



## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **August 5, 2020**

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on August 5, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28, this meeting is being conducted telephonically using the ZOOM audio only conferencing.

**Members Present:** Mayor Bruce Reim, Mayor Pro Tem William Coe, Council members Mark Wanke, Matt Moore, Sarah McDonnell, and Kathleen Allstot

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Mike Warren, City Attorney Anna Franz, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Interim Police Chief Erik Koch, Community Relations Director Traci Bennett, Building Official Bill Cox, and City Clerk/Finance Director Leslie Trachsler

This meeting is being recorded for testing purposes.

Motion to excuse Council member Mora. (m/s Allstot/McDonnell) Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Agenda:** There were no additions or correction to the agenda.

**Presentations:** None

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

Claims #92210 through #92265 in the amount of \$393,383.39  
Claims #92198 through #92209 in the amount of \$1,640.53  
VOIDED ACH in the amount of \$(128.40)  
VOIDED Claim #90926 in the amount of \$(140.00)  
VOIDED Claim #91222 in the amount of \$(378.00)  
VOIDED Claim #91487 in the amount of \$(115.05)  
VOIDED Claims #91669 in the amount of \$(33.78)  
Payroll Check #46703 through #46720 in the amount of \$33,532.68

Payroll Claims #92180 through #92197 in the amount of \$231,078.40  
Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$5,875.00  
Payroll Direct Deposits in the amount of \$175,630.61  
Minutes of the July 15, 2020 Council meeting

**Proclamation – Child Cancer Awareness Month:** In an effort to raise awareness for childhood cancer, Jessica Beckstrand is requesting Cities all across the state, including the Governor’s office, to proclaim the month of September as **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**.

Motion to accept and approve Proclamation to declare September, 2020 as **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**. (m/s Coe/Moore) Motion carried.

**City Administrator Report:**

CARES Funding update – Director Trachsler advised that the City is eligible for CARES Grant Funding in the amount of \$245,400.00. Payment request has been submitted and received for \$182,191 for reimbursement of city expenses for labor/materials for security window’s at the front counter, sanitizing, and wages to comply with the Stay Home Stay Safe Order for March and April. The remaining balance of \$63,209 is designated toward helping the small businesses impacted by the pandemic.

Director Bennett advised that she is working with the Chamber to define qualification and establish an application process for those impacted by the mandatory shut down. A committee has been established consisting of business owners in the community and a representative from council. They will establish the application process, review completed applications and make recommendations to Council for approval and funding. She anticipates having the application and guidelines to Council for approval at the next Council meeting.

Council discussion ensued. Council member Coe advised that the Economic Development Council has received CARES funding requests from 7 Ephrata businesses, he will pass those on to prevent double funding.

Report on Jail Site Selection Progress – Building Official Cox reported that he and Director Leavitt have been working with the County regarding the site selection for building the new jail facility. Per Ephrata’s Code, in the absence of a specific zone for jails, a Site Selection Committee has to be formed to review proposed sites before this project can move forward. There are two sites being considered; downtown next to the current facility, and out by the airport. The Committee has 13 considerations to consider for each location. The committee will meet again in a couple of weeks and have a period for public comment.

Council discussion ensued.

Chlorination of City Water System – Director Sangster advised that he is gathering bids for tanks and chemicals as well as electrical work to begin the install. City personnel will install the pipe and piping to each well. He anticipates chlorination to be on-line by the end of the month.

Council discussion ensued regarding placement of tanks. Sangster advised that they will not fit in the pump houses and we may have to fence around them. Public notice will be given before chlorination goes live.

“C” Street Sidewalk Update – Director Sangster reported that the Pre-Construction meeting with Central Paving is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. He anticipates they will start next week. If so, the project should be completed before school starts. Project is from Parkway to the High School.

Council discussion ensued. At present, it is unknown which end they will start with however, Sangster advised that he anticipates they will do a block at a time and there will be a handicap ramp at every intersection. They will not be replacing good sidewalk.

Council discussion ensued regarding the meeting format – audio only versus video. Staff will check out the Council tablets to see if they have video capabilities and look into other options.

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk