

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
September 7, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, Guenther, Christopherson, Mackleit, Kackman and Huntwork: Present. Miller Absent

A motion was entered by Guenther, seconded by Christopherson to excuse Councilman Miller.
Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Kackman, seconded by Huntwork to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2021 Council meeting. Roll Call: Golden abstained the rest of council were Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Councilman Kackman stated that this wasn't exactly for the good of the city, but like everyone here he spent a lot of time thinking about the passing of Jim Krouse, and he wished Lynda was here tonight to hear this, but for his 50 years in Colfax, Jim Krouse was here for all of them. "They just don't make people like that anymore that dedicate their life to volunteerism. We should all take a minute to reflect on what that means and what his contribution really has been to this community over the years. Obviously it's terribly unfortunate for us to lose him and for his family to lose him and we want to offer our condolences and our support, but we should all look to him as an example of what we could and should be in terms of a person who is community minded and who's always there with a servants attitude willing to serve others and do for other people. I really appreciated that for my whole life I've watched him do what he did. He was a great example and his passing is a mighty large loss for this community."

Mayor Retzer agreed 100% and stated we will never be able to replace his 52 years of service to the community. He stated the funeral service will be Friday at 1:00 p.m. Hopefully we can all get through this and support his family as best as we can.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

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

CLAIMS

6798, 6816-6817, 6823-6847
\$ 104,348.64

PAYROLL

6797-6815, 6818-6822 & EFT
\$84,868.14

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GRAND TOTAL: \$189,216.78

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Retzer introduced the Proclamation. September 22, 2021 Steve Larkin will be planting 2 trees with the second grade class. Kackman pointed out we need to do this every year to maintain our Tree City award. Some discussion about tree varieties pursued.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire: Michael Chapman spoke about preparing for Chief Krouse's service and the process of a Line of Duty death. A State Incident team will be coordinating the logistics of the procession of 50 to 100 visiting Fire Vehicles that will be here to honor Chief Krouse. He also mentioned the service will be live streamed, and mentioned concerns that we are also dealing with covid. He also talked about how much Chief Krouse touched everyone in the community and that everyone wants to show their love and affection for him. The department did a debriefing for the department and also opened it up to the community, Whitcom and the sheriff's department for dealing with the stress of losing him as he was such an important part of this community.

Mayor Retzer thanked Chief Chapman for his time and service, and gave a thank you to Craig Corbeill as well.

Public Works: Matt Hammer said the crew should be wrapping up the East Street Water Main replacement construction project. They would do road prep next and then paving. They will also be assisting with the Funeral Fire procession on Friday.

Councilman Mackleit wanted to thank Public Works for all the deer removal over the past few weeks. Hammer mentioned it is still ongoing; they have picked up about 120 bodies so far. More conversation ensued.

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Finance: Chris Mathis noted how much she appreciated Clerks Lynda Kramlich and Amanda Link and how they kept the office going while she was out sick for 3 weeks during such a difficult personal time. They definitely go above and beyond and are so valuable to the city.

Councilman Kackman asked about the final audit report for the Department of Retirement Systems and where things are at. Mathis talked about some of the corrections Clerk Kramlich is still working through with DRS and that she is also still working with the auditor on some questions the City has about the audit. Kackman stated that he didn't see anything he was too concerned about and we need to wrap it up, make our corrections and move on and not stress out about it.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Report: Mayor Retzer updated the council on the Eels Park Fountain refurbish that he and Jim Gill from Public Works and the Harrison's from Concrete Doctor worked on. There are still a few things to finish, but the plan is to have it up and working for the 150 year celebration of Colfax for next summer. Some ladies from the community would also like to plant flowers there next year.

Also, the property down off Morton where the trailer had burned has been all cleaned up, with help from the community and Onecho Church and Palouse River Rock. Public Works also helped with blocking the road. Kackman encouraged staff to be sure and check the zoning to make sure any replacement is within the code.

The American Flags are up for Chief Krouse's funeral and will stay up for September 11th. They will come down the following week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:


ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:34p.m.

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Jim Retzer, Mayor



Chris Mathis, City Administrator