

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
Online Meeting
March 8, 2021 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fletcher led the Pledge of Allegiance then called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council members present (meeting conducted via Zoom): Gilstrap, Gingell, Soha, Hillcar, and Mayor Fletcher. Absent: Weissenfels. Staff present: Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, Rowley, Police Chief and Hampton, Public Works Director.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 22, 2021 by Gilstrap, second Gingell, motion carried.

2. Motion to approve payroll checks numbered 39231 through 39246 for \$108,406.25, and claim checks numbered 39247 through 39274 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$88,721.97 by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

3. Interlocal Agreement for the Clallam County Solid Waste Management Plan and the Hazardous Waste Plan Updates

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that the City is required to periodically renew its participation in this interlocal agreement. We last adopted the Plan in late 2013 or early 2014. He has reviewed the memorandum of understanding and recommends that the Council authorize the Mayor and staff to enter into the agreement.

Motion to authorize the Mayor and staff to enter into the Interlocal Agreement for the Clallam County Solid Waste Management Plan and the Hazardous Waste Plan Updates by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Council Member Reports

Council Member Gilstrap

Council Member Gilstrap was asked about the availability of commercial properties in Forks. He found the list of City properties on the City's website, but requested that photos or video walk-throughs/tours be added to better promote the properties.

Council Member Gingell

Council Member Gingell expressed concern over a situation with a boat builder near Sequim who is restoring a 100 year-old wooden boat in his backyard. Clallam County has labeled his activities an industrial effort and is shutting him down.

Council Member Soha

Council Member Soha reported that there is a lot of interest in discussion regarding updates to, and expansion of, the sewer treatment plant. He is also interested to know what plans may be in the works regarding commercial properties belonging to the City. He stated that if properties are not going to be used to make jobs or leased out, then perhaps we should consider getting rid of them.

2. Staff Reports

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom met with representatives from Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), a non-profit that offers technical assistance for low-income rural communities. They may be able to conduct a rate study and put together a preliminary engineering report (PER) for the sewer system at no charge to the City. The PER prioritizes upgrades and develops a plan that can be communicated to funders.

She will be participating in a four-part webinar on the annual report this week.

Public Works Director Hampton

Public Works Director Hampton reported a lot of building, new water services, and new sewer hook-ups over the past few weeks. He is also making headway on funding for the Bogachiel Way project.

Attorney/Planner Fleck

Attorney/Planner Fleck said that discussion of the Campbell's pit stormwater pond has resumed. Public Works Director Hampton and his crew will be digging some test pits over the next month or two to see how the ground drains. His work with the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council on a list of recommendations to be presented to the legislature for economic resiliency projects and work to be performed in 2022 continues.

The Board of Natural Resources had a meeting last week. He was part of a group that was asked to testify, as part of the Department of Natural Resources trust asset management process, on the need for DNR land to be used for timber and timber-related efforts.

He also joined a local group in a meeting with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Director's lead technical person. At that meeting, there was no mention of the most recent emergency rule changes regarding the spring Chinook salmon run, which WDFW has since indicated may have been in error. They have not yet issued a correction, however. He praised Ravae O'Leary, who represents the Olympic Peninsula Guides' Association and has been working hard to ensure that fishing guides have a voice with WDFW, and to expose some quite serious technical blunders WDFW has made.

He's had a lot of meetings with developers over the past few weeks about what can and cannot be done with regard to zoning, utilities, etc. The last week has been spent on appropriations forms for Senator Murray's office. He is also working on the airport master plan for the Quillayute Airport. This is a 24-month project funded by a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration. The desired result of this project is an instrumental approach system, possibly GPS, for the Quillayute Airport.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fletcher reported that he will be working with Clallam County Commissioner Bill Peach over the next two weeks on a request for funds from the federal government to be put toward our wastewater management system. A representative will be coming to Clallam County to do a presentation on various small- to medium-sized wastewater management systems, including sewer systems and private septic systems.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Gilstrap, second Soha, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer



Tim Fletcher, Mayor