

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
July 5, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guentner, Kackman and Huntwork: Present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2022 Council meeting. Roll Call: McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guentner, Kackman and Golden: Yes. Huntwork: Abstained.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

New mural on the Whitman County Public Works Building looks great.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

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

CLAIMS

7700-7701, 7708-7723 & EFT
\$27,627.43

PAYROLL

7673-7699, 7702-7707 & EFT
\$83,967.37

GRAND TOTAL: \$111,594.80

NEW BUSINESS:

City Hall Roof Repair- Discussion:

City Administrator Chris Mathis reported the Fire Department and City Hall roof has had issues for quite a while, the leaks over the fire have been patched several times. Mathis went on to say as long as she has been here we have hardly put a dime into the up keep of this building. The first obstacle was to get someone to come out look and get us a bid. Two bids were received, the low bid is \$80,000 and the other is \$125,000. The bids are quite a bit different as the second company discovered there is not insulation on the police and city hall side and their bid included adding insulation. Also, the first company wanted the city to remove and dispose of the existing gravel that is on the roof, where the second company included that in their bid. Mathis stated we can use ARPA funds for replacing the roof.

Mathis asked the council on their thoughts on doing this project, if done this will come back before them as a budget amendment.

Hammer stated both roofs will be membranes and both options have lifetime guarantees.

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The consensus of the council is to go ahead and do the work while AARPA funds are available to use.

Fire Chief Chapman stated there is a lot of old technology that will need to be removed from the roof in preparation.

Morton Street Upgrades- Discussion:

Public Works Director Matt Hammer has started on a grant application for TIB Funds to rebuild Morton Street and Sumner Street. One of the questions in the application asks if the city will be willing to spend city funds or going for loans or grants to rebuild the water and sewer infrastructure as needed. Hammer stated they haven't done an inspection of all the utility lines in the streets yet but this is a time sensitive issue so he can move forward with the application. Part of Morton has a portion of new water and part of new sewer lines and Sumner has a portion of new water lines. Hammer does not have a cost estimate right now. We did this for Cedar and Oak Street and it was about \$500,000 for water and sewer upgrades. Hammer stated water is at over 1 million in reserves and the sewer reserve is at \$930,000.

Kackman is more inclined to rebuild the street and not touch the utilities.

Hammer stated the mains are PVC but his concern are the service lines which are galvanized and have had a few issues. Hammer suggested the possibility of replacing the service lines. Sumner is part PVC and part galvanized with no sewer line on Sumner.

Kackman asked if Hammer suspects any leakage on Morton Street. Hammer doesn't believe there is. Kackman agreed that would be a good compromise leave the main and replace the service lines as needed.

Hammer will hire someone to come run tests to find out what the material and condition is of the lines on both streets. This project is on our TIP plan for 2023-2024. Our portion of the TIB Grant would be 5%. Hammer informed the council there is two sewer lines that run down Morton Street, and both have water flow in them, this will also be part of the investigation as to why there are two active lines. Hammer stated if we commit to doing repairs as needed, he can proceed with the application.

The consensus of the council is to investigate the lines and the condition they are in and go ahead with application.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works:

Hammer reported they started a budgeted paving project in the intersections of Cromwell and Cooper and Cromwell and Moller. Cooper and Cromwell was not completed due to two water leaks were discovered. Unfortunately, they had asphalt there for the project and were not able to complete, we possibly will be paying for asphalt twice, which could be about \$7,000.

Hammer asked if they could recycle some of the asphalt for another project, they said they would check with corporate. Hammer stated this is an example of why they need to get the new water meters in so we can catch these leaks and not have things like this happen. Currently there are

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110 new meters installed. Hammer went ahead and purchased the remaining meters, There would have been a 23% increase if we didn't order before July 1st. We will be billed as the new meters come in.

Golden asked Hammer if he likes how they are working.

Hammer stated they have caught a couple of leaks already with the newly installed meters.

Kackman asked if the irrigation for the parks is in compliance with the recommendation in the water report for irrigators.

Hammer stated yes, of course. The recommendation is every other day for 20 minutes. Hammer is hoping residents will follow the recommendation so we will not have to enforce water restrictions. This is due to the Clay Street Well being out of service as we wait for parts for the repair.

Fire:

Chapman reported one our full time firefighters Dean Walker has left us, right now we are using our part-timers to fill in those shifts. The process has begun to hire a new firefighter, we will hold our own CPAT test again before scheduling oral boards.

Administration:

Mathis reminded everyone of the 150 Celebration that is coming up. Besides being involved in a lot of the mechanics of the event, the city will do the fountain dedication, the parade and the fire will be doing an obstacle course for kids in the Washington Federal Parking lot. We will have city staff on duty that day to help with the event as needed. The banners for advertisement have arrived and will be put up this week.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Jim Retzer, Mayor



Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk