

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
May 19, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit and Guenther: Present. Sevedge and Huntwork: Absent. A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Golden to excuse Sevedge and Huntwork. Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2025 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

The Class of 2025 banners are up on Main Street.

Colfax Girls Softball and Boys Baseball are both headed to State. Colfax Track Team will be qualifying for State competition as well.

Flower pots on Main are ready for plants.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Mackleit to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

CLAIMS	PAYROLL
#10806-10829	#10798-10805 & EFT
\$42,077.97	\$62,355.36

GRAND TOTAL: \$104,433.33

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

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Resolution 25-10 – Colfax Chamber Lodging Tax App:

Chamber Executive Director Rachel Shad presented the Colfax Chamber hotel motel application, stating the funds will be used for personnel, general operating expenses, marketing and promotion, fireworks for Winterfest and the newly added Farmer's Market.

Golden stated that this request is the largest the council has received since his tenure began. He noted that while there are current reserves, the fund only receives \$60,000 annually. Councilmember Golden appreciates these funds being utilized.

Councilmember Schaefer requested accountability regarding the expenditure of these funds, emphasizing the significant amount and asking for receipts or reports to be provided to the city detailing how the money is spent.

Finance Amanda Link will develop a form outlining the necessary information and a reporting timeline.

Councilmember Guenthner reiterated that this level of funding will not be guaranteed each year, and once the current reserves are depleted, such substantial amounts will not be readily available.

Shad stated this would give them a good start and they will not need this amount in the future.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve Resolution 25-10-Colfax Chamber Lodging Tax App. Roll Call: All Yes.

Resolution 25-11 – Palouse Summer Series Lodging Tax App:

Palouse Summer Series Director Scott Parrish has presented the Palouse Summer Series hotel motel application. These funds are intended for upgrading infields at McDonald Park. These improvements will benefit local teams and leagues and allow McDonald Park to showcase itself throughout the summer. This will also enable the Palouse Summer Series to expand their youth events in the future.

Golden stated this application was discussed at the Park Board meeting tonight before council, they are fully supportive of this project.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve Resolution 25-11-Palouse Summer Series Lodging Tax App. Roll Call: All Yes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works:

Hammer updated on the fire department roof replacement, the City's insurance CIAW will cover the repair. We have requested bids from three companies.

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Crews are continuing changing out water meters.

Public Works removed four trees on Main Street and placed fresh bark. The CDA pots have been placed on Main and are ready or flowers that will be planted after Memorial Day.

Hammer is continuing to work on the water improvement plan.

Fire:

Firefighter John Lautenslager stated the fire department had a training burn on Green Hollow Road, they had 30 volunteers participating in the exercise.

Lautenslager reported pump testing will be done this week and the fire rating bureau will be here in September.

Administration:

Link has been working on the annual report that is due on the 30th. The MPD Audit and Leasehold Audit were just completed.

Kramlich and Link will be attending Fraud Training in Dayton on the 28th.

Police:

Mayor Retzer reported the last candidate for the entry level officer position is moving forward to the psychological evaluation, the final phase of the hiring process.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Park Board:

Golden provided a report on the meeting held prior to council. He stated that work on the pool is progressing, including the gutter system, pool house renovations, and trenching for the lighting system.

Retzer is optimistic that the pool will be open later this year.

Staff will begin the hiring process for lifeguards soon. It was also noted that there will be no pool fees for the 2025 season, with fees scheduled to resume in 2026.

Golden reported that the Chamber applied for .09 Funds and was awarded \$27,750.00 for the Colfax Skatepark. Abe Hoffman presented the project to the Whitman County Commissioners.

Gary Young reported that the Eagles have agreed to donate \$2,000 to the Skatepark project, and the Kiwanis will inform them tomorrow about the amount of their donation.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

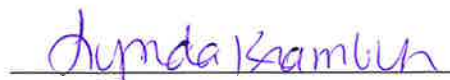
Retzer stated there a lot of great things happening in Colfax. This is a great example of everyone working together, he really appreciates it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk