



🏠 Location: City Hall
📅 Date: November 9, 2021
🕒 Time: 6:00pm

City of Electric City Council Meeting Minutes November 9, 2021

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

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

Staff members/Others present: Ashley Landeros/Deputy Clerk, Steve Nelson/CenturyWest Engineering, Peggy Nevsimal/City Clerk/Treasurer, Carol Rupe/Electric City Resident, 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 (Hoffman/Slater) CU

Consent Agenda:

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

M/S (Hoffman/Redfield) CU

Public Comments

- Melissa Robinson, 139 Hillcrest, Electric City, WA, would request that the City of Electric City allow residents to own a rooster as well as the current ordinance amount of six chickens. She believes that adding a rooster to a hen house reduces hen stress, reduces bullying amongst hens and protects hens from predators. She would like the council to consider modify the City's current chicken policy to include a rooster.
- Ashley Landeros, 204 Stevens Ave, Coulee Dam, WA, introduced herself as the new Deputy Clerk for the City of Electric City. She will be training with Diana Parrish, the current Deputy clerk for the next two months.
- Mike Shear, 210 Lincoln Ave, Electric City, WA, would like the Mayor of Electric City to bring to the next Regional Board of Mayors meeting a proposal to designate a sanctioned shooting range within the Grand Coulee Dam area. There are currently a couple of areas that citizens use for target practice, and both have created conflict with neighboring areas.

Unfinished Business:

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering went through the project list for the city.

- The Complete Streets Sidewalk project & Pedestrian/Bike Path comments from WSDOT will increase cost on the path, and they want the funds to be spent by the end of March. Lights and guardrail can be purchased before that. Everything will need to be completed by the end of March for the complete streets. Any funds not used by the end of June must be returned.
 - The council and CenturyWest agree that a public hearing in the Spring of 2022 would be needed to gain community input on the topic of changing the speed limit along highway 155.
 - The grant application process for a rolling stock grant/loan package for a new Utility Truck for the Public Works Department from USDA has been turned over to a new person at USDA. Additional paperwork will need to be forwarded to the new contact. Councilmember Rupe will follow up with Jess Ford and ask them to re-submit their bid.
 - Steve Nelson and Fire Chief Payne have discussed the specifics for a new Fire Department Type 3 Structure truck. That type of truck will cost approximately \$350,000 and will take roughly one year for delivery. Steve will investigate options for rolling stock grant funders.
- Commercial Noise Reduction
 - Code Compliance Officer Mike Shear has created a decibel readings map around the property at 205 Coulee Blvd.
 - The City's commercial noise ordinance states that daytime noise can not exceed 65 decibels and after 10pm noise cannot exceed 55.
 - Daytime and nighttime readings at 205 Coulee Blvd have exceed the City's ordinance levels.
 - Mike will work with the owners of the property to help facilitate reducing their noise output, which seems to be largely coming from fans mounted on the roof of the building.
- ARPA Funds
 - Clerk Nevsimal presented a compiled list of projects where councilmembers would like to see ARPA funds spent. The top five projects are:
 - Sewer lining
 - Public Works sweeper
 - Public Works truck
 - Lost revenue late fee reimbursement
 - Recreation projects
 - The City will need to let the Department of Commerce know by March 2022 what projects the money has been allocated to.
 - A motion was made and seconded to move \$28,000 of ARPA into the following fund:
 - Water/Sewer Fund 400 = \$16,860 for lost revenue from late fees and \$11,140 to cover COVID related leave for personnel.

M/S (Hoffman/Buche) CU

- Engineering Contract
 - The City has place a Request for Qualifications notice in The Star newspaper for City Engineering Services.
 - The deadline for applicants to submit their qualifications is Wednesday, November 24th at 4:00pm.
 - A review committee will be selected to review the applicant submissions and a determination will be announced at the January council meeting.

Executive Session

- Mayor Kohout stated that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session for 15 minutes to discuss a personnel issue.
- The council adjourned at 6:45pm
- The council resumed at 7:00pm

New Business

- New Business in Electric City'
 - Kamran Victor from A&S Grocery presented to the council drawings and a master use application for a drive-by coffee stand business he and his son Alex would like to open next to their store.
 - As an under 200 square foot accessory building, they will not need a building permit for the already manufactured structure.
 - They will name the business Coffee Addiction and will apply for a business permit once they are ready to open the business.
 - They will consult with the City's Public Works Department for water and sewer hook-ups.
 - A motion was made and seconded to approve Coffee Addiction as a new business in Electric City.

M/S (Slater/Buche) CU

- Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - To-date no has expressed interest to be part of the Grant County Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Legal Representation Contract & Fee Structure
 - Katherine Kenison of KenisonFranz has submitted a new Professional Services Contract to be retained as legal counsel of record for calendar year 2022.
 - The firm's hourly rate will increase from \$160/hr to \$200/hr
 - A motion was made and seconded to accept KenisonFranz's new contract with one change in section 3.1.1. where the dollar figure (\$200) does not match the written figure (two hundred twenty dollars should replace two hundred twenty-five dollars).

M/S (Hoffman/Rupe) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2021-12 approving an increase in property tax revenue. The new increase will add approximately \$1,453 dollars to the City's property tax revenue in 2022.

M/S (Redfield/Hoffman) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 586-2021 setting salaries and wages for employees of the City for the calendar year 2022.

M/S (Buche/Rupe) CU

- Utility Increases
 - Councilmembers discussed current utility rates in Electric City.

- Clerk Nevsimal presented a spreadsheet indicating how Electric City's rates compare to other local city rates.
- Currently Electric City's payment to the Wastewater Treatment Facility are up 15% year/year and councilmembers were tasked to consider increasing sewer rates.
- Employee Leave Policy Updates
 - The City's personnel policy was reviewed with the following changes approved with motions/second for each change:
 - Adding Juneteenth to the list of paid holidays list
M/S (Slater/Hoffman) CU
 - Clarification that the increase of vacation hours will change at the beginning of the next up-step year instead of at the end of the up-step year
M/S (Slater/Redfield) CU
 - A change in paid sick leave policy stating that sick time cannot be combined with vacation or holiday time off.
M/S (Redfield/Buche) CU
 - A change including step-relations in bereavement leave and increasing bereavement leave from three working days to five working days.
M/S (Redfield/Buche) CU
- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 2021-13 repealing Resolution 2020-06, and authorizing new Deputy Clerk Ashley Landeros, to make deposit and withdrawals on City accounts at North Cascades Bank.
M/S (Redfield/Buche) CU

Reports

- Brian Buche & Cheryl Hoffman reported that troublesome trees at the Wastewater Treatment Facility have been removed and Grand Coulee will invoice us for our portion of the removal.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

M/S (Redfield/Rupe)



 Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



 Diane Kohout, Mayor