

**COLFAX CITY COUNCIL**  
**June 6, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2022 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

**GOOD OF THE CITY:**

Colfax seniors graduated Saturday. The parade they requested was enjoyed by all.

Spring clean-up was a success there was a good turnout of volunteers. The planters look really good. Mayor Retzer stated it was good to mingle with the business owners as they worked.

Dyamin Vanek received his Eagle Scout Award this past Sunday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Vanek was the Valedictorian and Hannah Cocking was the Salutatorian for the 2022 Graduating Class.

The Colfax Downtown Association distributed left over plants from their planter project to various businesses to beautify their storefronts.

**BILLS AND CLAIMS:**

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

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**CLAIMS**

7599-7609, 7616-7635 & EFT  
\$88,125.09

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**PAYROLL**

7590-7598, 7610-7615 & EFT  
\$81,220.90

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**GRAND TOTAL: \$169,345.99**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Arts Council Mural Design Presentation:**

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Debbie Anderson presented the Arts Council's choice for the mural that will be painted on the side of the Whitman County Public Service Building. It is "See N Stay" modeled after the toy "See N Say" with different pictures representing Colfax and the surrounding area.

### **Resolution 22-16- Lodging Tax Application: Colfax Swim Team-**

City Administrator Chris Mathis introduced Resolution 22-16 Colfax Swim Team Lodging Tax Application; this is to help cover the cost of the pool rental for the swim team practices, swim meets and the tri-county swim meet.

A motion was entered by Kackman, seconded by McRae to approve Resolution 22-16- Colfax Swim Team- Lodging Tax Application. Roll Call: All Yes.

### **Ordinance 22-03- Budget Amendment-**

Mathis explained this budget amendment is for the replacement of the police car radios Chief Blood spoke about last meeting and the reinstatement of the Volunteer Fire Chief stipend that is in our Colfax Municipal Code. All together the budget amendment comes to \$20,203.

A motion was entered by Kackman, seconded by Mackleit to approve Ordinance 22-03 Budget Amendment. Roll Call: All Yes.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

### **Public Works-**

Public Works Director Matt Hammer reported the pool opening day has been delayed as work finishes up in the pump room. A new sewer and water line has also been placed at the pool.

Hammer updated the council on the Clay Street Well project. They had their first pre-construction meeting and the pump is 12 weeks out. Hammer stated we will go through summer without Clay Street Well and may need to put on water restrictions if necessary.

Hammer also reported he is working on the Water Management Plan this year.

The city received a call in March from a resident on Island Street regarding a sewer plug, public works checked the two manholes on each end of plug and there was flow. At that time Hammer thought it was the homeowner's issue. The homeowner hired Roach Construction to come repair the line, after digging up the sewer line and using a camera they discovered it was a city issue. A belly in the line, which is a low spot, caused the problem. Hammer stated it is the city's obligation to cover the \$15,000 cost the homeowner incurred. In the future, Hammer stated they will routinely jet the line to prevent build up in the belly of the line.

Hammer also reported the city intended to apply for a grant for a Hauser Trail that would connect the Hauser neighborhood to Park Street. The cost of the project came in much higher than expected at 3.1 million. Due to the slope of the hill they would be required to put in a retaining wall and hand rail the entire pathway. Outdoor Grants Manager, Allison Greene

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suggested we look into a recreation grant which provides for more leniencies on the requirements of pathways.

Hammer reported the grant we applied for through RTPO for the Crosswalk Beacons and Speed Limit signs did get passed through the first group that oversees the grants and was passed on to the policy board. Hammer stated usually the policy board approves what grants are sent through to them.

### **Administration-**

Mathis attended a meeting with the Whitman County Planning Commission regarding the Shoreline Master Plan update. This was a kick off meeting with the Department of Ecology; they will come give a presentation for city council in September.

### **Fire-**

Fire Chief Michael Chapman reported they have started the spring maintenance on the fire hydrants. They are about 40 hydrants into it and today they began hydrant testing.

Retzer thanked the fire department for bringing the ladder truck out for the senior parade.

The Colfax Kindergarten Class toured the fire department last week and did a few fun activities with Firefighter's Dean Walker and Michael Hubert.

### **Police-**

Chief Bruce Blood reported with recent shooting activity around the country, in an effort to be proactive, he is in the exploratory stage for local active shooter training. There are a lot of new/young officers in the local agencies (City Police, State Patrol and WCSO) and this will be good training for all.

Blood was also approached by Emergency Management Bill Tensfield who would like to partner with this training that would include the Fire Department and the Hospital for mass casualty training. It has been a few years since local agencies have had this training so it will be a good refresher. Blood went on to say he doesn't want any delays when they are faced with this type of a situation.

Blood stated Officer Perry Tate just spent 4 days in Pullman in Active Shooter Training. This training was coordinating with other agencies and the actual going in and conducting business. It is best to go in with 2 vs. 1, but when shots are being fired there can be no delay. We need to coordinate with the schools as they go into lock down when these events happen. It is important to have all agencies to have a plan of action so there is no delay.

### **MAYORS REPORT:**

Retzer asked Molly Keogh to give a rundown of the events scheduled for the 150 Celebration in July.

- Eells Park Fountain dedication

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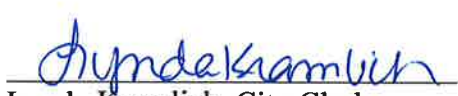
- Children's Parade
- Kid Zone
- Vendor's market
- Dunk tank
- Beer and wine testing-Chance McKinney Concert
- Open midnight swim

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.



Jim Retzer, Mayor



Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk