

Town of Yacolt

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2024
7:00 PM
Town Hall

Call to Order

7:00 PM

Flag Salute

Roll Call

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

Council Members Absent: Joe Wisniewski, Craig Carroll

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

A motion was made by Council Member Homola to excuse the absences of Council Members Wisniewski and Carroll.

Motion: Homola 2nd: Peto

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

Motion Carried

Late Changes to the Agenda

Agenda item 5 will have an associated Public Hearing

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

1. 3/11/24 Council Meeting

Motion: Homola 2nd: Viray

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

Motion Carried

2. 3/18/24 Special Council Meeting

Motion: Peto 2nd: Homola

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

Motion Carried

Citizen Communication

- A citizen spoke regarding a neighbor dog getting out and biting her so; complained fence permit had not been issued.
- Kimberly Goheen Elbon spoke about governments that don't serve their people, asked for meetings to be video recorded; appreciates Yacolt. Spoke about voter integrity, and she will leave papers about how upset Battle Ground is about railroad changes, mining, and shipping

rock.

- Cindee Clark spoke regarding building permits, it was her fence that had not been permitted to build, and her dog that bit neighbor.
- Michelle Brannan & Eric Hemphill spoke about their interest in lot at 210 Railroad Ave., thinking of mixed use commercial bldg, asked what kind of business the community wants? Wants to do a JiuJitsu business + 24 hr fitness studio w/key fob entry. Will require a Conditional Use Permit. Offices will be upstairs; weighing ideas.
- Juan Rivera Strandberg wants to enter into a franchise agreement; should be at the next meeting; in partner with CPU to run fiber optics; says he can provide better service than CenturyLink for less money. Planning the west side of town for now, plus North, South next 45 days, to meet FCC standards.
- Citizen raised question about growth management, Mayor Shealy answered. Former Mayor Carothers suggested people need to come to council meetings to be informed, stop rumors, drama and bickering. People need to spread the truth.
- Citizen asked about getting roads repaired.

Unfinished Business

3. **NCLL Batting Cage Permit** – actual size of batting cage is 32'x81', foot print of concrete is 30x80', the Town of Yacolt will own, no power for now. Motion was proposed for the Mayor to sign the building permit application, since the Town actually owns the property.
Motion: Peto 2nd: Viray
Aye: Peto, Homola, Viray **Nay:** 0 **Absent:** Wisniewski, Carroll
Motion Carried
4. **Council Review of Security Camera System Features list** – Council member Homola suggested automatic zoom features, continuously running, length of warranty and maintenance agreements, night vision with facial recognition clarity up to a certain distance, clearly recognize IR lens resolution vs. night vision, number of cameras agreed upon per park. David Ridenour will try to bring RFP to next meeting. Former Mayor Carothers appreciated the due diligence put into the research.
5. **ORD 597 Budget Amendment** – Clerk explained amendment, citizens posed questions answered by David Ridenour.

New Business

6. **C-Tran Long-Term Plan Community Outreach-** Taylor Eidt & Eric Florip from C-Tran passed around "C-Tran 2045" informational flyer. Eric described mission to discover how to serve communities via outreach, service, capital investments, financial plan. The Yacolt Route (47) makes three trips a day to Van Mall, stops in BG, wants to find out if their service is working for this community such as times, frequency, and route. Citizens suggested Clark County Fair route to include Yacolt, run 7 days a week, add 9am and 3pm trips, asked what the ridership count is (*answered 4-5 per trip) and if smaller buses would work. C-Tran will return in the summer to confirm our needs.
7. **2025-2027 EMS Excess Levy Resolutions** – Chief Shirley explained how NCEMS is funded. Clerk

clarified that the minimum required number of votes is 77, with 60% of them being “Yes” votes in order for the levy to pass.

8. **Community Events and Benches** – Melissa Yahn presented bench idea and showed a sample with prices. Interested parties can contact her to order. Council member Homola suggested raising the prices to include concrete and installation. Maybe add short bio on people featured on the benches to Town Website. Melissa is organizing 4th of July Parade., offered agenda, listed changes, asked for volunteers, will have packets available. Discussion about closing roads, rent or get donations for barricades. Suggested Rotschy or traffic control companies. Also, the Circus is May 27th & 28th, get tickets at Impact, proceeds go to NCLL, North Country Lions and BYCX. Car Show will be Aug 17th, will close Parcel, 50/50 raffle will benefit Listen Line. Also informed attendees of a June 1 Charity Auction at BG Community Ctr.
9. **RES 626 Opposing Commercial Use of Railroad through Yacolt** – Table Until June Meeting, Council member Homola shared that a \$3.2M grant to improve Chelatchie Railroad would replace gravel trucks on the roads. Public Works Dir Gardner offered information regarding a \$10M donation which has been made toward Railway improvement through Battle Ground which would enable the Railroad to haul 1M tons of gravel a year. They want to have an open forum to inform public about project. Dan Weaver has been working toward this for years. 30 train cars round trip per day at 5mph, horns must be 1000 feet before first crossing. Citizens are concerned about trains causing damage to roads and homes, plus causing delays.
10. **Rotate Finance Committee** – Kandi Peto nominated herself, Council member Homola seconded the nomination, Peto, Homola and Viray voted AYE and there were no NAYs. Nomination passed.

Additional Citizen Communication - None

Town Clerk's Report

- \$794 brought in from donations and Easter Basket Raffle
- Permitting taking up a lot of time, Public Records taking up a lot of time as well
- First Vendor Market 4/13 at Central Park
- Work underway for ARPA report, due April 30th

Public Works Department Report

- Moved logs at the ballfield for improvements.
- Preparing to open Park bathrooms; apprehensive due to vandalism at Moulton Park bathrooms
- Hired PTE to help mow, will be appx 5 hours a day seasonally; planning to hire 1 more
- Attended Railroad Advisory Committee meeting and will continue to do so.

Attorney's Comments

- Will check on passing ordinance to be able to accept donations or bypass resolution.
- Lots of work this month: many lots in RR Ave subdivision started to work before permits, all property owners stopped once asked to; took lots of time collaborating with Public Works and Clerk's offices.
- Updated Hardin Case
- Legal Tidbit – Voting, a quorum is required. No money spent unless approved at a regular

meeting. Must have quorum's vote of 3 council members.

Council's Comments

Viray – Thanked all who helped with Easter Egg Hunt.

Homola – NCEMS meeting, running excess levy, Fargher Lake Station now operating; open house in June; Volcano Rescue Team got a new trailer with grant from Cowlitz Tribe, plus a snow machine; now have 3 F/T ambulances; fuel spill cost over \$140k for fuel spill clean up.

Mayor's Comments

Thanked all that helped with Egg Hunt; community really showed up.

Former Mayor Jeff Carothers attended Former Mayor Weldon's funeral on behalf of Yacolt

Approve to Pay Bills on Behalf of the Town

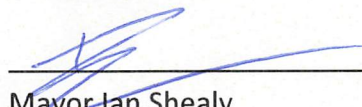
Motion: Peto **2nd:** Homola

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


Motion Carried

Executive Session Began: 10:05pm Ended: 10:15PM

Adjourn 10:16 pm



Mayor Ian Shealy



Clerk Stephanie Fields

Approved by Council vote on 4/8/2024