

Mayor Art Smyth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were Avis Christensen, Emmanuel Hurtado, Tim Rieb, Jan May and John Housden. Also present were Public Works Director Lee Webster, Fire Chief Dylan Gamble, Chief of Police Marcos Ruiz, Finance Director Misty Ruiz, City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman and Deputy Clerk Desha Rupeiks.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Members Avis Christensen (Council Position #4) and Timothy Rieb (Council Position #5) recited their Oath of Office and were sworn in to their re-elected Council Positions by Mayor Art Smyth.

Officer CJ Harmier was sworn in to duty for the Brewster Police Department by Chief of Police Marcos Ruiz.

The Regular Council meeting minutes from December 11, 2019 were reviewed. The final agenda for the January City Council meeting was also reviewed.

MOTION: *Council Member Christensen made the motion to approve the December Council meeting minutes. Council Member Hurtado seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to approve January final agenda. Council Member Hurtado seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

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 December 11, 2019, the Council, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the voucher payment list and further described as follows:

November 2019 Manual Claim Fund vouchers numbers 3188-3191, 60139, 60140, 60147-60154, 60165, 60167 and 60168 in the amount of \$19,208.00 as well as December Council 2019 Claim Fund vouchers numbers 1279, 1280, 60178-60186 and 60189-60245 in the total amount of \$188,449.43.

November 2019 Payroll checks numbers 3153-3187, 30069, 60072, 60141-60146, 60155-60164, 60166 and 60169-60176 in the total amount of \$136,192.82.

MOTION: Council Member Rieb made the motion to approve the above noted bills and payroll. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

BRIDGEPORT MAYOR JANET CONKLIN – DOG DISCUSSION:

Bridgeport Mayor Janet Conklin was present to discuss the changes to Pit Bull and dangerous dog designation and licensing restrictions. Conklin does not believe allowing the Pit Bull breed into the City limits of Bridgeport or Brewster will be a good thing and is not in favor of allowing them, even with the new State laws restricting breed specific bans. Council Member Christensen feels that having the reference to Pit Bull breeds in the new Ordinance goes against what the State had adopted and believes that dogs should be deemed dangerous based on behavior, not breed. When asked, Chief Ruiz stated that he and his officers will enforce any laws or ordinances that the City adopts.

After much discussion, the following motions were made – please see page 3 for a discussion concerning Council action regarding Ordinance No. 925.

SENIOR CENTER DISCUSSION:

Documents were received and reviewed regarding the possible purchase and take over of the Brewster Senior Center. While no definite decision has been made, a walk through is in the process of being scheduled, and the County Building Inspector will be asked to do an assessment of the structure for stability and code compliance. Council Member Hurtado and Christensen will meet to work with City staff to work up a draft agreement. Council Member Christensen will also schedule a meeting with the Senior Center Director, Council Member Hurtado and Ogden, Murphy, Wallace to begin discussions, as well as meeting with the City of Pateros and Bridgeport to see what their level of interest and support will be for helping keep the Senior Center open.

CHIEF OF POLICE MARCOS RUIZ:

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Chief Ruiz reviewed department stats and updates. He noted his officers had been involved in two vehicle pursuits with arrests made, and no injuries. He recently attended the PAC meeting and answered questions from the public. He discussed the new booster seat laws and stated that there will be a lot of education taking place while the new laws are being enforced.

FIRE CHIEF DYLAN GAMBLE:

MOTION: Council Member Hurtado made the motion to excuse Fire Chief Gamble from the Council Meeting due to a prior commitment. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MAYOR ART SMYTH:

DANGEROUS DOG ORDINANCE NO. 925:

See Public Comment for discussion –

MOTION: Council Member Housden made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 925. Council Member Hurtado seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of three (3) in favor, and two (2) opposed. Council Members Housden, Hurtado and May in favor, Council Members Christensen and Rieb opposed.

MOTION: Council Member May made the motion to request a review of Ordinance No. 925 at the March 2021 Council Meeting. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 926 PLANNING AGENCY HOUSEKEEPING:

MOTION: Council Member May made the motion to adopt Ordinance No 926, amending multiple provisions in the BMC updating terminology from Planning Commission to Planning Agency and references within the code provisions from the repealed chapter 2.32 to the new chapter 2.33. Council Member Rieb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2020-01 SEWER SERVICES STATE OF EMERGENCY HOSPITAL WAY:

Public Works Director Lee Webster reviewed the sewer issue that is affecting three homes on Hospital Way (402, 408 and 412). All of these homes have septic systems, one of which has completely failed and the other two are failing. Okanogan Co. Public Health came down to inspect these areas, and has declared them a public health emergency. The main issue is the drain fields have now begun to seep through the retaining wall on Hospital Way. Webster stated Resolution 2020-01 has been presented declaring the emergency and allowing City to move forward swiftly to connect these three residences to the City sewer service line. These customers will be charged for this service, however, given the emergent circumstances they will be allowed to make monthly payments over a set period of time for the connection fees.

MOTION: *Council Member May made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-01, declaring a state of emergency with respect to the condition of the City retaining wall adjacent to Hospital Way, waiving the competitive bid requirements and authorizing the Mayor to enter into easements and agreements on behalf of the City to connect certain properties to the City sewer system, disable onsite septic systems and approve payment for services provided by the City over time. Council Member Rieb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

FINANCE DIRECTOR MISTY RUIZ:MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT:

Finance Director Misty Ruiz reviewed the monthly finance report. Council had no questions or concerns.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR LEE WEBSTER:DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY WATER SERVICES CONTRACT:

MOTION: *Council Member Hurtado made the motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the Water Services Contract between the Office of Columbia River WA Department of Ecology and the City of Brewster for Water Rights No G4-31725(A) City of Brewster water projects, when the contract is completed after review. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

PROJECT UPDATES: Public Works Director Lee Webster reviewed the following:

- JUB Updates regarding the manganese removal project as well as the general sewer plan were reviewed. JUB is currently working on the waterlines, wells and well houses. The water rights transfer has been submitted to the DOE for review and additional information has been requested. The draft preliminary engineering report is in final review. The well house project will be advertised in the spring. They are working towards the 30% design set for the City to review later this month for the waterline work. As for the wells, the final determination on an additional well site will be made based on the DOE well and water rights analysis. The well house and pipeline projects will be bid as separate projects. The general sewer plan has been submitted to the DOE for review.
- The salt brine deicer has been delivered and has been used recently in anticipation of snowfall.
- The roller, the sewer camera and the two replacement Public Works utility trucks have been ordered.
- The Boys & Girls Club has again requested to use the Rec Center gym for indoor soccer. Webster and Mayor Smyth met with the Boys & Girls Club director met to discuss this, however, they would like Council input, as previous indoor soccer leagues had caused damage to the walls, lights and fixtures. Council Members on the Park Committee will meet to discuss this further, hopefully with some options and/or criteria for use – if allowed.
- Housden asked if the Rec Center roof replacement was being pursued, as he recalls a previous discussion asking for bids to be obtained in January of 2020. Housden would still like to proceed forward with getting bids on metal and 3-tab roofing. The roof is currently not leaking, but it is going to need to be replaced soon and doing it before it is an emergency is the preferred option. PWD Webster will look into obtaining the pricing and bids.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Art Smyth

ATTEST:

Finance Director, Misty Ruiz

cz/djr