

COLTON TOWN HALL MINUTES
December 2nd, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. Members in attendance were Mayor Jerry Weber, Chuck DeMeerleer, Sam Keller, Jim Dahmen and Dot Sharp. Rollie Dahmen was absent. Also in attendance were Jenni Straughan, Alice Crim, Shanna Saldecke, Judy Gray and Steve Bremer.

Minutes: Sam Keller motioned to accept the minutes and Dot Sharp seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.

Warrants: Warrants, as follows, were approved, with a motion by Chuck DeMeerleer, and a second by Jim Dahmen. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Salary and Benefits

Warrant #903653-903668 for: \$15,221.58

Warrant #'s 909321-909336 for:

General:	\$ 309.57
Streets:	\$ 10,852.88
Real Estate Excise:	\$
Cumulative Reserve:	\$
Water/Sewer:	\$ 8,725.97
Subtotal:	\$19,888.42

Grand Total: \$ 35,110.00

New Business:**Public Hearing:**

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 p.m. Members in attendance were Mayor Jerry Weber, Chuck DeMeerleer, Sam Keller, Jim Dahmen and Dot Sharp. Rollie Dahmen was absent. Also in attendance were Jenni Straughan and Steve Bremer.

Mayor Weber reviewed Ordinance #481, the 2014 Budget. Chuck DeMeerleer motioned to close the public hearing and Sam Keller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all. Public Hearing closed at 9:40 p.m.

Lewiston Recycling:

Shanna from Lewiston Recycling presented the council with the option of renting two 30 yard containers for a little over \$200 a month. She said that the town would get a percentage of market which usually would be about \$200, so the town would at least break even most of the time. The containers would have separate compartments for each item. The only thing that they do not recycle is glass. The town would also be able to recycle cardboard, magazines and books. They also have an e-waste program where you can take items such as old computers, tvs, etc. to their facility and get a little money for them.

Judy Gray:

Judy told the council that Empire will still pick up the town's recycling but it will cost money to do this and she wasn't sure how much would be charged.

Steve Bremer:

Steve discussed purchasing a 2007 Chevrolet Utility Service Truck to replace the town truck that is not running properly. The truck has 137,000 miles on it and it has tool boxes and a pipe rack. The cost is \$15,000 which includes taxes and licensing. Dot Sharp motioned to purchase the truck and Sam Keller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all. It was decided to surplus the old town truck.

Valves for Lift Station:

Steve told the council that he got the valves for the lift station, but can't get them apart. Jim was going to bring him a tool that would help separate them.

Pipe Threads:

Steve told the council that he bought some pipe threads from Rick Heitstuman for \$400. The council said that was a good deal.

Ongoing Business:**Codifying Ordinances:**

Jenni told the council that Stephen Bishop said that they could codify all of the town's ordinances for \$3,000. Sam Keller motioned to pay \$3,000 to codify the ordinances and Chuck DeMeerleer seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Wells on Jim's Farm Land:

Jim Dahmen told the council that it is really hard to farm around the small wells that were put in for testing. He would like to cut the concrete and cap them. The council said it would be a good idea to do this.

Resolution #718:

Jenni explained to the council that she noticed that the town was short about \$4,000 on property tax revenue; so she contacted Joe Reynolds and he told her that he made a mistake and did not levy the correct amount of taxes this year. So he told her that the council would have to change the 1% property tax increase that was passed in July to 7.1% to recoup it. Jim Dahmen motioned to accept Resolution #718 and Dot Sharp seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Ordinance #481:

Chuck DeMeerleer motioned to approve Ordinance #481, the 2014 Budget and Sam Keller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

TIB Project:

The lights should be in before Christmas. Dot Sharp told the council that the Christmas Fund purchased some Christmas banners to hang between the new lights.

Palouse Byways Video:

Dot Sharp told the council that the video is done for the Palouse Byways project and that it turned out good. Mayor Weber said that the two pictures of homes with Christmas lights were not in Colton. Dot Sharp thought that Steve Bendzak would have pictures of all of the Christmas lights in town, but he did not. It was discussed to take some pictures this year and see if they can add them to the video

Christmas Lights in A T and T Park:

Mayor Weber explained that the Christmas Committee has always paid for the A T and T park electricity for the lighted Christmas decorations and that they don't have the funds to do that this year. He explained that even though the electricity is only used for two months out of the year that the Christmas Committee has to pay a \$15 a month fee to keep the electricity on. Chuck DeMeerleer motioned for the town to take over the Christmas Fund and Sam Keller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all. Jenni told the council that she will call Avista tomorrow and try to work something out so that the town doesn't have to pay the \$15 a month.

Colton School Meeting:

Mayor Weber said that the school is having a meeting on Monday, December 16th at 1 p.m. regarding the modernization and would like for the Building Department to be there. Steve will contact them and ensure that they attend.

Scenic Byways Sign:

Jenni told the council that they need to decide where to put the new scenic byway sign. They decided to put it south of Colton on the town right of way.

30 MPH Sign:

Jim Dahmen said that the 30 and 60 MPH signs need to be moved back about 60 yards on Highway 195 because of the new street (Rimrock Road). Jenni will call DOT tomorrow and request this.

Town Hall Christmas Hours:

Town Hall will be closed December 24-26 and January 1st and 2nd.

Time Value Invested:

The council decided not to use Time Value Invested for its investments. They want to be able to keep the savings available.

Blaine McMahan:

Jim Dahmen told the council that Blaine needs to move his car onto his property. He just moved it a little to the side of the road. Jenni will call him and ask him to do this.

Council Replacement:

A lot of names were thrown out by council members and the mayor. They are going to talk to some of those people to see if they would be interested.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Chuck DeMeerleer and seconded by Sam Keller. The motion was carried by voice and passed by all. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Approved By Mayor

Attested By Clerk