

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
November 4, 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 McRae to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2024 Council meeting. Roll Call: McRae, Mackleit, Guenther, Huntwork and Golden: Yes. Schaefer and Sevedge: Abstained.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Friday November 15th the NCAA Cross Country West Regionals will be held at the Colfax Golf Course, with 40 teams and over 400 athletes. Women's 6K will start at 11:00 a.m. and the Men's 10K will start at 12:00 p.m.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

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

CLAIMS	PAYROLL
#10214-10251 & EFT	#10202-10221 & EFT
\$77,796.50	\$102,060.56

GRAND TOTAL: \$179,857.06

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 24-08- Water System Plan Update:

City Administrator Matt Hammer reported the water system plan was updated and approved by council in May 2023 with Resolution 23-06. It was then presented to the Department of Health, Hammer thought we would be ready to pass this after the Department of Health reviewed, but

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there are a few more issues that ironed out. Nothing has changed in the document we need to confirm public comment and letters sent out to the surrounding businesses for wellhead protection was completed. This will come before council for a vote once these steps have been met.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Interim Police Chief Perry Tate reported Cody Johnson is currently at the Police Academy and passed his first big test.

Fire:

Firefighter John Lautenslager reported their newest volunteers are half way through the EMT course.

Public Works:

Hammer stated they are busy picking up leaves. They will also be spending some time this week out on the North Palouse River Road to add some gravel.

Administration:

Hammer went over a few minor changes on the budget numbers from the budget workshop. We dropped the water / sewer increase from 10% increase to the 3.5% which is typical for the water sewer yearly increase.

Hammer received quotes for a couple generators since the workshop. The sewer budget will increase \$10,000 in capital, \$55,000 is for the collectors for the water meters and \$85,000 for generator, bringing the total to \$140,000.

The water side there will be \$55,000 for the other ½ of the collectors and \$85,000 for the replacement generator at Hauser Addition, totaling \$140,000.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

Retzer stated the funeral for City Administrator Chris Mathis was rough for all of us. Retzer and Mathis had already been planning for Amanda Link to take over the finance, thinking we would have more time, but it didn't work out that way. Amanda Link and Lynda Kramlich attended a finance bootcamp, Link has a network of people to reach out to for assistance from the class and other avenues. The Pullman Mayor also reached out and is offering help if needed. Link has been digging in and doing a great job with what she has to do in a short period of time. Link has been paying the bills for last several council meetings.

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Retzer went on to say Matt Hammer will be taking on City Administrator half time and Public Works Director half time. City Hall staff has been really digging in and working hard to make sure things are getting done. Everyone has been stepping up into their new roles.

Shawn McSweeney has been making progress on the pool project, keeping up with project deadlines and reporting.

Retzer stated he sat down with the staff and encouraged open communications while we transition.

Guenthner asked if they are being compensated for their new roles.

Retzer stated that is in discussion, he doesn't expect everyone to jump into new roles without being compensated fairly.

Retzer went on to say Chris's family did an amazing job on her funeral, Chris had an amazing life and wonderful family. Chris did a great job here at the city and left a lasting impact on the City of Colfax.

Gary Young asked if the Park Board meeting could be moved to accommodate the guy he has coming to present about the skate park, as he can't make it until 7:15 p.m.

Retzer stated we may be able to have him present to the council with the Park Board members attending the council meeting. Kramlich will invite the members to stay for council to hear the presentation.


Retzer and Hammer met with the new WSDOT Eastern Region Administrator Charlene Kay. They had a good discussion about the roundabout, she will give updates to the city when available. She also had visited about the greenway. She is in support of a walking path to get kids and pedestrians off of the main traffic area. While in the area she also met with the Pullman Mayor as well.

Golden stated the WSDOT has always been in support of Greenway, but what they can actually do is different from just their support.


EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.



Jim Retzer, Mayor



Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk