



🏠 Location: City Hall  
📅 Date: February 8, 2022  
🕒 Time: 6:00pm

## City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes February 8, 2022

The Electric City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

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

**Staff members/Others present:** Jared Armstrong/Public Works Director, Arrow Coyote/Electric City Resident, Peggy Nevsimal/City Clerk/Treasurer, Mark Payne/Fire Chief, Mike Shear/Code Compliance, Jacob Wagner/Star Newspaper

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Approval of Agenda:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

M/S (Slater/Hoffman) CU

### Consent Agenda:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda.

M/S (Hoffman/Redfield) CU

### Public Comments

- Mark Payne, 1 Washington Place, Electric City. Mr. Payne would like to request that the cardboard recycle bin be easier for the public to use. He feels that the opening is not at a height that is easy for the disposal of cardboard.

### Unfinished Business:

- Engineering Projects
  - Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering was unable to attend the council meeting but submitted a project update list. He will be participating in an upcoming public meeting to update the citizens of Electric City on City projects.
  - Several projects are waiting for the house and senate to emerge from a current budget resolution to move forward with funding requests.
  - DOT has suggested putting in curbs and gutters along the proposed pedestrian pathway and reducing the speed limit along the pathway to 35 mph. The council would like to see lighting along the pathway and would like to determine whether the City or DOT would be in charge of maintaining the lights.

- Code Compliance Update
  - Code Compliance officer Mike Shear spoke about ongoing nuisance complaints. Property B has been contacted regarding yard debris and excessive waste on their property. The owners of the property have been asked to adopt a compliance contract between them and the City to have the property cleaned up by the end of April.
- Intent to Lien Properties A & M
  - City Clerk Peggy Nevsimal reported to the council that there are two local houses that no longer have people living on premise and that they have large outstanding utility balances. To recoup any lost revenue, the council will need to approve placing liens on these residences.
  - A motion was made and seconded to place utility liens on properties A & M to recoup revenue on the utilities that are eligible to lien under state statutes.

M/S (Hoffman/Buche) CU

- Dangerous Dog Ordinance Update
  - The Mayor has spoken with City Attorney Katherine Kenison. Washington State RCWs do not allow local jurisdictions to approve lesser fines than the State has set for dangerous dog fees. In addition, the State does not allow local jurisdictions to remove a dog from a previous dangerous dog ruling.
- New FFL Business
  - The Council studied printed documentation submitted by Mr. Ray Valles requesting approval to open an FFL and unmanned aircraft services business in Electric City.
  - A motion was made and seconded to approve new business Valles Arms & Air, located at 142 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

M/S (Redfield/Buche) CU

- Storage Container
  - There is a construction storage container located at a residence where construction is not taking place. When contacted, the owner said that the residence where the construction is taking place is too uneven for the storage container to be placed at the construction site.
  - A motion was made and seconded to ask the storage container owner to submit a request for a temporary administrative variance for the storage container.
- L&N Consult Updates
  - The City has completed all safety suggestions made by the Labor & Industries consultant that visited the City in the fourth quarter of 2021.

M/S (Rupe/Buche) CU

## **New Business**

- Utility Leak Adjustment Policy
  - On February 1, a local residence experienced a major water leak resulting in over 389,000 gallons to flow out of their plumbing into the ground surrounding their property. That amount of water would result in a water bill of \$6,204.
  - The Mayor researched cities and towns in Eastern Washington policies on such occurrences and obtained copies of several towns' Utility Leak Adjustment Policies.

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt “Utility Leak Adjustment Policy No, 2022-01” allowing the council to adjust no more than 90% for any combination of water and/or sewer charges for leak adjustments.”

M/S (Slater/Buche) CU

- Garbage Increase discussion
  - Sunrise Disposal and UTC have both been notified of the upcoming tipping fee increases at the Delano Transfer station. New rates will go into effect on April 1, with local citizens seeing these increases on their May 5<sup>th</sup> utility bills.
- Electric City Public Meeting update
  - The City will hold an open public meeting on Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Post beginning at 6:00pm. Topics discussed will be:
    - Complete Streets, Phase 2
    - Pedestrian waterfront pathway
    - Speed limit changes on Hwy. 155
    - Sewer line repair grant
  - Councilmembers Brian Buche and Cate Slater will attend on behalf of the Council.
- Changes to personnel policy
  - City Clerk Nevsimal has researched two items that involve City personnel. Public Works would like to be awarded a boot allowance each year. In addition, they would like to have a formal on-call process for out-of-business-hours emergencies.
  - The councilmembers agreed that both Public Works requests should be granted and would like Clerk Nevsimal to draft policies for their approval.
- Water Contract with Grand Coulee
  - Councilmember Rupe asked the Mayor to look into the water contract that the City of Electric City has with the City of Grand Coulee. The contract was located, and it was determined that the current contract does not expire until 2064.
- Council offsite retreat
  - The upcoming council retreat will be on Saturday, March 26 at Sunbanks Resort. An agenda and catering will be finalized in the coming weeks.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

M/S (Buche/Redfield)



Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



Diane Kohout, Mayor