

**Town of Yacolt
202 W. Cushman St.
Yacolt, WA 98675**

April 16, 2018

Town Council Meeting (Regular Meeting)

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Flag Salute.

3. Roll Call:

PRESENT: Mayor Myers and Council members Boget, Bryant, Noble, Moseley, Rowe-Tice

ABSENT: None

PRESENT: Attorney Ridenour, Public Works Director Ross, Assistant Clerk Younce

4. Draft Minutes from the Previous Meeting:

Draft minutes were presented for the April 2, 2018 regular meeting.

MOTION: Council member Boget moved to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2018 regular meeting with noted changes.

SECOND: Council member Rowe-Tice

AYES: Council members Boget, Bryant, Noble, Moseley, Rowe-Tice

VOTE: Motion Carried

5. Late Changes to the Agenda:

New Business Item B. Contract with Jackson Civil Engineering

6. Citizen Communication:

None

7. Old Business:

A. Revised Personnel Policies Manual for Adoption:

Mayor Myers asked if there were any additional questions about the Policy or letters to employees. The Council had none.

MOTION: Council member Moseley moved to approve Ordinance #570, accepting the revised Personnel Policies.

SECOND: Council member Boget

AYES: Council members Boget, Bryant, Noble, Moseley, Rowe-Tice

VOTE: Motion Carried

B. Town Clerk Position – Update:

- The hiring committee has received 8 applications.
- The total cost is \$723.89.
- The hiring committee and Mayor Myers will meet to go through the applications and choose the top 4 to interview.
- Council member Rowe-Tice asked the Council to provide her with any questions they may have for the interviews with potential candidates.

C. Fireworks – Update:

- Clark County Councilors had a work group on March 6, 2018 concerning fireworks in the County. A representative from the Town of Yacolt was not invited.
- Mayor Myers requested, and received, the agenda, meeting notes and power point presentation from the work group and forwarded the information to the Council.
- Mayor Myers was very disappointed in the outcome of the work group.
- The meeting notes did not state whether or not there was any voter point of view or any opposing views included.
- Clark County has roughly a population of 250,000 and 570 fire complaints. That comes out to .002% of the population with complaints.
- There are very few complaints compared to the overall population of Clark County.
- Policy should not be based on an extreme minority and the voters should be asked their opinions.
- Mayor Myers finds it disturbing that they are targeting this one event and did not discuss the use of fireworks on any other day of the year. How many fires are called out during the year compared to the 4th of July.
- Council member Boget stated that when you consider the complaint calls compared with the number of warnings and citations issued there was a definite difference. Mayor Myers let the Council know that there were 0 citations issued in 2015, 1 in 2016 and 0 again in 2017.
- Battle Ground has a population of 21,000 and had 20 complaints about fireworks last year. That comes out to .0009% of the population.

- There was a fire in Yacolt last year that listed in their presentation as improper disposal of fireworks; that the homeowner did not dispose of them properly. The homeowner waited until the fireworks were out, then put them in a garbage can. Several hours later the fire started. The same thing happened at Council member Olson's house.
- The next work group regarding the fireworks proposal will be held April 19th from 10 a.m. to noon and Mayor Myers plans to attend to present the opposing point of view.
- Mayor Myers invited anyone that wants to go with him, to do so and pass along any information on also.

8. New Business:

A. CRESA Presentation:

- Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency Director Dave Fuller brought members of the team to do a presentation and answer questions regarding the Program.
- Also present were Katy Myers, Technical Division Manager; Scott Johnson, Emergency Management Division Manager; Kris DeVore, Operations Division Manager and Scott Thompson, Technical Division Manager.
- The team brought handouts to the Mayor and Council for the presentation.
- Mr. Fuller gave general information and a breakdown of the Agencies annual budget.
- CRESA was originally formed in 1975 when a group of counties and cities came together under an Interlocal agreement. CRESA provides 911 call and dispatching services, Public Safety Radio Systems that first responders use, and the Emergency Management System for 7 cities and the county. CRESA also serves as the Homeland Security Office for Region 4.
- CRESA is currently in the process to change its structure to a Public Development Authority from an IOA. It allows for more streamlined operations and better protection to the cities and agencies that they serve.
- The Operations Division handles all of the 911 calls. Last year they handled just under 500,000 phone calls and approximately 300,000 were for incidents that were Law Enforcement calls that dispatched responds to. About a year ago they started dividing their calls between the 911 and 311 sides. Both programs use the same dispatchers for answering calls. The 311 calls are ones that dispatchers can put on hold if they need to.
- 911 was originally for land lines which had the unique feature of being tied to a physical location. Over the last 5 years they have seen a huge increase in cell phone calls. The challenge with that is trying to find a person's location. The more information a caller can give about their location, the better.

- CRESA is primarily funded through the 911 excise tax.
- Mr. Fuller spoke with the Council about “Smart 911”, which includes Text to 911. With Smart 911, any citizen can register up to 5 phone lines and include special needs or gate codes. Text to 911 started about a year and a half ago.
- Council member Moseley said that most phones come with the ability to turn on and off 911 access to location. She asked if turning that on gives access through that app? Mr. Fuller replied that as the State updates their Emergency Services Information Act, the hope is that some of that information will be transported to CRESA. Council member Moseley also asked if it was better to text 911 or call for a runaway. Mr. Johnson asked that in that situation to please call. It is difficult to share information in a timely manner through text. Text to 911 is mostly for emergencies when someone is afraid to call 911.
- Scott Johnson stated that Emergency Management works with their first responder agencies throughout the County to help all of their communities prepare for disasters and help provide communities with education and tools to be more disaster resilient.
- In Clark County, Emergency Management focuses more on natural disasters. Examples are earthquakes, floods and landslides, winter weather and the I-5 and I-205 corridors. They are major transportation routes, as is the rail line, for hazardous materials.
- Emergency management is 60% funded on a per-capita basis at the rate of \$0.96 per member of the community. The other 40% comes from grants from the Federal Department for Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The grants help fund the Public Alert systems that Emergency Management uses.
- Other services offered though Emergency Management include an unmanned aerial survey system. It allows for communities to use for things like a waterfront mapping project for Vancouver and Battle Ground used it for some mapping inside the city.
- Mayor Myers asked if the map in the handout was available on the GIS website and Mr. Johnson replied that it is. Mayor Myers also asked about the inferred fault line through Yacolt. He also asked if there is really a fault line or where they think there’s a fault line. Scott Johnson wasn’t sure and stated he would have to get together with GIS to find out. Council member Moseley asked if it is a valid thing to say that Vancouver would have to be totally submerged before Yacolt would be affected. Mr. Johnson stated that it indeed a valid statement.

B. Jackson Civil Engineering Contract:

- Public Works Director Ross stated that Mr. Jackson is doing a great job. It is past due time to renew the Town’s contract with Jackson Civil Engineering and Mr. Ross is in support of that happening.

- Council member Rowe-Tice asked if there was anything that needed to be modified or updated in the contract. Devin Jackson stated that there was not.
- Council member Boget asked if they could renew the contract or if it would have to go out for a Request for Qualification. Attorney Ridenour let the Council know that the contract be put out for a Request of Qualifications.
- Council member Bryant asked Attorney Ridenour if an extension could be filed. Attorney Ridenour stated that is was a good idea and that he would do that right away.
- Mayor Myers told Mr. Jackson that hopefully the Town will have a new contract within a month.
- Council member Bryant also asked how many days the RFQ needs to be posted in the paper. Attorney Ridenour replied that he will get in contact with Assistant Clerk Younce and get it posted in the newspaper.
- Council member Bryant asked that the item be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting. Attorney Ridenour let her know that it depended on how long the RFQ has to be posted in the paper.
- The Council gave unanimous consent to extend the Engineer's Contract.

9. Mayor's Comments:

- Mayor Myers asked the Council if they had any questions they would like to have asked at the fireworks meeting. He again invited anyone that wants go with him.
- He also told the Council and citizens that the Spring Cleanup was successful. The Town should find out soon the financial impact of the event. Mayor Myers said hats off to the staff and volunteers for all of their hard work. Council member Bryant brought some excellent chili. Council member Noble wanted to give recognition to the women that went out and picked up trash along the roads. They picked up bags and bags of trash. Public Works Maintenance worker Gardner stated that there was one gentleman with them also.

10. Attorney's Comments:

- Attorney Ridenour is preparing a proposed draft of the Interlocal Agreement with Clark County and is getting ready to share that with Susan Ellinger. The Agreement has been drafted and he hopes to complete it soon.
- Attorney Ridenour suggested that the Council send Assistant Clerk Younce all of the information they have regarding the proof of publications.
- He also stated that he received an email from AWC inviting the Town staff and Officials to a dinner on Small City Connectors on April 24th. Dinner will be served

and he will carpool with anyone else that wants to go. He then differed the subject to Council member Boget.

