



Town of Yacolt

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 12, 2024
7:00 PM
Town Hall

Call to Order

7:00 PM

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Joe Wisniewski, Kandi Peto, Ronald Homola, Marina Viray

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

Council Member Absent: Craig Carroll

Late Changes to the Agenda

No Executive Session; Add item #14: Library HVAC Proposal; Add item #15: Address Mapping

Approve Minutes of 1-8-24 Meeting (Councilmember Homola suggested a minor change)

Motion: Viray 2nd: Peto

Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Homola, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Carroll

Motion Carried

Approve Minutes of 1-22-24 Special Meeting

Motion: Homola 2nd: Peto

Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Homola, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Carroll

Motion Carried

Approve Minutes of 2-5-24 Special Meeting

Motion: Viray 2nd: Peto

Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Homola, Viray

Nay: 0

Absent: Carroll

Motion Carried

Citizen Communication

Ann Van Antwerp asked for the meeting minutes from January 8th to be re-approved using the language Councilmember Homola indicated, reflecting that Councilmember Carroll did *not* vote on the Conditional Use Permit at the January 8th meeting. Council complied.

Unfinished Business

Public Hearing re: Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance #596

At 7:07 pm, Mayor Shealy closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing. After his instructions, he asked the Clerk if there had been any written comments submitted; there were none. After Attorney Ridenour summarized the process and the Ordinance, there were no new comments or testimony. Mayor Shealy closed the Public Hearing and re-opened the regular meeting at 7:14 pm. Attorney Ridenour then continued to explain the reasoning and history behind the Ordinance, citing that FEMA changes regulations and flood plain maps every so often.

Ordinance #596 Adoption

Motion was made to adopt Ordinance #596.

Motion: Viray 2nd: Homola
Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Homola, Viray **Nay:** 0 **Absent:** Carroll
Motion Carried

Railroad Avenue Subdivision Update

Attorney Ridenour gave an update on the documents recorded with Clark County after Mayor Shealy read the agenda memo detailing the HOA changes.

Witt Counteroffer

Mayor Shealy read the agenda memo, and then Attorney Ridenour explained that what Mr. Witt has recently asked the Town to pay for (boundary line adjustment) could possibly cost an additional \$16,000 or so. He’s waiting for a call back from the Assessor’s office. Councilmembers Homola and Peto asked a few questions, and were told that there is still a lot to be fleshed out in the Agreement; it’s very preliminary at this point. Ridenour suggested that he and the Clerk gather more info to present at the next meeting.

New Business

Resolution #623: Tort Claims Agent

Attorney Ridenour explained that the Town has not had a specific designee for service of a Tort Claim, though State Law calls for a designee. Motion was made to adopt the Resolution, with a change on page 2: replacing “special meeting” with “regular meeting”.

Motion: Homola 2nd: Viray
Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Homola, Viray **Nay:** 0 **Absent:** Carroll
Motion Carried

Comprehensive Plan Update Proposal

Town Engineer Devin Jackson said that the Comp Plan Update is in full-swing state-wide. Ours is due June 30, 2025. Jackson has secured two separate grants for the Town to offset costs for development of the Comp Plan, including the state’s new required Climate Change Element. Some of the work will be done by Clark County on the Town’s behalf. Jackson explained the process and the various elements and requirements of the Plan updates. Citizens in attendance asked questions about the work to be done, and Jackson stated that one of the first things he will be doing is setting up community outreach. Following discussion between Council, Jackson, Ridenour, and several citizens in attendance, Mayor Shealy handed out copies of an Agreement the Washington Department of Commerce would like to have him sign relating to the Updates. (The Agreement had just been emailed to the Town that afternoon.) Councilmember Peto suggested any decisions regarding signing the Agreement should be tabled until the next meeting, to give Councilmembers sufficient time to read it through and consider it.

Security Cameras

Mayor Shealy presented the need for more security cameras at the parks and Town Hall. Public Works Director Gardner handed out 3 different bids he's gotten, but they were apples-to-oranges, and they ranged from \$35,000-\$42,000. After some discussion, it was decided that at the next meeting, Councilmembers should come prepared with a list of features they want in the camera systems (ie: picture clarity, memory, accessibility, etc.). Then a standard list can be put together so that a formal bid process can begin.

Revoke WATV Ordinance?

Mayor Shealy explained that there has been some confusion around Town between the motorcycle and WATV laws, and that Deputy Harris asked to come to our March meeting and speak with Council and community members about what can and should be done. Harris feels like there is some duplication in the laws, but Ridenour countered that he doesn't believe there is. Council decided they would like to invite Harris to our March meeting to hear what he has to say.

Request for Permission for Runners to Camp in Rec Park During BigFoot/Hellz Bellz Race Events

Peto asked Gardner if in previous years, the group had taken good care of the grounds. HE said they had been very good. Homola asked if we could ask the group to keep the volume of their music turned down; it's been pretty loud the past couple of years. Motion was made to allow the group to camp in the park for the event.

Motion: Viray 2nd: Peto

Aye: Wisniewski, Peto, Viray **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** Homola **Absent:** Carroll

Motion Carried

HVAC System for the Library

The Library wants to install a new HVAC system, and they are asking for input from the Town as well as to have the Town pay ½ the cost. They have been using space heaters and air conditioners. They have replaced the windows (with ones that do not open) at their own expense. Bids they've gotten for a new HVAC system have ranged from \$30,000-40,000. Homola and Peto suggested that we bring this up for the 2025 Budget.

Address Mapping

Fire Chief Bryce Shirley explained that when assigning addresses to the lots in the RR Ave Subdivision, he ran into some challenges: mainly because the Town has no document which dictates who is actually supposed to assign the addresses, and there are no specific guidelines for doing so. Clerk Fields asked Council if they would like to have guidelines drafted for a future meeting, and they said yes.

Town Clerk's Report

Lots of building permit applications have been flooding in. Fortunately, we just hired a new part-time Administrative Assistant and she is already a big help.

Public Works Department Report

- Got some complaints about unlevel sidewalks, and have been working on getting quotes for a new foam system to level them.
- Bought fencing for the Rec Park Parking Lot, so will be installing that this spring, along with the gates we purchased last year. Looking into spike-teeth and/or a power-gate system.

