

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING****September 8, 2020**

**A. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance** Mayor Grover called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**B. Roll Call – Excused Absences** Councilmembers present included Councilmember Overhauser, Councilmember Schmidt, Councilmember Barthels, Councilmember Weizmann, Councilmember Gaard, Councilmember Hilton, and Councilmember Taves. Staff members present included Mr. Schuller, Ms. Niemeier, Ms. MacDonald, Ms. Kornegay, Mr. Hensley, Mr. Ableman, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Marx, and Ms. Snider.

**C. Minutes** of the Regular City Council meeting of August 25, 2020 were approved as distributed.

**D. Claims and Vouchers** nos. 154837 through 154931, 154774, and August interdepartmental billing in the amount of \$1,252,187.72, payroll warrants nos. 63386 through 63421 in the amount of \$32,082.36, direct deposits in the amount of \$382,638.23, claims warrants nos. 154647 through 154670 and 154672 through 154677 in the amount of \$471,573.14, and transfers to claims clearing fund for distribution of previously expensed and reported benefit adjustments in the amount of \$23,789.03 for a total payroll of \$910,082.76 were approved as read.

**E. Claims for Damages** None

**F. Small Contracts** None

**G. Information Items** None

**H. Appointments** None

**I. Citizen Comments** None

**J. Action Items**

**1. 20-061 – Resolution E-848 – Industrial Park Distribution Line** Mr. Marx stated that this is a 3 phase overhead distribution line to supply power to two customers. The City crew will build it. Councilmember Schmidt moved for approval of Resolution E-848. Councilmember Taves seconded. Carried unanimously.

**2. 20-062 – Resolution E-849 – Cheney School District SRTS Project Award** Mr. Ableman stated that we opened three bids. D-McP Construction was the low bidder. Councilmember Barthels moved for approval of Resolution E-849. Councilmember Weizmann seconded. Carried unanimously.

**3. 20-063 – Resolution E-850 – 2020 Lodging Tax Award** Ms. Niemeier stated that this is for the Cheney Merchants Association for the Main Street Washington Revamp. This will be for a life-sized statue of Swoop. They initially asked for \$4,300 for the statue, but the committee is recommending we provide the total cost of \$5,800. We will be developing an agreement on who will own the statue, maintain it, and where it will be located. Councilmember Taves moved for approval of Resolution E-850 in the amount of \$5,800. Councilmember Weizmann seconded. Carried unanimously.

**4. 20-065 – Resolution E-851 – Washington State Department of Commerce Broadband Construction Grant Application** Mr. Schuller stated that the State is committed to bringing better internet speed to rural communities. We are asking for \$512,000. Councilmember Schmidt moved for approval of Resolution E-851. Councilmember Taves seconded. Carried unanimously.

**5. 20-064 – Ordinance X-86 – 2020 Budget Amendment #2** Ms. Niemeier stated that this is the second budget amendment of the year. She provided information on the amendments. Councilmember Overhauser moved for the first reading of Ordinance X-86 in title and summary form only, that reading considered the second and third, and that it be placed before Council for final passage. Councilmember Schmidt seconded. Carried unanimously. Yes votes: Councilmember Overhauser, Councilmember Schmidt, Councilmember Barthels, Councilmember Weizmann, Councilmember Gaard, Councilmember Hilton, Councilmember Taves. Ordinance X-86 passed.

**K. Staff Reports** Mr. Marx provided an update on the power outage. He stated that we have a crew working in Lincoln County with Inland Power and Light to help them out. Mr. Jenkins provided an update on the fires and calls in the area. Three firefighters are with the brush truck helping out at fires. Mr. Schuller provided information about James and Anita Wendt's house fire and how we plan to help. He stated that he and the Mayor met with EWU today regarding the students coming back to town.

**L. Mayor's Report** Mayor Grover stated that it was a great meeting with EWU. He expects a really good partnership with them. He stated that staff really stepped up like they always do during times of crisis.

**M. Council Reports** Councilmember Overhauser thanked the Light, Fire, and Police Departments for their work and stated that she was pleased they were all safe yesterday. She was impressed that the Light Department was able to update the recording about the outage several times. Councilmember Schmidt stated that there will be a Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting tomorrow at 11 a.m. He thanked City staff. Councilmember Barthels thanked staff for their work during the power outage. He will attend the Public Works Committee meeting. Councilmember Weizmann thanked staff for their hard work. She provided an update on the Cheney Depot. Councilmember Gaard thanked Councilmember Weizmann for her work at the Depot. Councilmember Hilton thanked the Fire, Police, and Light Departments. He will also attend the Public Works Committee meeting. Councilmember Taves echoed the comments of others regarding staff. He stated that Councilmember Weizmann has done an excellent job at the Depot.

**N. Executive Session** None

**O. Adjournment** Councilmember Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Taves seconded. Carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor