

MINUTES OF THE NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON
April 03, 2023

A meeting of the Newport City Council was held on April 03, 2023, at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 S. Washington Avenue, Newport, Washington, with the following present:

	Keith Campbell	Mayor
	Abby Gribi	City Administrator
	Nickole North	Clerk/Treasurer
Kenneth Smith		Councilmember
Nathan Weathers		Councilmember
Jami Sears		Councilmember
Mark Zorica		Mayor Pro Tem
Nathan Longly		Councilmember

At 6:00 PM, Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order followed by roll call and the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES:

Claims check 65591 payable to G.R. Dohrn & Associates for planning services in 2022 was added to the agenda under Bills & payroll making the total claims amount to be paid \$43,846.37. Councilmember Zorica moved to approve the agenda as amended and the minutes from the March 20, 2023 Council Meeting; Councilmember Longly seconded. Motion carried.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Longly reminded everyone that the Chamber sponsored Easter Egg Hunt will be this Saturday in the Newport City Park at 10:00 AM. He expressed his thanks to the Chamber and others that were involved with donating money and time to make this event happen. Mayor Campbell also expressed his thanks.

Mayor Campbell invited everyone to volunteer their time helping Zeke Stutzman with his Earth Day event on April 22nd from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Everyone interested in helping is to meet in the East parking lot of Stratton Elementary to help clean up the City.

Councilmember Weathers commended the public works department for “getting out of winter” clean up. He also thanked City Administrator Gribi for getting him up to speed to take over the Councilmember position.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Pend Oreille County Commissioner Rosencrantz gave an update on the ambulance EMS issue and stated the revenue portion from the City is a key piece in making this happen. Mr. Rosencrantz resides at 615 W. Pine, Apartment #14, Newport, WA.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

City Administrator Gribi stated that the ordinance regarding council wages will be presented at the next meeting. This is taking a bit longer to prepare because there has been a question of opting out of getting paid for the position and she would like to include that in the ordinance as well.

A local Emergency Planning meeting was held to discuss updating the County’s Emergency Plan which includes Newport and Administrator Gribi and Police Clerk Bowman attended.

The last two Mondays Ms. Gribi has been attending Pend Oreille Commissioner Meetings regarding the Clean Energy Coalition.

The Planning Commission is working on updates to the Comp Plan regarding things such as rezones, updates to the UGA, conditional use permits, etc. Ms. Gribi is working on making sure the updates get into the newly updated County Comprehensive Plan. Her goal overall is to make it easier for businesses to open within the City of Newport.

An advisory vote is being worked on and needs to be to the County by May 12th to get on the ballot this Fall.

Cathy McMorris Rogers will be at the Camas Wellness Center in Usk later this week and her assistant phoned and invited Administrator Gribi so she will be attending.

The Economic Development Council asked to have their next meeting hosted at Newport City Hall.

Ms. Gribi is helping out with planning the GSI 2024 National EDC event which will be local and she is planning on attending the event next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Weathers moved to approve Resolution No 04032023 declaring certain property owned by the City of Newport to be excess and surplus and authorizing the means of disposal; Councilmember Smith seconded. Motion carried. (Tag# 871 Canon Projector Model LV-S1U & Tag #1507 HP Color Printer)

Councilmember Sears moved to approve Agreement NP2023-08 Professional Services Agreement for SCJ Alliance to provide consulting services (on-call engineering & review) to the City; Councilmember Zorica seconded. Motion carried.

BILLS & PAYROLL:

Councilmember Smith moved to approve the bills and payroll; Councilmember Longly seconded. Motion carried.


CLAIMS CHECKS 65569-65591	\$43,846.37
CLAIMS EFT 03/28/2023 Run 1-5	\$7,725.73

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Attest: 

Nickole North, MMC, CPFA
Clerk/Treasurer

By: 

Keith Campbell
Mayor