

**COLFAX CITY COUNCIL**  
**November 18, 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 and Sevedge: Present. Huntwork: Absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Mackleit to excuse Huntwork. Roll Call: All Yes.

**GOOD OF THE CITY:**

NCAA Cross Country Meet was a great day.

**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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<b>CLAIMS</b>	<b>PAYROLL</b>
#10252-10296	#10253-10259 & EFT
\$598,685.82	\$60,482.51

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**GRAND TOTAL: \$659,168.33**

**CITIZENS REQUEST:**

Hope Haven:

Teasha Trombetta, 420 W Fairview, is currently working on getting the former Paul's Place, now Hope Haven, opened up for patients. The state has turned down their application due to pending litigation with previous owner. Trombetta and her crew started a new application which resulted in many hurdles to get through. They are waiting on the fire inspector to give final approval. They want to start with 15 rooms available for rent, these rooms will not have skilled nursing. They will have breakfast and a light soup dinner available to these customers. They plan to keep moving towards getting licensed through the state to provide skilled nursing in the future, with 30 rooms total, 15 for rent to private pay customers and 15 skilled nursing.

DSHS has requested blue prints of the building. John Thomas, 901 Hilty Road, has been tasked with drawing exact measurements of each room, the blue prints of the building they found are very discolored and faded. Thomas went on to say the cost to keep the lights on each month is

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\$5,000, they need to complete the fire inspection soon to open the doors for clients to be able to keep going.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

#### **Levy Certification: Resolution 24-08-**

Mayor Retzer opened the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

City Clerk Lynda Kramlich stated this is a 1% increase on the regular property tax levy, we have taken the increase for the last several years. In the past up to a 6% increase was available, Initiative 601 was passed that limits the maximum increase to 1%. The amount of increase for 2025 will be \$4,835.93.

Retzer asked for public comment for the levy certification. There were none.

Retzer asked for public comment against the levy certification. There were none.

Retzer asked for additional comments. There were none.

Retzer closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

Mackleit struggles with this every year, but it is such a minimal amount he would like to make a motion to pass this.

Golden stated this helps us keep up with inflation even though we struggle to keep up with inflation. This helps our city staff and department heads to create their budgets and keep ahead of inflation, he is supportive of taking the 1%, even though our taxes will go up.

A motion was entered by Mackleit, seconded by Golden to approve Resolution 24-08 Levy Certification. Roll Call: All Yes.

### **PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **Skate Park Presentation:**

Aaron Flansburg, 14231 SR 27, Palouse, discussed the process it took to build the Palouse concrete skatepark. It was built on private property with years of fundraising and donations to accomplish the task. They started in 2000, then in 2012 they came back with a coalition of people and donated property to build on. In 2014 they established a 501(c)(3) organization to receive the donated land, they pay taxes and maintenance on the park with continued donations. In 2015 Flansburg obtained his general contractor license to manage the project of building the

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skatepark. They built the bowl first then over the next 3 years completed the rest, all with donations and dedicated volunteers.

Retzer informed Flansburg that Colfax is planning on renovating what we have currently, and asked if Flansburg had any ideas. Retzer went on to say our park was also built on donations, fundraising and with many volunteers.

Flansburg stated the American Ramp Company (ARC) is a good company, they did have a recall on the copings. At the least he would suggest welding the copings to rebuild them. Another thought would be to lag the corners into the ground to take out the flex which causes the additional breakdown. He suggested asking the local skateboard community what they would want.

Gary Young stated to restore what is there, he has clubs in town that can fund that. There are grants that can help fund an expansion of the skatepark, the application process for grants opens in January.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Public Works:

City Administrator Matt Hammer reported public works has been doing some inside building maintenance.

Hammer also reported he heard from WSDOT; they have hit some delays on the roundabout. The new timeline looks like they will go out for bid December 2025 and begin work in March 2026.

### **COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Retzer adjourned the council meeting at 7:42 p.m. to enter into the Metropolitan Park District.

Retzer reconvened the council meeting at 7:46 p.m.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

#### **MAYORS REPORT:**

Retzer briefly went over the pay scale explaining Hammer went up 2 steps for his new position of City Administrator/ Public Work Director.

Hammer stated this is pay scale that City Administrator Chris Mathis presented to the council last year.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

  
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Jim Retzer, Mayor

  
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Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk