

OPENING OF COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Linda Kadlec opened the Remote/In Person Council meeting at 7:00pm. Council members present, in person were Scott Yaeger, Mark Weigand, Debbie Chapman, Michelle Plumb, Dede Boyer, Mike Schrag and Dennis Chamberlain. Staff members in attendance were Public Works Director Dave Breazeale, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II Michelle Asmussen, and Deputy Clerk Treasurer I Kim Smith. City Police Chief David McCormick, City Fire Chief Joel Bell, City Attorney John Kragt, and Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt were excused. Also, present were Dan Peters, Misty Warren, Barry Boyer, Mary Lou Hudson, Marvin Lee, Marsha Smith, Susan Burrows, Charles Jingling, John Rankin, Glen Stockwell, Corey Fedie from EARH, Katie Teachout from the Adams County Journal, and Dolly Blankenship from Wheatland Bank.

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 Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS- Mayor Kadlec asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. Mary Lou Hudson from 214 N. Jefferson, asked the council to please keep an eye on the residential home located next to her at 315 W. Broadway Ave. This has recently been acquired by the Collective Adventure and George Smith. It is zoned R1 and many of the elderly and disabled residents live in this neighborhood and they are concerned and afraid. She came to tell the council to please keep an eye on this property.

ACTION AGENDA

- A. East Adams Rural Healthcare Request-CEO Corey Fedie-** Corey stated he came to ask for potential funding for a mobile clinic. Covid taught the EARH about the fact that bricks and mortar doesn't help when we have to quarantine a lot of people at one time. The mobile clinic would serve Ritzville and surrounding small areas without having to bring everyone through the ER. EARH is seeking funding in a number of areas. The city will receive ARPA funding and a portion of that as outlined by the USDA could be for bricks and mortar or other health care related items that would support Covid or related options. EARH is seeking a total of 1.65 million to make the whole project happen. They are looking at some federal grants and trying to raise the rest from the cities, towns, and counties they serve. The mobile clinic itself will be a larger sized bus with a couple exam rooms, a small lab, and will travel to surrounding communities. They would like to have it up and running before the end of the year, but it may be challenging to find a bus already built. Mayor Kadlec stated that no decisions have been made for the money as of yet and we will table this request and come back to it at a later date.
- B. Quadco RTPO Grant-** Council Member Scott Yaeger stated we talked about this when we developed the 6-year road program for 2022-2027 to address a shared use path extending from the Weber Road and Highway 261 intersection, south under I-90 around to Loves and connect to the concrete 12' wide shared path on Loves' property. The DOT also mentioned that at some point if there is going to be residential housing in the Grainland Acres project, they would require the walking path. This is an opportunity through Quadco for planning grant money. In our 6-year road program the dollar amount was \$80,000. In the application it shows we are requesting \$75,000 from

Quadco with a \$5,000 match. The grant application is due by the 23rd of July. There are support letters from DOT and Chief McCormick. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain stated there should be a spelling correction on number 5, it should say comp plans instead of complains. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve the Quadco RTPo Planning Only Grant application with the changes to number 5 to comp plans and approve the mayor to sign the grant application. Council Member Mark Weigand second the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

- C. Main Ave. Seal Coat & ADA Ramps Project: Corridor Contractors, LLC. Payment #1-** Public Works Director Dave Breazeale stated they had done a final walk-through last week and they are fully completed, and recommends it is paid. Council Member Mark Weigand asked about what they were going to do about the ADA ramps that were so deep, and the concern people are going to slide down them in the winter. Dave stated they are going to get some non-skid yellow caution paint to put on them so people can visually see there is an issue and if they step on it, they should not slide off of it. Dave wants to wait a year and see how it works as it would cost between \$10,000-\$15,000 to fix and make them flat. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve the mayor to sign the pay estimate #1 to Corridor Contractor's for the Main Ave Seal Coat and ADA Ramp Projects. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Council Member Mark Weigand opposed. Motion passed 6-1.
- D. Precision Paving Plus, LLC Contract & Bond-** Council Member Scott Yaeger stated they got back to me by email today on this, the only comments were about notifications to the businesses, but we aren't to that point yet, we have to have a contract with this contractor. It's in the specifications that all the businesses need access during construction. Council Member Scott Yaeger made a motion to approve the contract between the City of Ritzville and Precision Paving Plus, LLC and have the mayor sign the contract and the performance bond and the payment bond approval. Council Member Mike Schrag seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- E. Budget Calendar-Retreat Date-** Mayor Kadlec stated the Clerk-Treasurer has provided the 2022 Budget Calendar and the items are the same as last year with the updated dates for this year's process. The Mayor asked council if holding the budget retreat on Friday October 8th will work for them. Council Member Dede Boyer made a motion to approve the October 8th date for the budget retreat. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- F. NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program Grant-** Council Member Dennis Chamberlain stated Julie Flyckt asked him to present a request to pursue the NTIA National Broadband grant. Julie reached out to NOANET to learn how the City of Ritzville can provide broadband to the city through the use of the Local Coronavirus Recovery Funds. NOANET's goal is to bring high-speed telecommunication services to unserved communities and they are the main provider in Ritzville. During the meeting NOANET discussed potential grant opportunities. Since they have already done the data compilation and analysis, they highly recommend the city apply for the NTIA grant which is due August 17th. NOANET has also offered to partner with the city in helping with the application process. Right now, they are just asking for council to give approval to pursue applying for the grant which would provide broadband to the City of Ritzville. There will be further discussions later at future council meeting to determine the scope

