
**OMAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 3, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gagné called the regular meeting of the Omak City Council to order at 7:00 PM and established a quorum. Everyone joined in the flag salute.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL:

Nattalie Cariker	Todd McDaniel, City Administrator (CA)
Barry Freel	Jeremy Patrick, Fire Chief
Steve Clark (absent)	Dan Christensen, Police Chief
Meyer Louie	Wayne Beetchenow, Public Works Director (PWD)
Michelle Gaines	Connie Thomas, City Clerk
Dave Womack	Rochelle Danielson, CORE Program Manager/Outreach Specialist
Mike Foth	Tyler Wells, Building Official
	Marc Doney, Team One Lead (absent)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor Gagné asked for citizen comments. There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE AND MAYOR'S REPORT

Proclamation Digital Equity Day

Mayor Gagné read the Digital Equity Day proclamation into the record. Conrad Billman with NCW Tech Alliance was in attendance and addressed the Council. He expressed sincere gratitude to the City of Omak for recognizing September as digital equity month. He mentioned that Thriving Together NCW is sponsoring a grant to support advancing digital equity in the region.

Mayor Gagné informed the Council that she took the bus ride to Chelan today along with members of TranGO. She informed the Council that Representative Mike Steel also attended the ribbon cutting. TranGO and Okanogan County Transit Authority have bridged the seventeen-mile gap from Okanogan County to Chelan County and parts further on.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Womack, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the August 19, 2024, meeting; 2024 claims checks numbered 111740-111793 in the amount of \$414,502.13; As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 61-2024 – Approving Amendment No. 14 to the Engineering Services Contract with Gray & Osborne, Inc.

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Louie, to approve Resolution 61-2024. PWD Beetchenow informed the council that this resolution will allow Gray & Osborne, Inc. to design the water system improvements along Jonathan Avenue. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Resolution 62-2024 – Approving a Provisional Accredited Levee Agreement

Member Gaines moved, seconded by Member Foth, to approve Resolution 62-2024. CA McDaniel explained to Council that FEMA is reviewing and updating the Federal Flood Maps. He explained the change in mapping will significantly affect our city. He said there are three levees in Omak, the left and right bank and the Jasmine levee. The new maps are silent to the Jasmine levee and the left and right bank marginally meet requirements. This agreement will allow the city two years to evaluate the levee system and determine what actions need to be taken. He informed Council that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have different criteria for accrediting levees. Member Womack said the levee has been fine for years and he

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expressed concern for citizens having to obtain flood insurance. CA McDaniel explained that the agreement will give us time to prove to FEMA that the levees meet Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Standards. Member Gaines asked what the consequences would be if the city chose not to confirm the compliance of the Omak Levee System. CA McDaniel explained the results could be that citizens would be unable to acquire flood insurance, nor would they be able to receive federal funding for mortgages and refinance. He is uncertain if this would affect any assistance FEMA would provide to our city for fire or other FEMA support. Member Freel asked if this item was brought before a Council Committee or reviewed by the City Attorney. CA McDaniel said he had done neither. Member Freel would like City Attorney Howe to review the agreement. CA McDaniel will reach out to City Attorney Howe and schedule a meeting with him and the Infrastructure Committee. Member Womack moved, seconded by Member Freel to table the resolution until the September 16, 2024, Council meeting. As there was no discussion and no comments from the audience, Council voted and unanimously approved the motion to table.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee/Staff Reports:

Police Chief Christensen reminded the Council the City will have a booth at the Okanogan County Fair and volunteers are needed. C.O.R.E. Manager Danielson said there is a sign-up sheet going around for the fair booth. She also reminded the Council of the upcoming Community Wellness events that will take place this month.

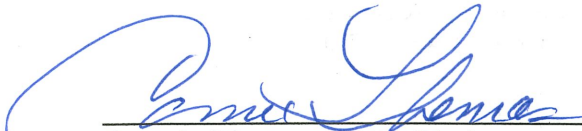
CA McDaniel informed the Council that staff is in budget mode. If there is anything the Council would like to include, he encouraged them to reach out to those departments. The Call to Budget went out to staff on August 19, 2024.

Member Foth expanded further on Mayor Gagne's bus ride to Chelan. He said TranGO provides a service from Oroville and or Twisp to Okanogan and at 8am, the bus departs to Chelan. Chelan departure times from Okanogan are 8am, 11am and 2:30pm. The last bus returns to Okanogan at 5:11pm.


Member Cariker informed the Council the Halloween Harvest Fest and Zombie Fun Run will take place on October 26, 2024, the last Saturday of October. If anyone is interested in volunteering to judge or cook smores, reach out to her.

Mayor Gagné again shared more about the bus to Chelan stating the trip to Chelan and back was an hour. Once in Chelan, Link Transit has a system to call, and you can transit within the communities of Chelan and Manson.

As there was no further business before Council, Mayor Gagné adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM.



Connie Thomas, City Clerk



Cindy Gagné, Mayor