



## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

### March 02, 2016

City Council of the City of Ephrata, Grant County Washington met in regular session on March 2, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Reim.

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

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Wes Crago, City Attorney Katherine Kenison, Community Development Director Ron Sell, Recreation Director Ray Towry, Public Works Director Bill Sangster, Fire Chief Jeremy Burns and City Clerk Leslie Trachsler.

Pledge of Allegiance was said. No public signed up to speak.

**Agenda:** Agenda was amended adding Items 1 to Section VI – Resolution 16-954.

**Presentations:** Tony Webb, General Manager of Grant County PUD, addressed Council. Grant PUD is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest County provider in the State. They service 47,000 customers and cover a 2,777 square mile area. He gave a brief review of current initiatives:

- Cultural Resources – Opened new Wanapum Heritage Center near Priest Rapids Dam
- Education and Information – New Visitors Center near Wanapum Dam. Very interactive to encourage schools to use as a learning tool
- Enhanced Recreation – Upgraded 18 recreational sites on the Columbia River
- Network Services – Provide fiber optic service to over 29,000 customers, expanding wireless services to the remaining customers continues to be a priority
- Customer Survey Says:
  - 86% are satisfied with Grant PUD
  - 90% say PUD bill is affordable
  - 88% are satisfied after interacting with staff
- Budget – Mirrors customer priorities to retain reliable power and keep rates low by stretching out the debt to maintain 2% rate increases. This creates generational fairness into the future.

Council discussion ensued. They questioned Mr. Web on the repair of the Wanapum Dam. He commented that the repair cost between \$75 and \$80 Million but saved about \$1.5 Million by revamping the boat launches during the draw-down.

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

Items on the consent agenda are as follows:

- Claims #84628 through #84683 in the amount of \$80,745.54
- Electronic Transfer in the amount of \$16,409.32
- Payroll #44370 through #44402 in the amount of \$44,895.89
- Payroll Claims #84609 through #84627 in the amount of \$218,168.01
- Payroll Direct Debit in the amount of \$6,000.00
- Payroll Direct Deposit in the amount of \$152,275.19
- Minutes of the February 17, 2016 Council meeting

**Paperless Council Progress Report:** Director Sell reported that he reviewed different options of tablets with cost being a main factor and settled on the Google Chromebook at \$300/unit. It is an Android based product, has internet connection, PDF reader, touch screen and key board. Council documents would be uploaded to the City web site and can be accessed or downloaded from there. It is planned to be up and running by the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Resolution 16-954: Day of Thanks Declared for the 1161<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company, Washington Army National Guard:** This Resolution is in support of the 1161<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company to honor them for their service and to proclaim Saturday, March 5, 2016 as “1161<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company Day”.

Motion to approve and accept Resolution 16-954 in support of the 1161<sup>st</sup> Transportation Company. (m/s Wanke/Moore) Motion carried.

**April 6, 2016 Council Meeting:** Crago advised that this meeting is during spring break and normally is cancelled due to travel and vacations. At the present time, there are no pressing items for the agenda.

Motion to cancel the April 6, 2016 Council Meeting. (m/s Millard/Wanke) Motion carried.

**City Administrator Report:** None at this time

There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Bruce Reim, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leslie Trachsler, City Clerk