

OPENING OF COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Kadlec opened the remote and in person council meeting at 7:00pm. Council members present were Michelle Plumb, Marsha Smith, Mike Schrag, Dennis Chamberlain, Dede Boyer, Scott Yaeger, and Debbie Chapman. Staff members in attendance were Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II Michelle Asmussen (phone), City Police Chief Dave McCormick, City Attorney John Kragt and Public Works Director Dave Breazeale. City Fire Chief Joel Bell was excused.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Kadlec asked if there were any corrections or additions to the consent agenda. Council Member Dede Boyer made a motion to approve the consent agenda for the August 1st, 2023, meeting as presented. Council Member Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS- Mayor Kadlec asked if there was anyone who would like to make a comment. John Rankin stated his first report was for the Ritz Theatre, there were 91 people that came to the candidate forum. The neon sign should be up before Labor Day as he needs to build the covers and coordinate with Matt to get it put up. As far as the RDDA, post event notes on Music on Main, the RDDA will no longer be putting on the event downtown during the summer as the heat pretty much kills it. Rod Larse stated he was reading the legal notices about 10 days ago and one of them sounded kind of familiar. He went back and looked at his brief career as a journalist with the Ritzville Journal and realized that the action item tonight for 205 Turner Street was actually done two years ago when he wrote the story. That night there were six properties addressed on the agenda. One was on 4th and was given a pass because it was sufficiently cleaned up. One was on the 3rd and according to John Kragt was going to be looked at to condemn. That property literally has a tree growing out of the roof of the house. Then there was one on Cherry Street which had an extension until the end of September. Larse stated he did not think anything has been done to that property in two years. This was the August 25th edition of the Ritzville Journal. Then there was the Turner address and 304 E. Dogwood. Larse stated the council has been here before, but he does not think anyone is taking council seriously and they need to do more.

ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Show Cause Hearing:** Mayor Kadlec opened the show cause hearing at 7:10pm. The purpose of the hearing was for the city council to hear and consider the pertinent facts relating to show cause why the resolution should not be adopted, ordering the nuisance be abated by the city or it's designee for the cost of said abatement being charged against the said landowner. ***205 Turner Street, Owner Allen Hilzer & Tais Ann Estate, Resolution 2023-08-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated the city received complaints from neighbors about this property. There are piles of tires, scrap piles, building materials, and it's a fire hazard. Chief McCormick stated he wasn't commenting on behalf of the property, however he would like to reiterate what Rod Larse said. Chief McCormick stated he can't give the exact year when he started dealing with this, but it's been probably 15 years ago. Every year when the clean up letters and pictures were assigned to the police department this was always on the list every year. Earlier this spring, Chief McCormick took a bunch of pictures and sent them to city hall and the mayor. He also

had to have Dave Breazeale send one of the public works crew to the property with a backhoe and move stuff out of the alleyway so in case of an emergency a fire vehicle could get down the alley. These people are never going to clean this up, they haven't done anything in 15 years. Flyckt stated the city is researching companies that would come in and clean up these properties. The mayor stated the council can now choose to either (1) authorize the city clerk to proceed with the administrative abatement procedures to abate the public nuisance violation which shall include the passing of a resolution or (2) the city council shall direct the city clerk not to proceed if they find that there is no public nuisance violation, or the city has not proceeded according to the nuisance chapter. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-09. Council Member Debbie Chapman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Washington Street Closure-Eagles- Chief McCormick stated the Eagles has a member of the Auxiliary going through some rather extensive cancer treatment and requires numerous trips to Spokane for that treatment. Eagles is asking for Washington Street to be closed on Friday August 25th and we are going to bring the cattle panels in again and set up a beer garden on the sidewalk in front of Eagle's property. Corey Bartlett's band will be over in John Rankin's alley. There are raffle tickets to raise some money for this young lady to help her with her treatments. They will bring the panels in mid-afternoon, put some cones up to block the street to Railroad Street. When the event is over at midnight or 1:00am the street will be cleared. All the proceeds that the Eagles make will go to the young lady for her treatments. Council Member Dede Boyer made a motion to approve the Washington Street closure on August 25th. Council Member Marsha Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Temporary Sewer Access Agreement-Hydromax- Public Works Director Dave Breazeale the agreement is from the Avista vendor which come through once or twice a year, after they run new gas lines. They go back and access city sewer lines with a camera to make sure they didn't punch through city sewer lines with their new gas lines. It is a standard agreement that has been approved three or four times in the past already. There are three work addresses for 415 E. Broadway Ave, 209 W. 8th Ave and 410 W. Broadway Ave. Council Member Mike Schrag made a motion to approve the mayor to sign the Hydromax agreement. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

