



MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Fire Hall - 111 D Street

December 17th, 2025 at 7:00 PM

FLAG SALUTE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 Mark Collett, Councilmember Sue Darcy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Skinner states a New Business Discussion item and Action item need to be added to the agenda tonight. The Surplus of Police Department Items under New Business Discussion, and then a vote to approve the surplus of Police Department items under New Business - Council Action. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the additions, Councilmember Skinner seconded. Passed unanimously.

Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the amended agenda; Councilmember Spargo seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Winn wanted to thank everyone who came out to the Holiday party and all those who helped host.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing – Councilmember Darcy reports this was covered at the earlier meeting this month, with nothing to add.

Finance – No report.

Parks – Councilmember Spargo reported they had a meeting earlier this week and they are working on the Parks Comprehensive Plan that has needed to be updated for many years. He reports the play toy slide at Lion's Club is still out of service and they are working on getting that removed before the end of the year.

Public Safety – Councilmember Skinner reported they held a meeting last night, Councilmember Collett was unable to attend. Issues have been raised about speeding happening on Dundee and Franklin near the Park, he gives a few ideas for how the City can manage this. Another concern was the Park and Walk near RV Park on First Street. Citizens worried about vehicles parking and staying there for extended periods of time, ideas of looking into/updating ordinance for these concerns. A forming citizens group has asked to be present to give information on their ideas moving forward as we no longer will have a Police Department for the City but will be contracted with Aberdeen Police Department starting January 1, 2026. Councilmember Skinner reads from the document provided by the Neighborhood Watch Program and gives further information he gathered during the meeting on what their plans are for this group.

Public Works – Councilmember Darcy reports further information regarding the Citizens group as she met with them also. She reports the Annual Dam Inspection has been completed and submitted for the year by PW Lead Donnie Fowler.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Clerk– Clerk Grove reports the Final Budget has been approved at the last meeting and will be posted in the required places by the end of the month. She also encourages if anyone has questions regarding the Budget, please come into City Hall or reach out to Mayor Springer via email.

Police Chief Report – Chief Layman passes on a citizen’s request for gratitude of Councilmember Darcy who went above and beyond helping her this week. He reports two collisions that happened in the last few weeks on First Street within Cosmopolis. Notifies citizens of the car accident he was involved in on his way home to Raymond in his marked patrol vehicle. Gave thanks to the Raymond Police Department for assisting him and conducting the investigation. Chief Layman gives kudos to Police Clerk, Kasey Grove for all her work completing the Business Audit for their access system. He also shows his support for the forming citizens group within the city as they are taking the initiative to keep their city safe. He also gives his final report stating he has been responsible for over 8,600 calls for Cosmopolis since October 1998, and thanks the community for the opportunity to serve them over the years. Aberdeen gives their call reports and details into a few incidents within the city in December.

Fire Chief Report – Chief Coker reports 341 calls for the year of 2025. The current EMS agreement with Aberdeen expires on December 31st of this year, he gives detail into new 2-year contract they have agreed upon with a rate increase. This is all still in the proposal stages and will need to be approved by Council before going into effect.

Building Inspector – Bill Sidor has no report this meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Springer reports the closure dates coming up this month and the first week of January. Reminds citizens starting in January Council meetings will return to regular schedule of once a month on the third Wednesday at 7pm. Updated Council meeting calendar will be posted in the city case at the Cosmopolis Post Office. Gives thanks to partners Grays Harbor County, the City of Aberdeen and our PW Lead Donnie Fowler for all their help and hard work during the weather systems that have happened this month. She also reports she reached out to Aberdeen regarding our Levee as other cities have experienced failures in Washington. They reported no concerns or issues as they consistently monitor this. With these weather systems the Dam did exactly what it is designed to do, there was extensive training provided on Dam protocols and safety checks for PW and Donnie has kept up on all of that. Yearly Dam reports are not required but the city has decided to report yearly. Mayor Springer reports

