

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
June 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guentner, and Huntwork: Present. Golden and Sevedge: Absent.
A motion was entered by Guentner, seconded by Schaefer to excuse Golden and Sevedge. Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Huntwork to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2024 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Pearson Farm and Fence building was recently painted.

Fonk's is coming along nicely.

CDA had a national check in, they are doing really well compared to many downtowns across the United States.

Chamber of Commerce continues with their mixer held the 2nd Thursday of each month.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

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

CLAIMS

9758-9759, 9767-9772, 9785-9843

\$682,735.87

PAYROLL

9750-9757, 9760-9766, 9777-9784 & EFT (VOID 9773-9776

\$164,430.55

GRAND TOTAL: \$847,166.42

CITIZENS REQUEST:

Aleta Heiner and Donna Huntwork:

Donna Huntwork from the LDS Church stated they are looking for a service project, they have about 40 to 50 people available to work on a project this summer.

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Diane Solbrack, 510 Moller Road, read letter sent out to council.

Mayor Retzer responded to Solbrack stating he and City Administrator Chris Mathis have met with the Solbrack's, discussed several options with them, they have access to their property. Retzer went on to say the city has been in continual contact with the attorney and have not asked them to stall, the attorney delay is not caused by Mathis, the council or the mayor. Retzer has done what he can to get a response from the attorney and at this point we just have to wait until they respond.

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chicken Ordinance Discussion:

Council received the proposed Ordinance 21-02 Animal Update that included the chicken section. Mathis stated this is what the Planning Commission worked on back in 2021 and then presented to the council. At that time the council passed the animal update excluding the chicken portion. Mathis asked the council if they were good with what the Planning Commission presented or if they would like this sent back to the them for a rework.

Guenthner would like to see it more equitable for citizens with smaller yards.

Huntwork would like more time to look it over.

Mathis asked that the council review and come next time with a decision to vote on as is or have the Planning Commission work on it further.

NEW BUSINESS:

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Interim Chief Erica Warren reported they have been working on a stolen golf cart case, three golf carts were stolen from the Colfax Golf Course.

Retzer stated at this time the WSP, Whitman County and Colfax Police are working on this case. A golf cart and clubs were recently stolen from Odessa Golf Course as well.

Warren has been working with Public Works Director Matt Hammer on moving cars in preparation of the Otta Seal project that will begin next week.

Warren reported the department is trending a little lower on crime cases, tickets are higher and the department is making training a high priority.

Public Works:

Hammer reported Morton Street is progressing rapidly, they ground up Morton then graded and smoothed it out. They will tear out the other streets next week.

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Otta Seal starts next week.

The Consumer Confidence Report will go out next week, there is an extra notice that will be included this year. Hammer stated they missed a testing schedule and the violation notice will be included with the report, this is a requirement from the Washington State Department of Health. Hammer went on to say they have put steps in place to not overlook this testing again.

Hammer stated pool work has slowly started as well.

McRae asked about signs that have faded and are covered by brush and branches. Hammer stated he has crews out working on that.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

Retzer reported there is a police officer candidate taking his polygraph today and another taking his physical test tomorrow.

Retzer reported for Fire:

Fire Chief Craig Corbeill went to Utah to pick up a new fire truck that will replace the brush truck. Corbeill drove 40 miles before it broke down, the transfer case went out. The dealership went and picked it up and will replace the transfer case and ship the truck to Colfax. They also paid for Corbeill to fly back home. Corbeill reported to Retzer while he was out there he was able to test the truck out and it is well equipped for our needs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk