

Mayor Lee Webster called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were Art Smyth, Jan May, John Housden, Ramiro Villagrana and Tim Rieb. Also present were Public Works Director Lynn Lawson, City Clerk Misty Ruiz, Police Chief Ron Oules and Deputy Clerk Desha Dawson.

❖ **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –**

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: The agenda was approved with the addition of 1) Girl Scout Week proclamation, 2) Variance question (Jan May), Jail Fees 3) Energy Efficiency Grant update and 4) Med Star Lease.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

The minutes from 2/12/2014 and 2/18/2014 City Council Meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to approve the above noted minutes and Final Agenda with additions noted. Council Member Smyth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL:

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, March 12, 2014, the Council, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the voucher payment list and further described as follows:

February 2014 Manual Claims Fund voucher numbers 804-810, 52929, 52930 and 52945-52996 as well as March 2014 Council Claim voucher numbers 53013-53069 in the total amount of \$278,879.64.

Also approved were void/non-issued checks (list attached to A/P).

February 2014 Payroll check numbers 817-841, 52923-52928, 52931-52944 and 52997-53006 in the total amount of \$111,603.77.

MOTION: *Council Member Smyth made the motion to approve the above noted bills and payroll for payment as well as void/non-issued check register. Council Member May seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENT:

GIRL SCOUTS PROCLAMATION OF GIRL SCOUTS WEEK:

Mayor Webster read the Certificate of Proclamation, making the week of March 11th through the 17th Girls Scouts Week in honor of the organizations 102nd Anniversary. Several area Girl Scouts were present with their Troop Leader Cindy Jensen to accept this proclamation, as well as reciting the Girl Scouts Promise and taking photos.

JAN MAY – VARIANCE QUESTION:

Jan May inquired about the delay in a decision being made regarding changes to the setbacks for shoreline properties in the City of Brewster. She stated she had submitted a variance application and was told that the city was not accepting them at this time. May also stated that she knows of one other person who submitted an application over one year ago, and still had not heard anything back regarding a decision.

She is asking that we urge the Planning Commission to make a decision on what they intend to do with either changing these setbacks to be all inclusive for shoreline properties, or whether each property owner will have to apply individually for variance requests. Mayor Webster stated that he will definitely check into this with Kurt Danison, City Planner, and get back to her as soon as information is available from the Planning Commission.

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP QUESTION – JOHN HOUSDEN:

Council Member Housden inquired about the City-wide clean up event, apparently planned to be in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Although no members of the Chamber are present tonight, he would like to discuss if the City is willing to cooperate and assist the Chamber if requested, such as use of equipment, etc. Mayor Webster stated that he believes this has been discussed and it is understood that the City will be helping in any way they can.

MOTION: *Council Member Housden made the motion to work with, and negotiate with, the Brewster Chamber of Commerce for any City equipment or services that may be needed to assist in the City Wide Clean Up event. No second was brought forth, and the motion died.*

MAYOR WEBSTER:

ACTION LIST FOLLOW-UP:

The action item list from the February Council meeting was reviewed for 2014. Public Works Director Lynn Lawson stated that the previous item – Plaza Way Storm Drain project – has been investigated further with the possible problem with the drain issues being identified as some drains were covered by previous chip seals. The crew has uncovered them. Public Works Director Lawson recommends foregoing repairs, as uncovering the drains will most likely resolve the issue and also believes that the 60K it would take to do this project can be better used in other areas. There have been no complaints from the railroad. Council would like to monitor this and proceed with repairs at a later date, if necessary.

It was also agreed by Council that the Action Item List can be removed from the agenda at this time, however, can be re-instated at a later date if needed.

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to forego repairs at this time, and monitor the Plaza Way storm drains for one year, and decide if repairs are necessary at the one year mark based on inspection and recommendation of the Public Works Crew. Council Member Housden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

RV TENT AREA:

Mayor Webster noted that there has been discussion with respect to possibly moving the RV tent area to the West Cove. The current tent spaces are without shade, and the stray cats in the area have begun using the sand as a litter box (which is hard to keep clean). Council is not in favor of moving the tent area to the West Cove, as they do not want to take up anymore of the park's day use area for camping. Public Works Director Lynn Lawson will meet with the park crew to discuss options for alternative tent pad materials and possibly planting some trees or some other form of shade for the area.

OKANOGAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AND NUTRITION FUNDS REQUEST:
Mayor Webster noted in past years, the City of Brewster has donated money to the Okanogan County Transportation & Nutrition Program through the Brewster Senior Center. The OCTN has requested this on behalf of the organization on their own to help cover the costs of meals and transportation to Brewster area residents and senior citizens. Council agreed to do the same as last year.

