



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 15, 2020

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on April 15, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28 which temporarily suspended the requirement to provide a physical location for public meetings, this meeting is being conducted telephonically using the ZOOM audio only conferencing. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim.

Mayor Reim took a verbal roll call.

Members Present: Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Mark Wanke, Matt Moore, Valli Millard, Sarah McDonnell, Tony Mora, and Kathleen Allstot.

Staff Present: City Administrator Mike Warren, City Attorney Anna Franz, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Community Relations Director Traci Bennett and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Agenda: Administrator Warren advised that the Agenda is amended adding Item 2 Section VI – adding Resolution 20-009.

Presentations: None

Consent Agenda: Motion was made to approve consent agenda. (m/s McDonnell/Moore) Motion carried.

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #91733 through #91819 in the amount of \$294,453.89
Payroll Check #46631 through #46649 in the amount of \$34,339.73
Payroll Claims #91706 through #91724 in the amount of \$248,488.07
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$6,000.00
Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$194,931.42
Claims #91624 through #91705 in the amount of \$9,414.31
Claims #91725 through #91732 in the amount of \$1,127.85

Manual Claims #86042020, 87042020, 88042020, 89042020 in the amount of \$2,731.11

EFT in the amount of \$19,823.90

Minutes of the March 18, 2020 Council meeting

Staff Report – Ephrata Parks & Recreation Reopen BOLD as Essential Child Care:

Director Bennett reported that due to all Washington State public schools closing for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, she would like to re-establish the BOLD program on May 4, 2020 full-time. This is six weeks earlier than the normal schedule. The BOLD Program provides essential child care for many families.

Council discussion ensued regarding compliance with the new guidelines for best practices in this environment and coordination with County Health Department. Director Bennett was given direction to work with Counsel and Grant County Health Department.

Resolution 20-008 – Coronavirus Response Act (Leave): Washington State Governor issued Emergency Proclamation 20-05, declaring a state of emergency in all Washington counties due to the existence and spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. On March 18, 2020, US Congress approved and the President signed HR 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which requires employers to provide paid leave to employees as a result of quarantine and closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This resolution establishes policies and procedures for implementing leave authorized by the FFCRA.

This Resolution was amended to include additional verbiage from Department of Labor as reported by Counsel.

Council discussion ensued.

Motion to ratify, approve and accept Resolution 20-008. (m/s Moore/Millard) Motion carried.

Resolution 20-009 – Water Well #3 Emergency Repair: On April 2nd, the City had a catastrophic pump failure at Water Well #3. This Well services the northwest (Grandview Heights) area and is one of two pumps for this section of the City. Time is of the essence in getting this well operational to ensure adequate water supply for fire protection, to protect the public health and safety, and prevent property damage. This Resolution declares the existence of an emergency and waives the statutory competitive bidding requirements.

It was reported that the repair work has been awarded to Irrigation Technology & Control, Inc. out of East Wenatchee. Allowing time for the required pump and parts to be received, it is anticipated work will begin April 22nd.

Motion to approve and accept Resolution 20-009 – Water Well #3 Emergency Repair. (m/s Moore/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Extension of Resolution 20-006 to April 30, 2020: This Resolution was initially enacted March 16th and addressed the compensation of City employees during the time the City and State is under a Health Crisis State of Emergency and was set to terminate on March 31st. The State of Emergency has been extended by the Governor through the month of April. Mayor Reim has given direction to extend Resolution 20-006 and continue with office closures and maintain essential functions until April 30, 2020 at which time the current state of affairs will be re-evaluated.

Motion to ratify Mayor Reim's direction to extend Resolution 20-006 to April 30, 2020. (m/s Mora/Allstot) Motion carried.

City Administrator Report: None scheduled at this time.

Council Discussion ensued on the potential impact of the Coronavirus on the City from a financial perspective and a social level and how small businesses are accessing the resources made available from the government.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk