



McCleary Regular City Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 – 6:30 PM

McCleary Community Center & Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Call to Order/Flag Salute/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm.

PRESENT

Councilmember Jacob Simmons

Councilmember Brycen Huff

Councilmember Max Ross

Councilmember Andrea Dahl

Councilmember Keith Klimek

Agenda Modifications/Acceptance

Motion made by Councilmember Dahl, Seconded by Councilmember Klimek to accept the Agenda.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Ross, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

Presentations

1. Aquifer Study

David Nausee from EA Engineering gave an update on the aquifer study.

Councilmember Ross asked about the percentage for growth available. Nausee stated....

Public Hearing

2. Signs Ordinance - Continued from 05/08/2024 Meeting

The Signs Public Hearing opened at 7:14pm, there was no public comment. Public Hearing closed at 7:15pm.

Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

Jeff Geer said he pays for the water but cannot drink it. Geer also wanted to know who put the post on Facebook on the 14th. The excuse was the geomagnetic storm caused the influx of chlorine in the water. Is that the best excuse? Geer knows the mayor believes the education level of the citizens of McCleary is 8th grade or below. Something needs to be done with everything that is getting thrown out there. It's pure lies.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Simmons asked for the Mayor's travel be charged to his fund and not the water fund. His funds for travel are already used up for the year. That is supposed to be for Employees trainings. Councilmember Dahl agrees with this, which they brought up in the Finance Meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Huff asked if they wanted to freeze travel for the rest of the year for the Mayor. He has used all of his travel for the year already, and is \$1300 over.

Motion made by Councilmember Huff, Seconded by Councilmember Klimek to approve the consent agenda with the exception to freeze travel for the Mayor and to move his travel charge from water to the mayor's fund

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Ross, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

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3. Accounts Payable May 1-15, 2024 Ck Numbers 53309-53367 Including EFT's Totaling \$265,471.88

4. Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2024

Updates

5. Water Discussion

Councilmember Ross says we all know there was a chlorine spike in the water last week. He would like to have a brief discussion on this, but would like to discuss this further when Kevin Trehwella, Water Treatment Manager, can be here to address what happened.

Public Works Director Chad Bedlington said about 7 days ago, we had a spike in the chlorine level. There were two causes, human error and a fouled sensor in the chlorine pumps. We now have a chlorine level log that we keep that weekend duty crew can check. Bedlington said we like to keep the chlorine levels between .05 and .65 parts per million and we had levels as high as 5 parts per million which is the cap and we have to report it to the Health Department. The automated system was showing there were zero parts of chlorine in the water which caused the pump to run more. Bedlington thanked Councilmember Ross for doing his own water testing and notifying the City. McCleary resident Dustin Richey asked since we reached chlorine levels or 5 and higher, was this reported to the Health Department? Bedlington said, if it hasn't been done already, then it should have been.

Huff asked Bedlington, when this post went out about the solar storm screwing up our water, the information you are giving us tonight is more plausible. Is the City going to put something out that is believable, like you provided tonight, that explains what happened and what is being done to fix the issue, so they aren't expected to believe this was caused by the Northern Lights, and that McCleary was the only City affected by this. Bedlington said he didn't agree with the post, and he's basing his comments tonight on what he believes to be true.

Councilmember Simmons thanked Bedlington for being here tonight. Simmons wanted to know if this was the same issue that happened on March 13, 2023, and what wasn't done to fix this from then until this last event happened? Bedlington will have to check into this.

Councilmember Dahl said the Facebook post was embarrassing. Comments were turned off so people couldn't even ask questions about it. She got calls from people asking about it. Dahl wanted to know if Kevin was the only operator. Bedlington stated Kevin and Joe are both operators.

Bedlington explained what settings have been changed with the pumps and when alerts are made. Councilmembers would like the post removed from Facebook and a new post made.

