



MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Council Chambers - 1300 First Street

January 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM

WORKSHOP

Ian Cope and Schuyler Burkhart with GH PUD gave presentation.

Darrin King and Stephanie Johannesen with Cosmopolis Community Cares gave presentation.

FLAG SALUTE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING IN NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS – Clerk Kasey Grove swore in Sue Darcy as Councilmember #5 and Steve Davis as Councilmember #4

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Mayor Springer calls the meeting to order; Clerk Grove takes Roll Call.

PRESENT: Councilmember Kim Skinner, Councilmember Jeremy Winn *via Zoom*, Councilmember Justin Spargo, Councilmember Steve Davis, Councilmember Sue Darcy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Skinner moves to approve the agenda; Councilmember Darcy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Darcy moves to approve the consent agenda; Councilmember Skinner seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Winn welcomes new councilmembers and gives apologies of being unable to join in-person and informs he will continue joining via Zoom for the time being. He speaks on information regarding Department of Ecology and Cosmo Specialty Fibers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing – Councilmember Darcy reports vouchers have been reviewed.

Finance – No report.

Parks – Councilmember Winn reports they have reviewed the Comprehensive Parks Plan and plans to work towards updating this, encourages public engagement for opinions or ideas for updates as well. Mayor Springer comments that everything that has been done in the Parks has been from Grant funding and Volunteer work in the past year.

Public Safety – Councilmember Skinner has no report as they have not scheduled a meeting yet.

Public Works – Councilmember Darcy reports Public Works Lead; Donnie has been working on cleaning the drains and street sweeping. Dam operations and maintenance, park clean-up and daily rounds. The Annual Dam Inspection report has been submitted to the Dept. of Ecology. He is also working with Loren from Rural Water on a storm drain project. Addresses the potholes on Corbin that have been of complaint recently.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Clerk– Kasey Grove reminds citizens to give City Hall a call if any concerns or questions on Utility Billing.

Fire Chief Report – Councilmember Skinner reads Chief Cokers report as he was unable to be in attendance tonight. CFD had 351 calls for service in the year 2025 – so far in 2026 there have been 11 calls. One member in Academy who is excited to learn and doing well. We have 3 members in Grays Harbor EMS – EMT course, learning emergency medicine and working hard. Gives thanks to the 5 members completing all this training to better serve our community. EMS Agreement for 2026-2027 has been placed on hold for the time being as the City of Aberdeen is in discussion regarding their current rates.

Police Chief Report – Commander Timmons reports since January 1 there have been 55 service calls for Cosmopolis. Two speed signs will be placed on First Street in the coming weeks. Gives information on how to apply for the vacation checks for citizens that are going out of town.

Building Inspector – Bill Sidor gives report on his end-of-year numbers regarding Permitting and Building Inspection. Cosmopolis School District is moving into their second phase of updates very soon. Notes that he spoke to Gary Swartz and he plans to fix his portion of Corbin he is responsible for this summer which should aid in the concern over potholes.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Springer introduces Roger with LeMay's of Grays Harbor to give a short update on services they offer for Citizens. He spoke about the recycling program they have and options for Senior Discounts available for interested citizens within our community.

Mayor Springer gives update on plans moving forward for the Police side of the Municipal Building as she has been researching the process of renting this space. Limitations will apply to those who will be considered when we begin this process, which will be for office/professional use only.

Update on Sewer negotiations with City of Aberdeen. Sewer team met on Thursday, January 15th – ending with the main goal being to get a new contract in place by the end of Quarter 1. She gives further background information into expired sewer contract and payments made to Aberdeen since she came into office towards sewer billing. Any questions on this, she advised to stop into the office to get answers.

Reminds citizens of the upcoming Department of Ecology public comment period for Cosmo Specialty Fibers that will be open until February 19th, 2026. There will be a Public Meeting and Hearing on

February 11th at 6PM via Zoom, registration is required. She adds that she has encouraged a public meeting much like the one that was held last year at Grays Harbor College.

Timberland Library Services are at the Community Center the last Tuesday of every month during the Senior Luncheon from 12-1, encourages all citizens to take advantage of this opportunity.

Our application for the Washington State Historical Cemetery Grant has been completed, we will find out in February if we are awarded. Plans for upgrades if this grant is awarded are a new roof, windows and paint for the storage building on site and adding a kiosk plus new signage for visitors.

Another Grant in the works with the Bishop Foundation for new climbing equipment at Lions Club Park as well.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- 1. 2026 Contract for CPA, Tara Dunford** – Mayor Springer gives information on updates made in this contract for this year.
- 2. Ordinance 1403 – Business & Occupation Tax** – City Attorney Chris Coker gives information on mandatory Model Ordinance Update for the Business & Occupation Tax threshold. Short discussion with Councilmember Darcy and Attorney Chris Coker on this not really having a huge impact as it is a small threshold update.
- 3. Extension of EMS Contract – Aberdeen** – Councilmember Skinner gives update on current situation in Aberdeen with their EMS rates, putting forth this 6-month extension of our current contract as Aberdeen gets their side settled.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – One citizen comments regarding the B&O Tax Ordinance and ideas for updating the due date in our code.

NEW BUSINESS – Council Action

- 1. Vote to approve 2026 Contract for Tara Dunford, CPA** – Councilmember Davis moves to approve the 2026 Contract for Tara Dunford, CPA; Councilmember Skinner seconded.
No discussion: **Motion passed unanimously**
- 2. Vote to adopt Ordinance 1403 – Business & Occupation Tax** – Councilmember Skinner moves to Adopt Ordinance 1403 – Business & Occupation Tax Threshold Update; Councilmember Darcy seconded.
Discussion: Councilmember Davis suggested to table this until further clarity is provided based on citizen comment. Attorney Chris Coker reminds this is a mandatory update for Washington cities but that is up to council how they will move forward. Councilmember Darcy believes they can move forward and approve tonight, then gather further information and do other updates if needed in the future.
Motion passed unanimously
- 3. Vote to approve the Extension of EMS Contract w/ Aberdeen** – Councilmember Darcy moves to Approve the extension of EMS Contract w/ Aberdeen; Councilmember Skinner seconded.

Discussion: Councilmember Davis has question regarding additional compensation that Aberdeen can collect in current contract, curious what we have been charged within this category. Mayor Springer encouraged Councilmember Davis to come into office to request that information.

-Voting Aye; 3

-Voting Nay; 2

Motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Skinner welcomes Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Darcy. Thanks all volunteers within the city and all involved citizens. Looks forward to the Cosmopolis Community Cares group and what they have planned for Cosmopolis. Makes note on the ongoing collaboration between Aberdeen and Cosmopolis on this sewer contract and hopes to get this wrapped up soon.

Councilmember Darcy suggests any questions regarding the EMS contract with Aberdeen to be brought to the Public Safety committee meetings as this is the perfect place to bring these concerns and have those conversations moving forward. She also gives update on the success of the Food Pantry that is continuing every Wednesday at the Community Center.

Councilmember Winn gives appreciation for all the people involved in working for the city.

Councilmember Davis gives thanks for all the support and is looking forward to representing the City of Cosmopolis again. Gives appreciation to Mayor Springer and Councilmembers for all their work and the progress that has been made in the past few years. He suggested having an additional Council meeting each month in hopes of speeding up the process of government.

Councilmember Darcy moved to Adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Skinner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:07PM.