of the project and match amount. For now, we are just asking for the council's approval to pursue applying for the grant with NOANET'S assistance. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain made a motion that we request NOANET assist us in the broadband infrastructure grant program application. Council Member Dede Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

- A. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations-RDDA-** Dolly Blankenship spoke on behalf of the RDDA as a chair of their economic restructuring committee. There were previous conversations under the previous administration with the City of Ritzville, Adams County Development Council, Senator Schoesler's office and several other members of the council to pursue electronic vehicle charging stations in downtown Ritzville. This was pre-Covid and then COVID hit, and priorities changed. The RDDA was looking for funds to purchase a new flame retardant curtain at the theatre and asked the senator's office, about that project combined with the EV charging station project. The legislature approved granting \$105,000 to RDDA for those projects. In researching all of these electronic vehicle issues, RDDA's recommendation is for the EV charging station to pursue a level 2 charging station based on input from Avista. The installation charge for these EV stations include Avista will be paying for the charger, the direct installation costs and 50% of the premises wiring cost up to \$2,000 per charging station. The allowance does not cover getting power to the site or the main breaker panel and the meter base. The stations will charge in 2-4 hours with a range of 200 miles and are compatible with hybrid cars and most other EV vehicles. Electric costs associated with the stations are estimated to run the city about \$30 per month. According to Avista this is based on station usage. It is recommended that the city pass a resolution that they would absorb that \$30 per month so that it could benefit the people that would come to the community. The grant application was submitted by the RDDA on behalf of the city with a one day turn around. The Department of Commerce administers the grant money, and they keep 2% so the net amount will be \$102,900. The total amount also includes the \$5,000 allocated for the theatre curtain. The RDDA provided a rough draft of the location that was chosen for the EV charging spot. The drawing shows it adjacent to the public restrooms and across from the Railroad Depot, one block off of Main Ave. One charging station will be a regular parking station and one will be a handicapped station. Council Member Dede Boyer made a motion to accept the funding from the Dept. of Commerce and enter into a contract with them and agree upon the site location. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Council Members Mark Weigand and Scott Yaeger were opposed. Motion passed 5-2.
- B. Community Survey-** Mayor Kadlec stated Julie has emailed council last year's community survey asking for input on what questions you would like to ask the community this year. Please email those suggestions to Julie.

MAYOR UPDATE

- A.** Dave and the Mayor have made a second round of yard clean ups this week. Some have complied and some have not. A second round of letters for the show cause hearings have been mailed to the properties that have not complied.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. Public Works- Dave Breazeale stated the ADA ramps downtown are completed and the city crew will take care of painting the angles with the non-skid paint. Contractor POW has the gravity main done from Columbia Street to Washington street and all of the new manholes are plumbed in. They started on Jefferson Street, setting the manhole there yesterday. They started working from the alley of Jefferson to Broadway and they will proceed up the hill to Jackson and then down Jackson to the alley for the houses that are getting all their septic tanks offline. Once they get that all put in, they are going to move back down and start the lift station repair. In the process of doing the hook up from Wheatland Bank to the gravity main, there was water infiltration into the old sewer pipe the city vacated. We used a camera to detect location of the leak and it was right where POW had hooked up the Wheatland bank sewer line, but nobody wanted to take responsibility for breaking the water line. They dug it up and found a repair that had been made prior to them digging and it has been leaking for a long time. We replaced the 200' of water line that runs from the Wheat Growers all the way back to Division to Wheatland Bank. DOT gave us the go ahead to do our drainage on Division and Weber and Dave is still waiting for the final word on the fence removal.

CHAMBER- Dede Boyer reported they are working very hard to get things up and running again after COVID. They do need volunteers to help with the fair and the parade.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further comments or business to come before the council, Mayor Linda Kadlec adjourned the remote and in person meeting at 7:55pm.



Michelle Asmussen, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II