



**Minutes**  
**1454<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting**  
**July 23, 2025**

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**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 Pro-Tem St. Jeor opened the executive session at 5:31pm. and estimated the end time to be 6:00pm.

Attendees: Councilmembers Black, Schmidt, Adkins (teleconference) and St. Jeor, Attorney Ron VanWert (teleconference) and Clerk Stefani Bowden.

Mayor Pro-Tem St. Jeor adjourned the executive session at 5:54pm.

**6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting**

Mayor Pro-Tem St. Jeor called the 1454<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Coulee Dam Town Council to order at 6:00pm.

**Roll Call**

Council members present: Kevin Black, Merv Schmidt, John Adkins (teleconference) and Keith St. Jeor.

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

Scott Hunter of The Star newspaper, Kystal Fillis and Jillian Fillis of the Chamber of Commerce, Shayla Deckwa, Calvin Jolly, Alexis Morales, Brenda Reyes and John Reyes were also in attendance.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mike Steffens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input**

Shayla Deckwa, Alexis Morales, Calvin Jolly, Brenda Reyes and John Reyes spoke in regard to the application submitted to construct and operate a coffee stand on Town-owned property that will be addressed during the Action Agenda. The proposed location will be in the street right-of-way, on the south side of Sixth Street, between Holly Street and Pine Street, adjacent to the

Tribal Museum. Plot plans, building dimensions and photos were provided. The business will be connected to all city utilities. Water and electrical connections already exist near the location. Sewer services will need to be installed but there shouldn't be an issue.

### **Updates and Modifications to Agenda**

The Clerk requested to add the approval of the Water Use Efficiency Goals to the Action Agenda.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

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Vouchers:                      Claim Vouchers and Checks:  
Claim Voucher No. 42464 through 42484 and EFTs dated July 23, 2025 in the total amount of \$ 81,330.09.

Manual Vouchers:        EFT-WEXBANKEXXONJune25 dated July 14, 2025 in the amount of \$2.27.

### **Action Agenda**

- a. Pre-Application for Use of Town-Owned Property  
A Pre-Application for Private Use of Town-Owned Property was submitted by Shayla Deckwa and Alexis Morales to use a portion of the south side of the Sixth Street right-of-way, between Holly and Pine Streets, to construct and operate a standalone, drive-through and walk-up coffee shop. (m/s Schmidt/Black) to approve the pre-application. Motion carried. The Clerk will work with the Town attorney, Lease Committee and applicants to negotiate and draft an agreement.
- b. Bid Award – TIB ADA Ramp Upgrades Project  
(m/s Adkins/Black) to award the construction of the ADA Ramp Upgrades Project to Rudnick and Sons and accept the additional TIB grant funding to cover the entire project. Motion carried.
- c. DNR Wildfire Response Agreement  
Fire Chief Ben Alling requested that the council approve an agreement with DNR for wildfire response allowing any Red Card certified firefighters from the Coulee Dam Fire Department to assist with DNR fires when requested. This agreement also allows the Coulee Dam Fire Department to apply and receive grant funding, which is typically a 50/50% grant for wildland firefighting supplies and gear. (m/s Schmidt/Black) to approve the DNR Wildfire Response Agreement and authorize the Fire Chief to execute said agreement. Motion carried.
- d. Ordinance No. 831 – 2025 Amended Salaries and Wages  
(m/s Schmidt/Black) to adopt Ordinance No. 831, amending the 2025 Salaries and Wages. Motion carried.

### **Discussion Agenda**

- a. Fire Chief Ben Alling – Request for Town Support in Honoring Tim Lynch  
Fire Chief Alling notified the council that Tim Lynch, a resident of Coulee Dam, after discovering a house fire on Camas Street, woke the residents in the house and rescued a family from the burning house. Chief Alling is requesting the Town support an application to the American Legion to recognize and award Tim Lynch for his heroic act. The council was in support, and the Clerk will research what can be done to assist in the process.

### **Staff, Council & Committee Report**

None

### **Public Input**

None.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Pro-Tem St. Jeor adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem

Keith St. Jeor  
Keith St. Jeor

Clerk

Stefani Bowden  
Stefani Bowden