- Attorney Ridenour also said “Happy Tax Day” to everyone.

11. Council Comments:

- Council member Boget also spoke about the email from AWC. The email had information on the Rural Broadband grant available to small cities that is given out every year. In order to work towards the grant for this year, everything would have to be done within a month so she is looking into it for next year. The Town would have to have a written plan in place with 15% match that does not include in like kind services. Council member Bryant asked if Council member Boget was going to attend the dinner. Council member Boget said she doesn’t know if she can attend the dinner but she has been watching presentations online. Council member Boget stated that she has gotten a lot of information from the USDA website and has started that journey. The Town would have to partner with a service provider or put the infrastructure in place ourselves. The grant, if we have a service provider partner, covers the cost of the infrastructure and free internet service to everyone in Town for two years.
- Council member Noble asked what can be done to get more of a Sheriff’s presence in the town. He stated that the Town is a “lawless community.” He was told that call volume equals access. It was decided that Deputy Tim Gosch would be invited to the next Council meeting. Council member Moseley said she and her neighbors take a stance against those things and the people doing them, even though it may not be the safest thing to do. Council member Noble stated that if you do something in his part of town, the people do things to retaliate against the citizens. Public Works Director Ross told the Council that Deputy Gosch does more than most residents realize and that Gosch has his finger on the pulse of the Town. Skip Bengt told Mr. Ross that he has never felt safer.
- Council member Noble also asked about the price of speed bumps. Public Works Director Ross let the Council know that they have to be done a certain way. Devin Jackson, with Jackson Civil Engineering stated that some speed bumps are simply better. The built in speed bumps work better and last longer than other kinds. Public Works Director Ross suggested that the Town install four-way stop signs at the corners of Hubbard and Jones. He also suggested that Council members and citizens drive the roads at 25mph and see how fast it really is. Mayor Myers stated that drivers seem to think that stop signs were “optional.” Council member Rowe-Tice had asked Officer Gosch at some point how many tickets he had written. She said his reply was three or four.

12. Public Works Dept. Report:

- Public Works Director Ross let the Council know that the new stop signs are in place.
- Clark Public Utilities has a leak that may have been happening for over a year. There is a broken pipe under the manhole by the school.
- He thanked everyone for their help at the Cleanup.
- He also told the Council that he received an email from the WUTC Inspector regarding replacement of the Railroad Crossing signs. Will Cahill with the Chelatchie Railroad told Public Works Director Ross not to replace the signs. The County is applying for a grant to get the signs replaced.
- The railroad track at the crossing going into the cemetery is creating a bulge in the asphalt. When the trains pass through, it pops bolts loose. The Town should not have to pay to have that repaired.

13. Town Clerk's Report:

- We have achieved our 2018 Well City Award for 2017. We will again have a discount on employee benefits for 2019.
 - Assistant Clerk Younce gave the Council pamphlets with general information about the Wellness program and how it works.
 - This is our 3rd straight year for the award and reduced premiums.
 - With this year's Wellness budget, we will again be planting a vegetable garden in front of Town Hall. "Fresh ingredients for fresh cooking."
- The Annual Report is finished and filed. The training workshop was very helpful.
- Assistant Clerk Younce let the council know she had researched dual flash drives that can be used on a computer or tablet. She gave the Council examples of the price range.

*At this point Devin Jackson let the Council know that there are two short plats in review. He also told the Council that they are filling a quasi-judicial capacity so it's important to refrain from discussing either of the projects. Council member Noble asked if the property for the one application was zoned commercial. Mr. Jackson replied that it was and that the contractor would have to apply for a variance. Mayor Myers asked Attorney Ridenour if he had any thoughts on the subject and Mr. Ridenour replied that in situations like these he refers to Title 18 of the Municipal Code for procedures and timelines.

14. Pay Bills on behalf of the Town:

MOTION: Council member Boget moved to approve payment of the bills on behalf of the Town.

SECOND: Council member Noble

AYES: Council members Boget, Bryant, Noble, Moseley, Rowe-Tice

VOTE: Motion Carried

15. Adjourn:

Mayor Myers adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.



Vince Myers, Mayor



Katie Younce, Assistant Clerk

Current Expense	15,250.79
Streets	1,031.52
Storm Water	6.42
Claims	16,200.59
Payroll	88.14