D. TIB Applications: Council Member Scott Yaeger stated there is a commitment letter showing the City's 5% match commitment. For the 1st Ave Division to Palouse grind and inlay HMA the total project would be \$480,142., the city's 5% match would be \$13,042. Then the small city preservation would be a 3/8 chip seal and another seal to make it smooth, that would be on 2nd Street Adams to Chelan. Those streets add up to \$269,076, the city's portion of 5% would be \$13,453.71. There are certifications which require the mayor's signature for the 1st Ave SCAP, SCMP Project and the SCPP Seal Coat Project. This is a grant application to TIB to get the funding going. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve the mayor to sign the funding commitment letter for the 1st Ave. SCAP application certification form, the SCMP certification and the SCPP application. Council Member Dede Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

E. US DOT Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program Grant-Ardurra Funding Assistance- Council Member Scott Yaeger stated the public works committee is working with Ardurra on a planning grant and their cost will be \$3,500. This application includes work on the ramps, roundabouts and possibly Division St.. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a

motion to approve the mayor to sign the Ardurra Task Order #5 DOT RTAPP Grant Funding Assistance and Support. Council Member Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

- F. 2018 Toro Greens master 3150-Q Triplex Greens Mower-Golf Course ER&R Fund- Public Works Director Dave Breazeale** stated the request is for the golf course to replace one of the Toro's the city currently owns. The current mower Golf Manager Dan Duff uses for the greens, he will move to the practice greens. Then the practice greens mower will go to the bone yard and either get auctioned off or keep it for parts. This one is a used unit because a new unit is around \$80,000. It is located in Michigan. The cost is \$22,000 plus shipping. The shipping cost has not been included yet. Council Member Mike Schrag stated the finance committee looked at the request at their meeting that morning and agreed to go ahead and approve the purchase of the mower. Council Member Mike Schrag made a motion to approve the golf course 2018 Toro Greens Master mower up to the amount of \$25,000. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- G. Notification System-Everbridge-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated at the finance committee meeting Everbridge provided a demonstration of their emergency notification system. Prior to that afternoon Flyckt was going to recommend Everbridge services due to the services and cost. Code Red was also researched by the city, but they originally quoted the city \$8,000 a year where Everbridge would be \$3,000 a year. Code Red then let the city know they could provide a similar quote of around \$3,000. Flyckt and Deputy Clerk Treasurer I Michelle Keefer were able to get ahold of Sandy Duffy, Adams County Emergency Management Supervisor, and learned that the county does have the Code Red System for the last year. Duffy let the city know we can be a user in that system and there would not be a charge. A meeting has now been set up for Thursday to take a look at the system. The system will be used for emergency and non-emergency notification.
- H. First Avenue Project Request-Tree Board-** Council Member and Tree Board Chair Mike Schrag stated the tree board has put a lot of thought, time, and effort into coming up with the Phase 1 project and then will have phase 2 & 3 as well. There is a big opportunity to use some ARPA funds to make a difference for 1st Ave as it has been neglected for 50 to 60 years compared to what is going on up on the hill. Schrag pointed out trees improve our community by four things, not just beautification. They reduce pollution, carbon sequestration, community heat regulation, and stormwater pollution capture. The Tree Board committee members have met with Garth Davis and Public Work Director Dave Breazeale to take a look at the site and give their approval on the site as far as compatibility and making it work. Schrag encouraged the council to vote yes for the project when the vote comes up at the next meeting. The Tree Board will order the trees this Fall to be planted next Spring. Council Member Mike Schrag made a motion for the council to authorize the spending of \$60,000 of the ARPA funds for planting of the trees along 1st Ave. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Council Member Michelle Plumb opposed. Motion passed 6-1. Mayor Kadlec added a footnote that in the past we have added trees to the current tree line on 1st Ave, but we have failed to maintain them. If we are going to put new trees in, then please maintain what we already have there as well.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

- A. Budget Calendar-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated the mayor and Flyckt are going to start having individual budget meetings with the department heads starting next week. The draft budget will then go to the finance committee at the September 5th finance committee meeting. Flyckt asked the council if they want to do a community survey this year as it has been done every year for the past four years. Flyckt asked to schedule the Budget Workshop and it was decided to schedule the workshop for October 6th at 9:00am. Council Member Marsha Smith made a motion to not do a community survey this year. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion.
Motion passed 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Franchise Agreement Update-Commissioner Dan Blankenship-**Mayor Kadlec stated the agreement has not been sent back to the council yet, be sure to read that.
- B. RPDA Minutes-May 17, 2023**

MAYOR UPDATES- There were no mayor updates.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- A. City Attorney-** John Kragt commented on the earlier discussion on the nuisances to be clear to the citizens who attended the meeting. While the city does take responsibility and does what they can, citizens can only do things as well. Citizens can get an organization together and citizens can always file a suit against property owners.
- B. Public Works-** Dave Breazeale stated the crew were out reading meters today and they let Breazeale know got 53% done in one day and so we must be getting stuff worked out in the system. On August 9th, Scott Yeager and Breazeale have a meeting with Cody from Blackline on the Main Street slurry as they are waiting for them to come back and finish it. The irrigation is all done at Weber and Division and now the crew will need to grade and put some topsoil in and then plant grass in September when it cools down.
- C. Police-** Chief Dave McCormick stated the police department is still taking applications. He spoke to Karen Hickey today and she had received six responses, in nearly three weeks now. The agencies around us, including Adams County advertise daily or weekly as well as Grant, Franklin, Benton counties, and State Patrol. The city cannot compete with these other agencies financially. All of the people that have shown interest and requested an application are from the west side. The job notice is going to be cut off in about a week or so and then move forward in setting up a test. We are going to try and do the physical agility, the written test, and the oral interviews all in one day to try and make it easier for the candidates from the other side. On the 22nd is the National Night Out in the Park. Chief McCormick has a meeting with the Sheriff and the administrator on Thursday afternoon. The Eagles donated 100 hamburgers and condiments, Akins donated a couple hundred hot dog buns and some condiments. The city is going to have to buy some hot dogs. There has been some contact with the park & rec to see if they will open the pool that night from 5-9. Loves made a considerable donation of toys for

door prizes for the kids and they also donated some water. They have asked the Eagles to supply four corn hole boards and some help with running those games with the club. Chief McCormick just learned yesterday that the hospital and the Health Department had a back-to-school function planned in the park the same day. Everyone is just going to partner together for this function. We are hoping for a very large community turn out.

- D. Clerk/Treasurer-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated utility clerk Danielle is going through utility training with Springbrook so she can have the full training that prior staff had. Flyckt expressed a thank you to the public works crew for working with Danielle to get the meter readings correct. Everyone was very pleased when the crew came back today and worked with her on trying to fix some of the errors in the system. Deputy Clerk Treasurer II Michelle Asmussen is back in the office about six hours a day. Flyckt continues to work with the team to manage a high workload. Usually city planning trumps finance, but we are at a point where finance is going to come before planning because budget process has timelines to it. **ADJOURNMENT-**With no further comments or business to come before the council, Mayor Kadlec adjourned the remote and in person meeting at 8:30pm.



Michelle Asmussen, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer II