



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

City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes March 9, 2021

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

Present by Roll Call: Council Members: Willie Bott, Brian Buche, Bob Rupe, Cate Slater

A motion was made and seconded to excuse Councilmember Cheryl Hoffman from the March 9, 2021 City Council meeting

M/S (Buche/Bott) CU

Staff members/Others present: Jared Armstrong/Public Works Director, 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.

M/S (Buche/Rupe) CU

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

M/S (Rupe/Slater) CU

Public Comments

There were no public comments

Unfinished Business:

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering went through the project list for the City.
 - The Mayor and City Clerk are gathering information needed to send to USDA for consideration of a grant for a Public Works pickup.
 - The City is waiting on ESD, LNI & DOR to release the completion of project approvals so that the retainage money can be paid to TEK Contracting. This is the final item to complete the Lift Station Project.
 - CenturyWest is sifting through the public comments from the Community Input Opportunity that was held on January 23, 2021 regarding the Bike/Pedestrian Pathway. New concepts will be presented at the next Input Opportunity on March 20, 2021.
 - Councilmember Bott stated that he is unhappy with the City's involvement in this project as most of the project is outside Electric City's city limits. He is concerned about

whether the city will need to spray for weeds and pick up garbage along the pathway. He would like to see this project put on a public ballot and let the residents vote on whether they would like to support it or not.

- Public Director Armstrong said that his crew already picks up garbage along that stretch of Hwy 155 and does not feel that there would be much more maintenance involved for the City.
 - Councilmember Rupe said that he has spoken with the owner of Coulee Playland and that there is concern that people using the pathway might tend to wander into the campsites in their upper campground. They would like there to be a clear definition between the pathway and Coulee Playland's campground.
 - The Mayor and Councilmember Slater both stated that the pathway is a good thing for Electric City and a nice entryway into the area.
 - Once the pathway project concepts are confirmed, the speed limit changes along Hwy 155 will be readdressed.
 - The income survey process is approximately half completed. Local residents, who have not responded, should now have received a second mailing.
 - The support letter from the Bureau of Reclamation has been sent to the Department of Agriculture regarding the City's sewer line along Hwy 155.
 - Our Small Water System Management Program has been submitted to the Department of Health and we are waiting on their comments.
- Income Survey Work Plan
 - The first installment of the income survey was sent out by RCAC with an error referring to the area as Metaline instead of Electric City. A new survey and explanation letter were sent out. This will not affect the final results delivery date of May 15, 2021.
 - Northwest Code Professionals Contract
 - Previous concerns regarding the payment of mileage from Northwest Code Professionals headquarters was addressed and confirmed that we are not charged mileage.
 - While the council is still interested in pursuing bringing building permitting and inspections back to the City's staff, they agreed that there will need to be a process put into place before this happens.
 - The contract with Northwest Code Professionals will expire on December 31, 2022 and can be terminated by a 30-day notice from either party.
 - A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2021-09 authorizing an agreement with Northwest Code Professionals.
- M/S (Buche/Rupe) CU
- The paperwork for applying to the USDA for a grant money for a Public Works pickup truck is in progress. By the next City Council meeting all paperwork should be filed.

New Business

- Grant County Fire District agreement
 - A motion was made and seconded to approve a new aid agreement between the Grant County Fire District No. 14 and the City of Electric City. The new agreement will be effective on April 1, 2021.

M/S (Rupe/Bott) CU

- Community Input Opportunity #2
 - The City will conduct the second Community Input Opportunity on Saturday, March 20, 2021. Items being discussed will be the Complete Streets sidewalks project, the pedestrian waterfront pathway, a reminder of about the Income Survey, an informal poll about a Community Park, and information about the upcoming Spring Cleanup. The Opportunity will take place at the American Legion Hall from 1:00pm until 3:00pm. Councilmember Buche will represent the City Councilmembers.

- Code Compliance Reporting Structure
 - The City has hired Mike Shear to fill the Code Compliance Officer part-time position. Mayor Kohout is recommending that the Code Compliance Officer report to the Public Works Director.
 - A motion was made and seconded to have the Code Compliance Officer report to the Director of Public Works.

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- Planning Commission Updates
 - The Planning Commission is reviewing accessory dwellings, minimum size requirements for a household size, Park Models, and tiny houses.

- Sprint Cleanup
 - The Regional Board of Mayors met on March 8. Since Grant County Solid is no longer offering free dumping of 16,000 pounds per city of yard waste in the Spring or Fall, the Mayors voted to offer no city pick up of yard waste, and charge residents for self-haul yard waste of \$5.25/per pickup load or \$10.50/per trailer load for the week of April 3 through April 10, 2021.
 - Mayor Kohout is working on securing a grant from the Department of Ecology that would cover these expenses. If the grant is secured, the Regional Board of Mayors will reconvene to vote on reinstating a more traditional cleanup for our area towns and cities.
 - A motion was made and seconded to approve the Regional Board of Mayors vote for the 2021 Spring Cleanup schedule.

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- Transfer Station Hire
 - Mike Shear has been hired as a part-time gate attendant at the Delano Transfer Station at 28 hours per week. In addition, Mike will become the new Code Compliance Officer at 12 hours per week. Mike's first day of employment was March 1, 2021.

- No councilmembers had reports.
- The City Clerk/Treasurer did not have a report.
- Mayor Kohout had the following reports:
 - Moving forward, checks and vouchers will be ready to be approved by Councilmembers by noon on council day.
 - Mayor Kohout has been working with our City Attorney and the Grant County Prosecuting Attorney's office on a interlocal agreement for the district municipal courts to have a consolidated court clerk who will be able to process tickets for those cities within Grant County who do not have a Court Clerk on staff. This will allow the City of Electric City to begin to have both municipal and DMV tickets processed after a 2+ year hiatus.
- Fire Chief Payne would like to get back to being able to conduct in-person training sessions and meetings for the Fire Department. He feels it should be deemed essential.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

M/S (Buche/Bott) CU



Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



Diane Kohout, Mayor