New Business

Old Business

6. SCJ Contract Modification

Bedlington would like to move this until after the comprehensive plan ordinance is discussed. After Ordinance passed, Bedlington said there are some development codes that need updated and zoning changes that need to be made. He's asking for Council to modify our existing contract with SCJ Alliance with a cost of \$18,500. Huff asked if this can be done at any time. Without knowing if growth is coming, is the expense worth it? Bedlington said developers may need this. Councilmember Ross asked if we got multiple bids on this because \$18,500 seems high for code writing. Bedlington explained that its a revamp of title 17 but he's open to other suggestions.

7. WA Families Clean Energy Credits Grant Contract with Department of Commerce

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Council would like more time to review this. Item tabled until the June 12th meeting.

Ordinances and Resolutions

8. Signs Ordinance

Clerk-Treasurer Jenna Amsbury said they removed the parts about signs on public property. Councilmember Ross likes the changes that was made. Councilmember Huff wanted changes to the private property section on this.

Motion made by Councilmember Ross, Seconded by Councilmember Simmons to approve Ordinance 890.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Ross, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

Voting Nay: Councilmember Huff

9. Public Records Ordinance

Motion made by Councilmember Ross, Seconded by Councilmember Klimek to approve the Public Records Ordinance.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ross

Voting Nay: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

Ordinance Fails.

10. Comprehensive Plan Ordinance

Chad Bedlington gave a recap from the last meeting on the Comprehensive Plan.

Motion made by Councilmember Ross, Seconded by Councilmember Simmons to adopt Ordinance 891.

Roll Call Vote

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Ross, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

11. Camera Policy Resolution

Mayor Pro-tem Huff said we do not have an adopted camera policy and asked the policy committee if they had anything to add. Councilmember Simmons explained what they added to the policy. This rests on the Chief of Police and there will be no access to Council or Mayor.

Council discussed what cameras can view and if private property can be blacked out.

Councilmember Klimek said he talked with the Police Chief and he didn't think it was important that he take the time to learn this. Klimek said it is important that he learns it because he doesn't want anyone else other than the police to be accessing the cameras.

Huff would like the policy to state that the Chief or Sergeant will be the camera designees.

Simmons wants to know how long it takes to get the login information. It shouldn't take this long. Dahl said several have asked for this data. She said she has several changes that she Emailed that she would like added to the policy.

Huff asked for a timeline of when the logs will be provided. He was told on May 6th that they would have them by the end of the week.

Dahl would like to see where the cameras are located because she cannot find it on the website anymore.

Simmons would like to look over this again and bring it back for the next meeting.

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Ross would like the cameras to be turned back on as soon as possible.

Public Comment - City Business Only

Ron Mullins spoke in regards to the water needing to be safe. He was a social worker and met with the elderly who wanted to talk about the power rates. The Council can talk to GHPUD to absorb the McCleary customers. A senior citizen outside of McCleary spoke about her power rates. She is on a budget pay.

Huff explained that our bills are all the utilities on one billing.

Paul Nott explained our utility rates and people think it's their power bill, but it's also their water and sewer on one bill. Our power bill has always been lower than all the surrounding utilities; Grays Harbor PUD, Mason PUD and Puget Sound Energy. Nott explained that if you live in Elma, you get two bills, a City bill and a PUD bill, in McCleary, you get 1 bill.

Mark spoke about Public Records. He said to contact Russell Woods, he is the State Records Archive Manager and will be able to answer your questions.

Executive Session

Council Comments

Huff asked for an update from a prior meeting on the potholes and the odor from the Treatment Plant.

Bedlington said the odor stuff has been implemented. We have a very limited streets budget for the potholes.

We cannot do a full alley restoration, which is what that alley needs. But we can do some cold mix repairs.

Dahl asked how everything was going with the new IT company. Bedlington said the Police will need more work, a revised scope of work. She asked if a new RFP has been started yet and Bedlington said, not yet.

Simmons said the delay in getting getting the camera login information is unacceptable. The Mayor's answer is unacceptable. To withhold information from the Council on the camera system is unacceptable.

Mayor Comments

Adjourn

Motion made by Councilmember Klimek, Seconded by Councilmember Simmons to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Simmons, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Ross, Councilmember Dahl, Councilmember Klimek

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