



🏠 Location: Telephonically  
📅 Date: July 28, 2020  
🕒 Time: 6:00pm

## City of Electric City Special Council Meeting Minutes July 28, 2020

The Electric City Special Council meeting was called to order telephonically at 6:00pm by Mayor Diane Kohout on Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

**Present by Roll Call:** Councilmembers Willie Bott, Bob Rupe, Brian Buche Cate Slater, Cheryl Hoffman

**Staff members/others present:** Jared Armstrong, Public Works Director, Steve Nelson, CenturyWest Engineering, Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer, Diana Parrish, Deputy Clerk, Jacob Wagner, Star Newspaper

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda

M/S (Buche/Hoffman) CU

### Public Comments

- No public comments

### New Business

- Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer was given an oath of office by Mayor Diane Kohout.
- A motion was made and seconded to adopt a Proclamation signed by Mayor Kohout to proclaim September "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" for the City of Electric City.

M/S (Hoffman/Slater) CU

- Ice Age Park discussion:
  - The Mayor opened the discussion about the option of a levy for the Ice Age Park maintenance. She asked the councilmembers whether the levy was a sound idea. After consulting with Grant County's Elections office, she learned the expense to include an excess levy on November's ballot will cost \$3,000-\$6,000 and the deadline to submit paperwork for this inclusion is due on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. There are no extensions available for that deadline. In addition she let the council know that the City Attorney fees would be \$1,000-\$1,500 and that the Attorney advised the Council that these type of expenses are typically paid out of a City's general fund and that she advised against going forward with the approval of a levy placement on the ballot. The Mayor stated that her research on maintenance expenses for the park totalled approximately \$6,900.
  - Councilmember Slater represented the PARC Committee and stated that she had spoken to several other cities regarding maintenance expenses for similar parks. The PARC Committee believes that maintenance costs would be moderate and that these expenses should be able to be absorbed within the City budget and placing a levy vote on the November ballot would not be necessary.

- Councilmember Bott believes the maintenance expenses will be higher than the PARC Committee is projecting and that the voters of Electric City should be presented with the option to fund the maintenance through and excess tax levy.
- Councilmember Hoffman believes that the expenses presented for mowing the park twice a week is an over-estimate.
- Councilmember Buche questioned where within the City's budget would money be available for park maintenance if the council is unwilling for it to be funded from the Lodging Tax fund. He believes the Lodging Tax fund should be used for Tourism related promotions, which he does not feel this park qualifies as.
- A motion was made and seconded to move forward with securing funding for the Ice Age Park maintenance from within the City's budget and not to pursue a levy for said same funding.

M/S (Slater/Hoffman)

Councilmembers Bott, Buche & Rupe voted Nay, Motion Failed.

- A motion was made and seconded to move forward with including a levy on the November 2020 ballot for operational and maintenance expenses for the Ice Age Park

M/S (Hoffman/Bott)

Councilmember Slater voted Nay, Motion Carried.

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 569-2020 which repeals Chapter 2.30 of the Electric City Municipal Code titled "Planning Agency" and replaces it with a new Chapter 2.30 titled Planning Commission."

M/S (Buche/Bott) CU

- Steve Nelson from CenturyWest Engineering discussed the Multi-use Corridor/Path between Coulee Playland and North Dam Park Engineering Contract with the councilmembers.
  - Councilmember Bott questioned the term "Southwest City Limits" on the contract. Mr. Nelson agreed that it should be "NE City Limits" but southwest wording was on the original grant application.
  - Councilmember Bott and Mr. Nelson will meet to go over historical survey information that Councilmember Bott has been involved with regarding City limit boundaries.
  - Public Works Director Armstrong advised against trees being part of concepts as he believes the maintenance and sight-lines trees create make them undesirable.
  - A motion was made and seconded to accept the CenturyWest Engineering agreement for the Multi-use corridor/path project.

M/S (Slater/Buche) CU

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

M/S (Rupe/Hoffman)



Peggy Nevsimal, City Clerk/Treasurer



Diane Kohout, Mayor