

**COLFAX CITY COUNCIL**  
**May 6, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL:**

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guenther, Sevedge and Huntwork: Present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Mackleit to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2024 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

**GOOD OF THE CITY:**

Thank you to Umpqua Bank for litter pick-up on the Palouse Highway to Hauser entrance. Also, a big thank you to community members that pick up garbage around the city to keep everything looking good.

Retzer thanked Blaine Golden and Allie Cofer for drafting the Pool Closure Press Release.

**BILLS AND CLAIMS:**

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Guentner to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

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**CLAIMS**

9600, 9629,9338,9647-9708

\$154,226.76

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**PAYROLL**

9601-9328,9630-9637, 9639-9646 & EFT

\$113,440.25

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**GRAND TOTAL: \$267,667.01**

**CITIZENS REQUEST:**

Dennis Solbrack read his letter he submitted for council review regarding building a home.

Mayor Retzer informed Solbrack the matter is in the hands of the attorney's right now and until the council has something to vote on, that is where it stands.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:**

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### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Pool Update:

City Administrator Chris Mathis reported the city received and accepted a bid from WMS Aquatics for the pool renovations. They plan to begin the project mid-July. WMS has invoiced the city for the down payment for the project and WMS will start the permitting process.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Interim Police Chief:**

Retzer introduced the Interim Police Chief Erica Warren. This will be a three month appointment; Officer Tate will also serve as Interim Police Chief after Warren finishes her three months. In that time Retzer encouraged the two candidates to seek training to improve upon themselves before applying again. The city will advertise and open the application process up for the vacant police chief position.

Warren briefly told the council a little about herself. She has been in law enforcement since 2015. She was a Sergeant for Couer d' Alene Tribal Police before taking a short break and deciding she missed it she got back into law enforcement. Warren has been with the City of Colfax since June of 2023.

Warren took the Police Chief Oath of Office.

#### **Chicken Ordinance Request:**

Schaefer requested the council revisit the Chicken Ordinance that was previously brought before council. Schaefer has had several citizens request this topic be brought back before the council. Schaefer doesn't want this to be a big issue for the police and doesn't think it would be any more than what they deal with dogs or any other animals in the city limits.

Mathis stated the chicken topic has come before council three times since she has been here. There is an actual ordinance that the Planning Commission approved and we can bring that previous ordinance back before council for review.

Huntwork has concerns with allowing chickens and has had citizens that do not want chickens contact him, he would like it put on the ballot for citizens to vote on.

Discussion ensued whether this should be a council decision or a vote on the ballot.

Mathis stated we could put out another well publicized survey.

Retzer stated the citizens vote the council in here to make good decisions. Retzer went on to say the previous survey regarding chickens results showed the citizens wanted chickens and the council voted it down.

Golden made a motion to bring the Chicken Ordinance back before council, seconded by McRae.  
Roll Call: All Yes.

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**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Police:**

Warren reported she has signed the officers up for Emergency Vehicle Operations Course refresher. Firefighter John Lautenslager will be training the officers in Stop the Bleed. Warren reported they have had an increase in dogs in the pound the last couple of weeks.

**Fire:**

Lautenslager reported the department certified new drivers for driving fire apparatus. Lautenslager is working on a job shadow waiver form for high school students.

**Administration:**

Mathis reported VFI updated CPR and First Aid certification for city staff last week.

Mathis reported for Public Works, the Morton Street project got underway last week, right now replacing water hook ups. Due to the bid coming in low they were able to add a little more to the scope of work.

Motley-Motley has been great at letting the area in which they are working know what is going on. They have gone door to door and put out door hangers alerting residents.

**COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

**MAYORS REPORT:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

  
Jim Retzer, Mayor

  
Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk