

### **OPENING OF COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Linda Kadlec opened the Remote/In Person Council meeting at 7:00pm. Council members present were Scott Yaeger, Mark Weigand, Michelle Plumb, Dede Boyer, Mike Schrag, Dennis Chamberlain. Council Member Debbie Chapman was present remotely. Staff members in attendance were Public Works Director Dave Breazeale, Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II Michelle Asmussen, and City Police Chief David McCormick. City Fire Chief Joel Bell and City Attorney John Kragt were excused. Also, present were Barry Boyer, Charles Jingling, Diane Kennedy from the Caddy Shack and Rod Larse from the Adams County Journal.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Linda Kadlec asked if there were any changes to the consent agenda. Council Member Mark Weigand made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS-** Mayor Kadlec asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. Barry Boyer wanted to thank the council members for speaking up last council meeting and he encouraged them to do it again, but he still can't quite hear Council Member Plumb. He also wanted to compliment the landscaping that was done on the path by the fairgrounds as it really looks good. Charles Jingling stated he appreciates the efforts that the City is doing to clean up some of these unsightly properties as it's about time and keep going.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

- A. Pete's Lift Station & Sewer Improvements Pay Estimate #3, POW Contracting-** Mayor Kadlec stated the pay estimate #3 is work performed from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>. The work includes mobility and admin; site and utility work; surface, manhole and wastewater pipeline installation; and abandon existing septic tanks. Public Works Director Dave Breazeale stated he has confidence in their work, and they are on track. They completed the side sewers installed on Broadway. All the manholes and mainline are installed, and the landscaping has been done. They are completely finished with Broadway, and they are just working on the lift station now. They are installing the panels and updating the wet well. Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated there was a property owner that raved about the work that the company did up there, how they did the alley and how it all turned out. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve the Pay Estimate #3 Pete's Lift Station and Sewer Improvements to POW Contracting, Inc in the amount of \$258,854.03. Council Member Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- B. Weber Rd & Galbreath Pay Estimate #1, Precision Paving Plus-** Mayor Kadlec stated the pay estimate is work performed from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup>. The work includes mobility and admin, traffic control, curb and gutters, sidewalks, catch basin installation, and removal of pavement and pulverizing subgrade. Varela has asked for approval of the pay estimate contingent upon receiving all required documents. Public Works Director Dave Breazeale stated they are running into a lot of issues with the contractor not reading the plan specs correctly, and they are putting stuff in incorrectly which then they are having to rip it out. They poured 50' of sidewalk one day but didn't wait for the inspection to come in so they didn't pass their slump inspections, so they had to rip all of the sidewalk back out. Council Member Scott Yaeger stated the original contract price is \$602,220.60 and this is for only \$168,953.46, which is less than a third. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve pay estimate #1 for Weber Rd and

Galbreath Way project to Precision Paving Plus contingent upon receiving all required documents. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Council Members Dede Boyer and Mark Weigand opposed. Motion passed 5-2.

- C. Quadco UPWP Planning Project Application-** Council Member Scott Yaeger stated the council approved the Quadco planning grant application for SR261's shared use path extension study and report. The city applied for an \$80,000 total project with \$75,000 coming from Quadco or the UPWP funds and \$5,000 for city match. There were five projects submitted, 1 from Othello, 1 from Davenport, Almira, Ritzville, and Electric City. The total request was \$220,636 for those 5 projects and there was only \$160,000 available in funding. Othello scored number 1, Davenport and Almira tied for number 2, Ritzville was number 3 or 4 however you look at it. They can fully fund the first three, and then they have \$33,726 left. Scott asked council to approve a phased approach to the original application. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion that the council approve utilizing for the Ritzville SR261 shared use path extension study and report project the remaining \$33,726 available dollars through Quadco's UPWP funding for planning only, in a phased approach in the original project application work items. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- D. Public Works Broadband Grant-Internet Service Provider Options-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated the last time we spoke we were working with NoaNet on the public works grant that is due at the end of this month. In that process, Commissioner Blankenship contacted Julie as the county is applying for the same grant and they are working with a different provider. They are working with Petrichor which was formed out of the Port of Whitman. In 2020 they joined 5 other public port districts to form a corporation to help connect underserved communities across evergreen state. They help provide broadband consulting and network management. Julie reached out to our city council public works committee asking for their expertise as this is another utility we would be implementing in the city. When you look at the size of our city and how we do our utilizes we contract out a lot of our work. We contract out to Varela for Engineering, any IT Management we contract out as well. I spoke to the City of Anacortes, the City of Ellensburg and Avista. When we have talked to NoaNet we have struggled with their lack of expertise around the management part. Since we are a city that does not have the capability of taking on that management part, we are really leaning towards Petrichor and what they can offer in terms of this grant moving forward. We were also frustrated with NoaNet as they are asking for up front preliminary engineering costs of around \$15,000. If we were awarded the grant, it would not pay for those costs because it was prior to the grant being awarded. Mayor Kadlec asked for a consensus to move forward with the service provider Petrichor. All council members were in favor.
- E. East-West Rail Support Letter-All Aboard Washington-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated All Aboard Washington came to Ritzville to meet with those that were interested in learning more about East-West train travel and with the work they are doing. We learned a lot about what that organization is trying to do to move forward. The first thing that needs to happen is they are asking Legislatures to support a study to do a cost analysis. We asked as the city what we could do, and they said if we could do a letter of support that would really help. The council reviewed a draft letter of support. Council Member Dede Boyer made a motion to approve the letter of support for the East-West Intercity Passenger Rail Service. Council Member Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

