



🏠 Location: City Hall  
📅 Date: June 8, 2021  
🕒 Time: 6:00pm

## City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes June 8, 2021

The Electric City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

**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, Anna Franz/KenisonFranz Law, 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:

Mayor Diane Kohout made two corrections to the agenda:

1. Item 4.3, Expenditure approval, should be from May 11 – June 8, 2021 (instead of June 7)
2. Item 7.1, Planning Commission Representative, should be changed to Planning Commission Liaison

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with two corrections.

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

A public comment from Jerry Kennedy was read by Mayor Kohout. Mr. Kennedy, residing at 140 Silver Dr., Electric City, is concerned about the target practice shooting that is going on the backside of Osborne Bay. The previous week, a brush fire was sparked by a ricocheting bullet. The amount of camping and shooting going on in the Osborne Bay area has become a real health and safety hazard. Mr. Kennedy stated that the City has the authority to control the shooting by ordinance the portion of Osborne Bay that is within the city limits of Electric City.

### Unfinished Business:

- Don Redfield was sworn in as Councilmember, Position #1 replacing Willie Bott, who resigned at last month's council meeting. Don will hold the position until it expires on December 31, 2021.

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering went through the project list for the city.
  - The City continues to wait for a CAGE number issued by the Security Account Management (SAM) government agency. Once the City has secured that number, they are cleared to proceed to apply for a USDA grant.
  - The Complete Streets Sidewalk project needs to tie the new sidewalks with the existing one by ECT. The old street alignment was at an angle, so the lot line extends to the paved area. The city will need to get some easements from the current landowners and make sure that the Electric City Bar & Grill is okay with maintaining that piece of sidewalk.
  - WSDOT has some concerns regarding the proposed pedestrian pathway project. They would like to schedule a visit to the area.
  - The income survey will be discussed in the unfinished business portion of this meeting.
  - The sewer line project plan is ready for submission to USDA as soon as the Income Survey results come in.
  - CenturyWest has been tasked to come up with an assessment and a solution for the traffic flow problem at the Corner of Crest and Electric Blvd. They are looking into QuadCo funding to help with the expenses of the project. If QuadCo funding were secured the engineering for the project would start in 3-4 months.
  
- Veterans Memorial Park
  - Jim Brakebill and John Nordine would like to tie all of our cities together with one Veterans Memorial Park.
  - They will need to secure parking on an adjacent property that is owned by an out-of-state party.
  - Once they secure design ideas and funding they will return to this council with updates.
  
- Income Survey
  - RCAC is not optimistic that there will be enough responses to the income survey to make the results statistically valid.
  - They are scheduling a 4<sup>th</sup> mailing in hopes of securing the last 12 needed responses to reach the number they will need to validate the survey.
  - Response rates continue to be sluggish.
  - A tentative public meeting will be scheduled at 5:30pm on July 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the income survey findings.

### **Executive Session**

- Mayor Kohout stated that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session for 20 minutes to discuss a potential litigation issue and a personnel issue.
- The council adjourned at 6:24pm
- The council came back at 6:44pm and requested 10 more minutes for executive session.
- The council resumed at 6:54pm.
- A motion was made and seconded to send nuisance houses A & C on Kelso Avenue to Superior Court for abatement, with a contingency on that house C could avoid abatement if they enter into an agreement with the city to clean their nuisance violations up within 30 days.

M/S (Redfield/Slater) CU

## New Business

- Planning Commission Council liaison
  - Brian Buche resigned as the council liaison for the Electric City Planning Commission
  - Don Redfield volunteered to serve as the council liaison for the Electric City Planning Commission
  - A motion was made and seconded to approve Don Redfield's request to serve as the council liaison for the Electric City Planning Commission.

M/S (Buche/Hoffman) CU
  
- Resolution 2021-10
  - A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2021-10 adopting a Green House Gas Reduction Emission Policy.

M/S (Redfield/Slater) CU
  
- Crest Ave/Electric Blvd Intersection
  - The City has engaged CenturyWest to assess the traffic flow issues with the intersection at Crest Avenue and Electric Boulevard.
  - A boundary survey will need to be done to see where the city right of way is on these streets.
  - A potential grant from QuadCo may help with some of the expenses.
  - Engineering of the project will cost approximately \$5,500.
  
- City of Flags
  - The council discussed creating a City of Electric City flag. City Clerk Nevsimal will research with MRSC and AWC to see what specific parameters need to be adhered to and present ideas at the July council meeting.
  - A motion was made and seconded to begin the process of creating an official city flag.

M/S (Buche/Slater)
  
- Animal Control
  - All four of our local towns and cities have issues with unlicensed dogs, dangerous dogs, dogs not on leashes and stray dogs.
  - The Regional Board of Mayors have repeatedly reached out to surrounding communities to propose partnering with established animal control programs.
  - To-date no established animal control entity is interested in partnering with the Grand Coulee Dam area. The closest animal control facility is in Nespelem.
  - Mike Shear, Code Compliance officer for the City of Electric City and City Clerk Nevsimal will research the regulations, certifications, and logistics of establishing an animal control facility in the area and report back to council their findings at the July Council meeting.

## Reports

- Fire Chief Payne briefed the councilmembers on the recent wildfire in the Osborne Bay area.
  - The BLM is calling the fire contained but not controlled. They will stay there for an additional day or more before turning it over to the Electric City Fire Department.
  - There will be smoke in the area for quite a while.
  - Electric City should not be paged while the fire is still under the control of the BLM as it costs our fire department every time, they are paged whether they are needed or not.

- The Osborn Bay fire started on Bureau property within Electric City city limits.
- Camping in this area is out of control; there were over 100 people in this area over Memorial Day weekend. There are no bathroom or garbage facilities in this area and the area is being overrun by garbage and human feces.
- Campers are starting fires and leaving them unattended in the area.
- There are currently signs that have been placed by the Department of Wildlife restricting camping in the area to 4 days.
- Fire Chief Payne recommends converting the area to day-use only and he feels that if the City has any say in how that area is controlled we should push for day use only.
- Fire Chief Payne and Mayor Kohout will set a meeting to discuss the City's next steps in controlling this area of our city.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

M/S (Rupe/Slater) CU



Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



Diane Kohout, Mayor