



🏠 **Location:** Telephonically  
📅 **Date:** February 9, 2021  
🕒 **Time:** 6:00pm

## City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes February 9, 2021

The Electric City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

**Present by Roll Call:** Council Members Brian Buche, Bob Rupe, Cate Slater, Cheryl Hoffman

**Staff members/Others present:** Jared Armstrong/Public Works Director, Katherine Kenison, KenisonFranz Law Firm, Steve Nelson/CenturyWest Engineering, Peggy Nevsimal/City Clerk/Treasurer, Mark Payne/Electric City Fire Chief, Jacob Wagner/Star Newspaper

### Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with one change. Item 7.6, "Establishing Residential & Commercial garbage rates" should be deleted from the agenda.

M/S (Buche/Bott) CU

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda.

M/S (Hoffman/Slater) CU

### Public Comments

There were no public comments

### Unfinished Business:

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering went through his project list for the City.
  - There is a new contact for our USDA project, Koni Reynolds will be replacing Richard Rose.
  - The final item for the Lift Station project is completing the as-built drawings.
  - Lots of good comments were received regarding the Sidewalks Project and Pathway Project at the Community Input Opportunity on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Further updates will be refined and shared at a potential new Input Opportunity in March.
  - There were a large range of opinions regarding the proposed speed limit changes through Electric City. City staff will continue to work with WSDOT and the community to decide on the best options. This project will coincide with the Pathway project development.
  - The City has received a letter of support from the Bureau of Reclamation regarding safety issues that may arise if the sewer line along 174 is not repaired in a timely manner. This support letter will be a valuable tool in seeking funding for repair work.

- Resolution 2021-06, RBOM 2021 Budget
    - A motion was made and seconded to approve the RBOM 2021 Budget with the corrected clerical error.
- M/S (Slater/Buche) CU
- Community Input Opportunity
    - The council discussed the Community Input Opportunity that was held at the Vet Center in Electric City on Saturday, January 23. Mayor Kohout stated that she was pleased with the turnout and is hopeful for more opportunities in the future to seek public input on City projects.
    - Councilmember Hoffman felt that it was important to be able to talk face to face with community members and be able to answer their questions and clear up misconceptions.
    - Councilmember Bott feels like there was a wide range of opinions on the topics discussed and that it will be difficult to find a middle ground on some issues.
  - Income Survey
    - The City staff has supplied RCAC with all the needed addresses and information for the survey to be mailed out. The survey should be arriving in residents' mailboxes sometime beginning the week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Executive Session**

- Mayor Kohout stated that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session for 20 minutes to discussion a potential litigation issue.
- The council adjourned at 6:21pm
- The council resumed at 6:41pm with no actionable items to discuss.

#### **New Business**

- Northwest Code Professionals Contract
  - A contract with Northwest Code Professionals was brought before the council. NWCP would like the City to sign a 2-year contract to continue as their Planning and Building Inspectors.
  - The council would like to research whether the option exists to bring this type of work back to Electric City and hire a local inspector.
  - City Clerk Nevsimal will reach out to several potential candidates locally, as well as discuss a 6-month contract with NWCP.
- Chevy Pickup
  - Public Works Director Armstrong brought before the council the topic of whether the City's current 1988 Chevy 1 Tone pickup would be worth fixing and then selling. It will cost approximately \$1,100 to get the transmission rebuilt.
  - A motion was made and seconded to table this discussion while Director Armstrong research how much the pickup would be valued at once repaired.

M/S (Bott/Rupe) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2021-07, establishing leave policies in response to COVID-19 outbreak with revised wording to extend the expiration date to the termination of the state of emergency.

M/S (Hoffman/Slater) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2021-008, ratifying procedures to respond to the current epidemic with revised wording to extend the expiration date to the termination of the state of emergency.

M/S (Rupe/Buche) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 580-2021, extending the temporary removal of interest and late fees from utility bills with revised wording to extend the expiration date to the termination of the state of emergency.

M/S (Slater/Hoffman) CU

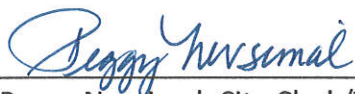
- A special council meeting was set for Tuesday, February 16 to vote on new garbage rates for the City of Electric City.

## Reports


- Councilmember Rupe said he had met with Hal Rauch to discuss the Pathway Project. There is concern that sewer lines and French drains run through the beginning of where the pathway would start and Coulee Playland would like to make sure any construction involves careful work around that area.
- Fire Chief Payne would like to get back to begin able to conduct in-person training sessions and meetings for the Fire Department. He feels it should be deemed essential.
- Mayor Kohout reported that she had talked with a contact at the Department of Ecology and has scheduled a meeting on February 11 with them regarding the topic of a Septic to Sewer project in Electric City.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.

M/S (Buche/Bott) CU



Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



Diane Kohout, Mayor