the city was awarded the Periodic Update Grant through the Department of Commerce to get started on updating our Comprehensive Plan. She adds a new council member will be sworn in at our January Council meeting and welcomes Steve Davis. She thanks Councilmember Mark Collett for serving the citizens of Cosmopolis with honesty and integrity throughout his term. She then recognizes Police Chief Layman for his dedicated service to the community over the last 27 years with a prepared statement and presents him with a plaque.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- 1. Update on River’s Edge Waterfront Townhomes Project** – Kellie Daniels begins to give update on her project and issues she has dealt with regarding the project and the city. During this portion of the meeting that was supposed to be an update on the project, Mrs. Daniels wanted to address council regarding her concerns with fees passed by them. Mayor Springer attempted to redirect Mrs. Daniels to the topic of updating council on the progress of her project and advised this was not a time for discussion on fees. Following this several interactions occurred back and forth amongst Council, Mayor Springer, and Kellie Daniels. *(For further details, please watch meeting recording via City website)*
- 2. Proposed fees for Residential Water/Sewer Connections** – Bill Sidor gives information on these fees not being updated since 1998, he reports they needed to be updated a long time ago and that is why he brought it forward tonight. Councilmember Spargo questions how he came to these fees, Bill Sidor refers him to the email he sent out to all Councilmembers that includes all the information on this. Councilmember Skinner reads information aloud to citizens to better understand these numbers. Bill also clarifies these are fees for new Residential Hook-ups only. Councilmember Winn asks what is considered “outside city limits”, Bill gives more information on that term.
- 3. Surplus of Police Department Items** – Councilmember Skinner informs of multiple items needing to be put for Surplus before end of year as the Police Department is ending. Chief Layman says there is a lot to get done but he wants to get as much done as possible before the end of year. Other cities have expressed interest in multiple items, and he is willing to get as much out as he can before December 31. Councilmember Skinner recommends council moves forward on this tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Citizen comments regarding the Police Department surplus of items and is in full support of giving Chief Layman authority over handling this. Another citizen asks Councilmember Skinner for advice on moving forward when hitting roadblocks while working with the city, and how to get the help needed from Council if that isn’t available at these meetings. Councilmember Skinner addresses comment with his advice. Discussion proceeded amongst Council, Mayor Springer, Citizen, and Cosmopolis City Attorney. *(For further details, please watch meeting recording via City website)* Citizen makes comment regarding his thoughts on updating fees and the little time he sees given ahead of time when making these updates, and an idea moving forward when working on updates like this.

NEW BUSINESS – Council Action

- 1. Vote to approve Resolution 2025-16 Residential Sewer Connection Fees** – Councilmember Darcy moves to approve Resolution 2025-16 Residential Sewer Connection Fees, Councilmember Skinner seconded.

Motion passed unanimously

- 2. Vote to approve Resolution 2025-17 Residential Water Connection Fees** – Councilmember Darcy moves to approve Resolution 2025-17 Residential Water Connection Fees, Councilmember Skinner seconded.

Motion passed unanimously

- 3. Vote to approve Surplus of Police Department Items** – Councilmember Collett motioned to approve Surplus of Police Department Items, Councilmember Skinner seconded. Including an amendment to include giving Chief Layman full authority to make best decisions for the city.

Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Citizen comments to show support of Aberdeen Police Department contracting with the city, he believes we will be in good hands as he had a situation occur near his home and they did a great job handling that. Another citizen who is part of the new community program makes comment to inform citizens they can reach out to cosmopoliscommunitycares@hotmail.com for more information, or to get involved with this committee. A third citizen gives thanks to Mark Collett for his service to the city as a councilmember, then gives extreme gratitude and thanks to Chief Layman for all he has done for the city during his employment. He adds the city will never be able to replace him. A fourth citizen comments in response to previous discussion during Public Comment time, asking how certain fees were derived that were voted on and passed at the last council meeting. She requests further transparency and better communication amongst council, administration, and business developers.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Skinner comments that one of the best parts over the last two years since he took office has been the working environment he has had with Chief Layman, he commends the Chief on his character and dedication to this city. He wishes him the best and says he will be very missed.

Councilmember Winn addressed some of the concerns of Mrs. Daniels, encourages her to reach out to him as he is happy to further discuss her issues and try to aid in solving issues she has come up against. He also reminds everyone of the OPMA in Washington State and rules that Councilmembers must follow while holding Office. He also thanks Chief Layman for his service and representing the City of Cosmopolis over the years.

Councilmember Spargo gives thanks to Councilmember Collett for serving on Council for the last 4-years. He also gives thanks to Chief Layman and wishes everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Darcy wishes the best to Councilmember Collett, she gives special thanks to Chief Layman for being there for her in difficult times.

Councilmember Collett shows his appreciation to Chief Layman for his service to the city. He says it has been an honor to serve on this Council, there have been hard times faced and they have handled them head on. An honor to serve alongside Mayor Springer, the administration staff, and serving the city of Cosmopolis. He had hoped for a different outcome in the election and had hoped to ride through with Cosmopolis to better times. He congratulates the new Councilmember Steve Davis and shares his hopes moving forward.

Mayor Springer notifies of the reception being held for Chief Layman in January and encourages everyone to attend.

Councilmember Skinner moved to Adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Collett seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:34PM.