



**Town of Yacolt**  
**Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, October 11, 2021**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Town Hall / Virtual / Telephonic**

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**Call to Order**

7:00 PM

**Flag Salute**

**Roll Call**

Council Members Present: Michelle Dawson, Joshua Beck, Ronald Homola, Marina Viray

Absent: Amy Boget

Also Present: Mayor Listek, Town Attorney David Ridenour, Public Works Staff Terry Gardner and John Parker, and Clerk Stephanie Fields

**Late Changes to the Agenda**

There will be no executive session in tonight's meeting.

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Motion to approve Minutes from 9-13-21 Council Meeting

**Motion:** Beck            **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Viray

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray            **Nay:** 0            **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

Motion to approve minutes from 9-27-21 Budget Workshop

**Motion:** Homola            **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Beck

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray            **Nay:** 0            **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

Motion to approve minutes from 10-4-21 Budget Workshop

**Motion:** Beck            **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Viray

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray            **Nay:** 0            **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

**Citizen Communication**

- Autumn Murdock came forward as President of Yacolt PTO. She said they really need volunteers for the Fall Festival on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

- Jeff Carothers came up to thank the Town’s staff and elected officials for all they’ve been doing through the tough times we’ve had, trying to make things as “normal” as possible. He is impressed with what Public Works has accomplished within a limited budget.
- A statement sent in by Mike Ranweiler was read, urging the Council to research applying ARPA funds to improved broadband service, and encouraging them to work with the Washington State Broadband Office to best apply the funds to their fullest extent.

**New Business**

**Pumpkin Painting Contest**

Winners have been selected for the Pumpkin Painting Contest sponsored by Desiree Lorentz: 1<sup>st</sup> place goes to Hailey Hermanson for her “Frankenstein” pumpkin, and 2<sup>nd</sup> place goes to Sammie Jean for her portrayal of Jack Skellington from Nightmare Before Christmas.

**Chicken Permission**

Megan Calcagno submitted a request to keep chickens in her backyard. Motion was made for Megan to be able to keep up to 8 hens in her backyard, pursuant to YMC6.10.

**Motion:** Homola      2<sup>nd</sup>: Dawson

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray      **Nay:** 0      **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

**C-Tran Update**

Mayor Listek read Dennis Hill’s letter updating local areas on what C-Tran has been up to and what plans they have for the near future. Most notably: They are beginning to build a new Bus Transit center on Mill Plain, and they plan to implement their new Microtransit Service this January.

**Town Hall / Community Room Use**

The PTO and at least one Neighborhood Watch have expressed interest in using what is currently Council Chambers for their meetings. Council members said they’d like the room to only be used for meetings at this point, as opposed to parties and other such events. They also agreed that as long as there is a staff member or elected official present at the meetings, there would not be a charge to use the room. Later on, when Council Chambers upstairs is completed, perhaps they will rent out the “Community Room” downstairs for parties, etc. Motion was made to reflect the above guidelines.

**Motion:** Homola      2<sup>nd</sup>: Viray

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray      **Nay:** 0      **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

**Memorial Plaque**

Motion was made to install a plaque in memory of Dan Wagner near the Town Christmas Tree.

**Motion:** Beck      2<sup>nd</sup>: Dawson

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray      **Nay:** 0      **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

### **Rotate Finance Committee**

Michelle Dawson nominated Marina Viray to be rotated onto the finance committee.

**Motion:** Dawson                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Homola

**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray                      **Nay:** 0                      **Absent:** Boget

***Motion Passed***

### **Public Hearing on the 2022 Proposed Budget**

The Mayor closed the regular meeting and opened up the Public Hearing at 7:28 pm.

Jeff Carothers spoke once again, mentioning that the Town has made huge financial strides in the past 8-10 years. If more Townspeople would come to the meetings, they would be informed about that.

He thanked the Town for continuing to do all they do, within the relatively small budget. Hopefully the Town will continue to receive help from the Townspeople.

With no more comments made, Mayor Listek closed the Public Hearing and re-convened the regular meeting at 7:31 pm.

### **Town Clerk's Report**

- Researching internet improvement options
- Working on the 2022 Budget
- Starting on the 2022 Tax Levy Resolution
- Going to create a Resolution for the 2021 Budget Amendment
- Preparing for our 3-year audit, which is scheduled to begin tomorrow

### **Public Works Department Report**

- Terry Gardner said he's so glad to have the inmates back helping again. Today was their first day. We have a crew of 4 and they've already gotten so much done! We will have them next week also, and for two weeks in November.
- The next time we have two dry days in a row, he and John plan to finish the Town Square for the year.
- They also plan to complete the first phase of the cemetery road before the end of the year.
- He got a message from Clark PUD that soon they will be delivering pretty much as many telephone poles as we need for the Rec Park parking lot.

### **Attorney's Comments**

Update on our judgement on the Hardin property: the probate attorney plans to schedule a hearing for November 12. At that time, she plans to file a motion to vacate the occupants and their belongings. Once that happens, she plans to sell the property to pay off all debts, including the debt to the Town of Yacolt.

### **Citizen Communication**

Amy Yerkes wants to learn more about what can be done about speeders and property destroyers in Town. She lives on E Yacolt Rd, and says people make cookies on that road all the time; in fact she has video of a guy riding on the top of a car while it sped down the road. She says they knock over mailboxes and tear up the ground. She has spoken with the Sheriff's office, and they didn't give her much confidence that they can do a lot, unless they catch the culprits in the act. So Amy is asking for aggressive speed bumps to be installed on more roads in Town, especially the main roads. She and

others have formed a neighborhood watch in their area. She has also spoken with the Sheriff's office regarding the many thefts in the area, and was told their office is doing an ongoing investigation.

**Council's Comments**

- Dawson – Has also been talking with people around Town about the many recent thefts. She asked why are we paying the Sheriff's department if they can do so little for us? She is willing to set up a citizens' night watch, and would like a table to be set up at our next Outdoor Market where people can sign up to form neighborhood watches.  
Dawson also wanted to thank the Town's staff, Council, and citizens for all being united.
- Beck- A neighborhood Watch has been started in his part of Town, spearheaded by a woman named Savannah. They hope to meet at Town Hall on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Anyone wishing to join may contact Beck directly by phone or email.
- Viray- A big Thank You to Terry and John for their help with the Outdoor Market all day on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you to Desiree for putting together and sponsoring the Pumpkin Painting Contest. The next Market will be on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor's Comments**

Also thanked those who helped with the Market. We will need volunteers to help with the Market on December 4<sup>th</sup>, as that is the day we will be doing our Christmas Tree Lighting and dedicating the Memorial Plaque for Dan Wagner. The Tree lighting will be from 4-6pm, at the new Town Square. We are working on arrangements for Curly the Camel, a band and a choir, and Santa Photos.

**Approve to Pay Bills on Behalf of the Town**

**Motion:** Homola                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Beck  
**Aye:** Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray                      **Nay:** 0                      **Absent:** Boget

**Adjourn**

8:16 PM

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Katelyn Listek, Mayor

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Stephanie Fields, Clerk