## DISCUSSION AGENDA

**A. Community Survey-** Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated the survey has been closed but the report is not complete yet. At the next council meeting there will be the fireworks ordinance public hearing and right now there is a draft ordinance that we have to determine if it stays the same or if we change it. There were 175 surveys completed, that is a 22% response rate based on the 208 that we mailed. Out of the 22%, about 42% responded by hard copy and almost 58% completed the survey online. The highest age group was 65 and above at 47% and then it went down to 55-64 age group as the next highest numbers and then lagging around the 10% range is the 35 and younger. The question about the fireworks ban due to fire danger is about 75% in favor of doing the fire danger from year to year. The other question was fireworks ban for entire city every year. There was about 51% in favor when you combine the extremely important (24.85%), Important (12.73%) and slightly important (13.33%) percentages. Not at all important was around 36% and no opinion was around 13%. Council discussed the community survey response and suggested going forward with the current draft ordinance for the fire danger ban.

## CORRESPONDENCE


- A. RDDA July 2021 Minutes:** In packet for council members
- B. Caddy Shack Sign Request-** Mayor Kadlec stated when Willard Hennings moved the stagecoach and horses to that location it was under the agreement that very little signage was going to happen, and he wanted that kept as bare as possible. Council Member Mark Weigand thought that the sign should be allowed to be put there while council Member Dede Boyer felt the sign was too big and that area should be leveled off and Picnic tables, trees and flowers should be placed there and there is another gateway sign that is supposed to be placed there. Council Member Michelle Plumb stated we have already told a couple of businesses that they can't put signs there. Diane stated she wanted people to see the sign when they come off the freeway, so they have a choice to come down and see her because nobody comes that far.

## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- A. Public Works-**Public Works Director Dave Breazeale stated when they were putting in manhole 1 on Jefferson by the Adam's House the sewer line coming down the hill between Broadway and Main Ave behind the Adam's House and the Burroughs Home is so dilapidated and busted up, he couldn't find a good spot to tie to when they were trying to get the manhole done. Dave got a bid from POW for \$57,000 to replace that line and setting a new manhole. Dave has asked for a comparable price that he could get council to agree to and the closest we get is \$45,000. The railroad is finally coming next week to fix all 4 crossings. We have a dam survey the 23<sup>rd</sup> where Ecology comes out and inspects the sewer plant and makes sure we don't have any breaches or burrowing animals. Pete's Lift Station project is coming along very smoothly but the Galbreath Way project has issues. They started paving today with their first base lift and they got about halfway done. Tomorrow they will continue with the base lift. They have some curb they have to tear out and replace because it was cracked and busted and they have some asphalt to tear out today.

- B. Police Department-** Chief Dave McCormick stated it was a very quiet weekend for the fair & rodeo and they did not have any calls related to those events. The police department continues to struggle with the new reform act where people in crisis are concerned. Tomorrow at 10:00am, he has a meeting with the county prosecutor Randy Flyckt, Clinical Director from Community Counselling and the overall Director from Community Counseling and the Sheriff about the new mandates for law enforcement. When we try to follow the guidelines set up by the Legislators and signed by the Governor, we are not able to meet the needs of the people in crisis. The hospital says no we are not taking them, and the community counseling says no we aren't taking them, and we aren't coming to evaluate them unless you get them detained, transport to the hospital and get a medical clearance. The new guidelines clearly state we can't do that anymore unless it is eminent that the person is going to harm themselves or harm somebody else. I am going to have to notify the hospital that we can no longer do security at the hospital because we are putting ourselves in violation of the new police reforms and we could get charged criminally so we are going to have to find the line and we are going to have to stay on the right side of that line. Later this week the Chief hopes to have three names for the mayor to appoint to the Civil Service Commission and he just waiting to hear back from someone that will act as our Commission Secretary so we can move forward getting that commission in place, which we have not had for many years.
- C. Clerk-Treasurer-**Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt stated we met with the finance committee today and went over the first draft of the 2022 budget and reviewed some goals we want to try and achieve in the coming year. At the next council meeting, all council members will receive the draft budget to prepare for the upcoming budget retreat scheduled on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Bills will be out a little late this month, since we had a staff member out sick. Staff members are also taking some vacation time right now and our student help went back to school.

**ADJOURNMENT-**With no further comments or business to come before the council, Mayor Linda Kadlec adjourned the remote and in person meeting at 8:07pm.

  
Michelle Asmussen, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II