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to contribute \$2000 to the Okanogan County Transportation and Nutrition for transportation and meals of area residents and senior citizens of Brewster. This contribution will assist the poor and infirm within our community. Council Member Smyth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MED STAR LEASE:

Current revised lease (received 3/11/14) was distributed to Council for review with a Special Meeting date for further discussion to be held on March 26th, at noon in the City Hall Council Chambers. Deputy Clerk Dawson will distribute the agenda.

MISTY RUIZ – CITY CLERK TREASURER:

FINANCE REPORT:

Clerk Ruiz reviewed the Cash & Investment activities report for January and February. At this time, it appears that we have more money going out rather than coming in, but stated this is partially due to the fact that we received the property tax money from the County as of yet, but we will recover nicely when we do. Ruiz also reported that the sales tax for the City of Brewster will increase to 8.1% on April 1, 2014.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT:

Clerk Ruiz stated she is happy to report that the City of Brewster has been approved for the 500K Energy Efficiency Grant. We were not, however, approved for the solar grant. Regardless of that, the City is going to greatly benefit from the energy savings we will receive as a result of the energy saving upgrades. The Council is still interested in looking at solar panels for the pool. Public Works Director Lawson will check into this further.

FIRST HALF OF THE 2013 JAIL FEES:

MOTION: *Council Member Smyth made the motion to authorizing payment of approximately \$34K for the first half of the 2013 Okanogan County Jail Fees for the City of Brewster. Council Member May seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

LYNN LAWSON – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES:

Lynn Lawson informed Council of the following Public Works projects/updates:

- Desert Solutions Pest/Weed control will be applying weed spray on Bridge, Main, old Hwy 97 intersection, pumps, city ball fields and the cemetery in the coming week. This will be a sterilization application for weeds and broad leaf control.
- Lawson has been checking into the costs of having City Hall, PD, Library and the Fire hall painted.

- Security cameras and signs have been posted at the Rec Center in light of the recent vandalism. He is also looking at having the damaged doors replaced. Because these are emergency exit style doors, the cost may be around \$10-15K, but he will keep council informed of costs when the project gets closer.
- The main biosolids hauling dump truck has been leaking oil. A hydraulic line also needs repaired as well as the exhaust. This will be approximately \$3K to repair all, but needs to be done as this is the only vehicle we have to haul biosolids.

ERNESTO SANTOS-EVENT APPLICATION:

MOTION: Council Member Smyth made the motion to approve the Cinco de Mayo event application from Ernesto Santos, to be held on Sunday May 11th, with the understanding that the music is not to be audible outside of a 2 block/250 yard parameter and that the music is to be completely off by 10 PM. No exceptions. Council Member Rieb seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

AIRPORT WELL/PUMP:

Public Works Director Lynn Lawson informed Council that the well at the airport is in need of being replaced. Shawn O'Connell of O'Connell Well Drilling is present to answer any questions. Lawson stated that the current well has issues with sand and other costly maintenance issues. Lawson also stated that the current well will not adequately supply water to the current tenants, and future tenants and would like Council approval to drill a new well. The cost to drill this well will be approximately 20K. This well will provide water to all the tenants, and these tenants will be paying a monthly utility (water) bill and a fully functioning well is vital at the airport.

MOTION: Council Member May made the motion to approve the above noted drilling of the well at the Anderson Field Airport by O'Connell Well Drilling, at a cost of 20K. Council Member Smyth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CHIEF OF POLICE RON OULES:

STATS AND UPDATES:

Chief of Police Ron Oules stated calls for service and department overtime are in line with normal. He also informed Council of two staff training dates. Juana Escobar will attend LEIRA training in Kennewick, one day, and Officer Rory Williams will attend EVOC training in May. Both of these training classes may be covered by insurance.

Oules informed Council that letters will be sent out to the Citizens of Brewster informing them that no aerial fireworks will be allowed in the city limits, except for in designate public areas, such as the park. A \$500 fine will be imposed for violators. There have been too many problems in certain residential areas of town with fires and he is hopeful that common sense will prevail this coming 4th of July. Council agreed.

FOLLOWUP DISCUSSION RE: JAKE BRAKE ORDINANCE NO 856:

Chief of Police Ron Oules reviewed the revised Compression Brake Ordinance, No 856. He stated that if this ordinance is passed tonight, the court will notify all of the previously ticketed individuals (under the old ordinance) and advise them of the new one, and the changes that have been made to it and outline what is enforceable under the new ordinance.

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 856, amending section 10.28.020 of the BMC prohibiting the use of compression brakes in the City. Council Member Housden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Lee Webster

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk/Treasurer, Misty Ruiz