

Town of Yacolt Town Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 12th, 2024 7:00 PM Town Hall

Call to Order

7:00 PM

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Jeff Carothers, Kandi Peto, Craig Carroll, Marina Viray

Vacant Council Seat: Position 4

Also present: Mayor Ian Shealy, Attorney David Ridenour, and Public Works Director Terry Gardner. Town Clerk Stephanie

Fields.

Late Changes to the Agenda

Mayor Shealy added item #11: Appointing a new EMS Board Representative to replace former Councilmember Homola

Approve Minutes of 10/14/24 Meeting

Motion: Carothers 2nd: Peto

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Viray Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Vacancy: Position 4

Motion Carried

Approve Minutes 10/15/24 Special Council Meeting-Budget Workshop

Motion: Peto 2nd: Carroll

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Viray Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Vacancy: Position 4

Motion Carried

Approve Minutes 11/6/24 Special Council Meeting-Resolution 607

Motion: Peto 2nd: Carroll

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Viray Nay: 0 Absent: 0 Vacancy: Position 4

Motion Carried

Citizen Communication

Chuck Zellmer spoke in support of approving liquor license in agenda item #5, Jonathan LaSalle spoke in opposition of approving the liquor license, Patty Benge spoke in support, TracieJean Gorbet spoke in support, Mark Rose spoke in support of issuing the license. Brendan McGuinn asked about agenda item #10 regarding issuance of the SEPA DNS. Issac Robertson also commented about item #10 saying there are fish in the stream and historic properties involved.

Unfinished Business

Interview Candidates for Council Position #4

The council asked candidates about qualifications and skills related to making decisions for the Town, why applicants wanted to be on the council, whether they could commit to the time, how would they improve upon the health of the Town, and how they resolve conflicts and other scenarios. Mayor Shealy closed the public meeting at 7:35pm for a 10-minute Executive Session to discuss the candidates' qualifications. Mayor Shealy reopened Public Meeting at 7:45pm. Council voted by secret ballot and Brandon Russell had all the votes. Motion was made to appoint Brandon Russell to Council Position #4.

Motion: Carothers 2nd: Peto

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Viray Nay: 0

Motion Carried

Brandon Russell was sworn in by the Town Clerk and took his position at the council table at seat #4.

Liquor License Application for Tacos Sensacion

Clerk Fields presented the WA State Liquor and Cannabis Board's position and responses to questions raised at the October 14th meeting. After more discussion by Council members, the Owner of Tacos Sensacion, and input from citizens in attendance, a motion was made to not protest Tacos Sensacion's Liquor License Application.

Motion: Viray **2**nd: Carroll

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Russell, Viray Nay: 0

Motion Carried

New Business

Public Hearing re: Proposed 2025 Budget

Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 8:01pm. Discussion by the public and Council centered on next year's Rendezvous Days events. Attendees were encouraged to come to the regular events group meetings. Mayor Shealy closed the Public Hearing and re-opened the regular meeting at 8:09 pm.

Public Hearing re: 2025 Revenue and Budget Levy Resolution #628

Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 8:10 pm. Two public attendees asked about the levy: Amy Yerkes asked why not make the levy bigger, and Jonathan LaSalle asked about requirements for grants such as the UGA Update Grant the Town is receiving. When discussion ended, Mayor Shealy closed the Hearing and re-opened the regular meeting at 8:18pm. Motion was made to approve Resolution #628, thereby adopting the proposed 2025 Property Tax Levy.

Motion: Carroll 2nd: Viray

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Russell, Viray Nay: 0

Motion Carried

Public Hearing re: 2025 EMS Levy Resolution #629

Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 8:19 pm. Kim Ried presented EMS' position, use of, and need for the Levy, and brief discussion followed. At 8:27 pm, Mayor Shealy closed the Public Hearing and re-opened the regular meeting. Motion was made to approve Resolution #629, thereby adopting the 2025 EMS Levy.

Motion: Carroll **2**nd: Carothers

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Viray Nay: 0 Abstain: Russell

Motion Carried

Proposed Agreement for 2025 Engineering Services / Resolution #630

Attorney Ridenour suggested adding back some boiler-plate language to the proposed contract, which the Engineer has already agreed to. Councilmember Peto had some questions, and while some were answered there at the meeting, she asked to table the decision until the next meeting so that she had more time to look the contract over, including the changes proposed. It was agreed to bring this discussion back at the December meeting.

Public Hearing re: Jorgensen Timber Harvest /SEPA DNS

Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing 8:39pm. No one representing the Applicant was present. Questions were raised by public members regarding: who conducted the DNS, why are the historic ruins not addressed in the checklist, why is there no mention that the creek has fish in it, how many houses are planned to be built there, and how will the property west of the creek be accessed. Peto suggested continuing the hearing at the December meeting to allow for the Applicant to be present to answer questions and any more which may be raised. Mayor Shealy closed the Hearing at 9:01 pm, and motion was made to table any decision until after the hearing's continuation at the December meeting.

Motion: Carroll 2nd: Peto

Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Russell, Viray Nay: 0

Motion Carried

Town Clerk's Report

- Audit is officially over; Exit Conference was last Wednesday. There were no findings, but there were suggestions made in a management letter for improving procedures.
- Date is set for Hazardous Household Waste event: April 26th. Would like to plan the Town Clean-Up for the same

day.

- Next Event Meeting is November 25th; please come and sign up to volunteer at the Christmas Tree Lighting to be held on Dec. 7th.
- Welcome Brandon to Town Council!

Public Works Department Report

- Filled 2 40-yd. dumpsters with leaves and limbs so far this fall.
- Trying to keep up with potholes on Hubbard.
- Seeking volunteers for the week leading up to the Tree Lighting.
- Our electronic readerboard was hit by a truck last Saturday night.
- Tomorrow night at 5:00 we're going to start packing ornaments for the ornament hunt. Anyone want to join us?

Attorney's Comments

- Will be raising rates next year; should we send out an RFP for legal services? Will bring engagement letter to December meeting.
- Being mindful of fees, holding meetings re: permit processing. Kristin is training to process applications more thoroughly.
- Addressed question about inequitable/excess fees on a permit
- Tidbit: New law in effect Jan. 1 requires faster timelines for permit issuance.

Citizen's Communication

Brendan McGuinn wanted people to know about a new surface mining overlay on Sunset Falls Rd. Amy Yerkes asked if trees on Yacolt Rd could be trimmed up.

Council's Comments

- All welcomed new Council Member Russell to the "team".
- Viray: asked about getting a port-a-potty at the Town Park, since the restrooms are closed due to vandalism (and for the winter).

Mayor's Comments

- Will be walking the Town with LaCenter Mayor on Friday to evaluate camera priorities/placement.
- UGA Update meeting tomorrow.
- Will meet with Sheriff's Dep't. re: more coverage in our Town.

Approve to Pay Bills on Behalf of the Town

Motion: Peto 2nd: Carroll Aye: Carothers, Peto, Carroll, Russell, Viray

Nay: 0

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and adjourned for a 15-minute executive session at 9:43 pm. At 9:58 pm, he extended the session until 10:08 pm. At 10:08, he closed the executive session and re-opened the regular meeting.

<u>Adjourn:</u> 10:08pm	
Mayor an Shealy	Town Clerk Stephanie Fields
Approved by Council vote on 12 -9-24	