public meeting has been set for November 6, 2024 at 6:00pm to discuss EMS services. This meeting will be held in the Coulee Dam Ballroom with Electric City, Grand Coulee, Elmer City and Coulee Dam Mayors conducting the meeting.
- b. Fall Clean-up
Mayor Poch notified the council that the Regional Board of Mayors fall clean-up at the transfer station has been scheduled for October 26th. This is a free event and is for self-haul only.

Staff, Council & Committee Report

Clerk

Clerk Stefani Bowden has scheduled 2025 Budget Workshops for every Wednesday evening at 5pm until the budget is adopted.

Public Input

Larry Hernandez gave the council an update on the happenings at the Cinema and invited everyone to attend the 2 movie showings that he has planned for the Halloween weekend.

Adjournment

Mayor Poch adjourned the meeting at 6:18pm.

Mayor 
Bob Poch

Clerk 
Stefani Bowden