

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
February 28, 2022 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Fletcher asked that the agenda be modified to include an Executive Session of ten minutes to discuss current or potential litigation.

Motion to approve the agenda as modified by Soha, second Wood, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Charles Evans, Joan Evans, Shawn Lesko, Amy Ruble, Colleen Leavitt, and Bill Bond, all property owners and/or residents in the vicinity of 380 Bogachiel Way, spoke about the issues the people at that address are causing for the neighborhood. Specific issues named were excess garbage that has led to an infestation of rodents, noise, people living in sheds and sleeping on top of the mobile home, the blocking of driveways and roads, drug deals and drug use conducted in the open, and several overdoses including two ending in death, all of which contribute to lower property values. One spoke of multiple altercations with individuals at 380 Bogachiel, and two said they don't go outside in their own yards without carrying some sort of weapon. The general consensus is that none of these people feel safe in their own homes.

Mayor Fletcher said he would work with Chief Rowley to see what might be done, and encouraged everyone to place non-emergent 911 calls reporting problem and illegal behavior in order to establish a record.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 14, 2022 by Gingell, second Wood, motion carried.

2. Motion to approve manual claim check numbered 40343 in the amount of \$100.00, payroll checks numbered 40344 through 40357 in the amount of \$75,997.34, and claim checks numbered 40358 through 40384 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$69,639.52 by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried.

3. January 2022 Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve the January 2022 Treasurer's Report by Soha, second Wood, motion carried.

4. Ordinance #659 2021 Budget Amendment

Motion to approve Ordinance #659 2021 Budget Amendment by Wood, second Gingell, motion carried.

5. Resolution #503 Authorizing Timber Sales on City-owned Property

Attorney/Planner Fleck said that Brett McGinley of Pacific Forest Management had informed the City that log market conditions for two timber units of approximately 24 acres at the Quillayute Airport are currently very favorable. He estimates a net value of nearly \$80,000. Attorney/Planner Fleck noted that any profit from assets at the Quillayute Airport must be spent on the Quillayute Airport, and there is some debt to resolve and work to be done on the hangar.

Motion to approve Resolution #503 Authorizing Timber Sales on City-owned Property by Soha, second Wood, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Ordinance #660 Adopting the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code

Attorney/Planner Fleck said 2018 building codes were adopted by the City in April of 2021 with Ordinance #655. However, the State had not yet adopted the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code at that time. The State has since adopted this code, so if approved, Ordinance #660 will amend the municipal code to reflect the City's adoption of the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code as well. Public Works Director Hampton said the majority of the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code is already a part of the City's municipal code. Action will be requested on Ordinance #660 at the next meeting.

2. Council Member Reports

Council Members in attendance had nothing to report.

3. Staff Reports

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom reported on the Opportunity Fund grant process. One more public hearing was held at a commissioners meeting and based on public and commissioner input, the Opportunity Fund Board decided an ending term should be written into the grant received by the City for wastewater treatment plant improvements. They decided on a two-year term that allows for extension if needed. She has been working on the request for qualifications (RFQ) for engineering on the project.

Public Works Director Hampton said he has been working with the Department of Fish and Wildlife on emergency approval to locate and clear a water conveyance culvert on the Huggins farm that was buried in the November flood event. He said he doesn't think they'll be able to clear it, but they're going to try. He also said he will have to meet with a geologist to get the rest of the conveyance cleaned out. He then reported that the RFQ deadline for the Bogachiel Way project engineering is March 7.

Police Chief Rowley recognized Public Works Director Hampton, who volunteers on the fire department's Swiftwater Rescue Team, for his help in saving three fishermen whose boat overturned on the Calawah River.

Attorney/Planner Fleck reported that an additional RFQ would be issued for water projects including a new tank north of the Calawah River. He said the consultant for the Quillayute Airport Master Plan Update has moved forward with work required by the FAA and has filed the necessary paperwork with the FAA to begin work on the approach. A virtual open house for the Quillayute Airport Master Plan will be held on March 31 at 5:30 p.m. He then said the DNR remains to be an issue with the "old tree"/"old forest" discussion continuing to be a major focus. The DNR is expected to release a draft impact analysis in April or May; interested parties will have a chance to comment on the analysis. He then reported having spent a lot of time last week dealing with issues associated with individuals suffering from mental illness committing crimes. He noted there were eight requests for competency evaluations for five individuals in all of 2021. To date, there have been eight requests for competency evaluations for eight individuals, four of whom are among the five individuals from 2021. Much time was spent discussing the matter with the court, the public defender's office, the prosecutor's office, and West End Outreach. The primary issue is the fact that once a person is declared mentally incompetent, law enforcement and the legal process are no longer a part of the equation; their issues are now mental health issues.

4. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fletcher said he will attend his first Homelessness Taskforce meeting tomorrow. He reported having attended the West End Business and Professional Associate meeting where County Prosecutor Mark Nichols spoke and expressed his frustration with recent legislation and its unintended consequences. He also attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting where The Spencer Group gave a presentation and talked about the potential for jobs here on the West End.

5. Executive Session was called from 8:16 to 8:26 to discuss current or potential litigation. No action was taken.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Tim Fletcher, Mayor



Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer