

03/15/06

Mayor Lee Webster called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were Bob Fateley, Art Smyth, George Webster, Dave Freels and Jerry Tretwold.

Council Member Fateley moved to approve the minutes for 02/15/06 as sent. The motion was seconded by Council Member Webster and passed unanimously.

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the City Council.

As of this date 03/15/06 the Council, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the voucher payment list and further described as follows: Claims Fund voucher numbers 39129 and 39205 through 39280 in the total amount of \$186,442.63 Payroll Fund voucher numbers 22404 through 22437 in the total amount of \$61,579.59.

2006 BUDGET QUESTIONS

Council Member Tretwold discussed the Water/Sewer Construction Fund relating to a discrepancy of \$128,000 in the beginning balance. City Clerk Pam Olsen explained that the \$128,000 was grant money that was requested from the funding agency in 2005 but not received until 2006. Olsen stated that the differences in the beginning balance was a budgeted estimate versus the true figures which were brought forward after the 2005 year ending process was done.

TEMPORARY RV PARKING

Larry Humborg was present to ask council for permission to park a 24 foot 5th wheel trailer on his mother-in-laws property to house a family member that would be the mother-in-law's care provider. Mr. Humborg asked if the council would consider letting them park the 5th wheel trailer there for three months and at that point he would come back to council and determine the next plan of action. Mayor Webster suggested filling out a Variance Application and presenting it to council at their April meeting. Council agreed.

GAMBLING TAX – ORDINANCE #785

Mike Saint, an American Legion Representative, was present to request a reduction in the American Legion's gambling tax. Mayor Webster stated that his intentions are to treat each business that runs gaming fairly and equally and not to take away money that directly benefits the Police Department. Mr. Saint thanked the council for their consideration and stated that donations to the Legion are welcome.

Mayor Webster discussed Ordinance #785 regarding gambling taxes. Mayor Webster explained that while staff was researching the American Legion's request there was a small discrepancy found between our code and the RCW's and that is the change being considered by the passage of this ordinance. A question came up about the portion of Section 4.28.110 relating to the City Finance Director being the Rule-Making Authority. Council felt that the City Council should be named as the Rule-Making Authority instead of the City Finance Director.

MOTION:

Council Member Webster moved to approve Ordinance #785 as sent with the following change to Section 4.28.110 – Rule Making Authority: Replace City Clerk/Finance Director with City Council as it appears and pertains to this section only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smyth and passed unanimously.

AIRPORT COMISSION REPORT

Airport Commission Chairperson J.D. Smith was present to give the council a report on the airport. Smith stated that the west end approach is still an issue. Smith suggested a meeting be held between Gebbers, City Council and the Airport Commission to discuss a purchase or land swap of approximately 3 acres at the west end of the airport to guarantee the clear zone that the Federal Aviation Agency is requiring.

Smith discussed the PAPI lights at the airport that are still not working. Smith stated that there is not sufficient power to run the lights at this time and that the Airport Commission along with Airport Manager Dave Smith are digging a ditch and placing conduit to minimize the cost of an electrician.

Smith stated that Council Members Freels and Tretwold and Airport Manager Smith attended the annual Aviation Conference the end of February.

AIRPORT LEASES

Airport Commission Chairperson Smith passed out a draft airport lease for Lots # 76,77, and 78, currently occupied by Airport Manager Smith and his family. Smith stated that the Airport Commission had met on March 8, 2006 and had compiled the draft lease using City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman's lease and leases from seven other cities. The commission felt that the current lease was too long. Council Member Tretwold (also an Airport Commissioner) stated that he felt very comfortable with the lease and urged council to pass it.

MOTION:

Council Member Freels moved to approve the commercial airport lease for lots 76,77, & 78 at the Anderson Field Airport as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tretwold and passed unanimously.

AIRPORT INSURANCE

Airport Commission Chairperson Smith discussed airport insurance. Smith stated that he had received a quote from Janet Jordan, Martin-Morris Agency, for \$3,800. Smith then went to three separate agencies for quotes, including Regal Aviation, which came back with a quote of \$3,038. Smith stated that Cities Insurance Agency of Washington (CIAW) does not cover airports. Mayor Webster suggested that we go back to Ms. Jordan with the Regal Aviation quote and see if she can match or beat it. It was suggested that as soon as Chairperson Smith gets a feasible quote that a special council meeting be set up to discuss it.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Police Chief Ron Oules passed out the Incident Activity Report and answered questions.

Chief Oules stated that a civil service test will be conducted at the end of March. Oules stated that we have not received many applications back. Oules reported that he hopes to have a person hired by the end of April 2006.

Chief Oules reported that there are several places in the city that still have graffiti that have not been able to be covered up because of the cold weather. Oules stated that Pat Shelton's High School class is looking for a community project and may be interested in helping paint over the graffiti.

MAYOR'S MEETINGS

Mayor Webster stated that the Mayor's meetings will start soon and asked if any council members had issues they would like him to take to the meetings. Chief Oules mentioned the increase of sales tax. Oules stated that he felt if we could invite Okanogan Sheriff Frank Rogers to a council meeting and explain our position that he may have some insight into getting the issue on the ballot.

ANNUAL ALLEY CLEANUP

Public Works Director Mike Shenyer asked council if they would like to hold the annual alley cleanup this year. Shenyer reported that the clean up usually costs approximately \$5,000. Council agreed to continue with the cleanup.

COLUMBIA/SNAKE RIVER INCIATIVE

Public Works Director Shenyer reported that the Columbia/Snake River Initiative may be a vehicle for us to obtain more water rights. Shenyer stated that the Department of Ecology (DOE) is still working out the details with the Columbia/Snake River Association and that it will probably cost cities.

ENHANCEMENT GRANT

Public Works Director Shenyer announced confirmation of receipt of a \$13,500 grant to place trash receptacles and benches on Main Avenue.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

Public Works Director Shenyer reported that bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade will be advertised March 19th & 26th, 2006 for the installation of new equipment and some cement work. Bids will be opened on April 12, 2006 at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Council Member Tretwold asked Public Works Director Shenyer to ascertain the applicant's qualifications by requiring them to submit a resume and a list of like-kind of jobs they had previously performed. Shenyer assured Council Member Tretwold that no applicants will be considered that don't meet the City's and Engineer's standards.

BONANZA DAYS

Mayor Webster discussed the issue of vendor insurance for Bonanza Days. City Clerk Olsen stated that the City waives any interest in business done by vendors during Bonanza Days and the 4th of July Celebrations and turns control over to the Brewster Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Webster stated that Bonanza Days was going to be held June 16 – 18, 2006. Council Member Fateley wanted to go on record to say that as far as he is concerned he would entertain any and all ideas to make this event a success.

2006 BUDGET QUESTIONS

Council Member Tretwold requested further written explanation from City Clerk Olsen regarding the Water/Sewer Construction and Arterial Street beginning balances. Tretwold would like more clarification at the April Council meeting on why the beginning balances for these two funds changed from the 01/12/06 draft budget to the 01/18/06 revised budget.

BOY SCOUT HUT

Public Works Director Shenyer reported to council that the Boy Scout Hut located next to the boat launch in the park is not going to be able to be moved safely. It will be torn down as soon as Fred Wiltse gets all of his Boy Scout property out of the building.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned.