

**TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014, 7:00 PM  
South Prairie Town Hall  
121 NW Washington Street**

*The following is a condensation of the proceedings and is not a verbatim transcript.*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** called to order and presided over the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 7:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Council Members:** Jim Frank, Phil Marshall, Les Rossich and Stu Terry were present.

**Also in attendance:** Fire Chief Jerry Thorson and Commissioner Dale Mitchell, East Pierce Fire & Rescue (PCFD #22); Mart Kask, Town Planner; James Morgan, Town Engineer; Larry Harter, Utility Operator; and Marla Nevill, Clerk-Treasurer.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** requested everyone stand for the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MARCH 4, 2014:**

❖ **Councilor Stu Terry** moved to approve the Agenda for March 4, 2014. **Councilor Phil Marshall** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1) Appointment of Candidate to Fill Council Position #5 Vacancy:**

❖ **Councilor Stu Terry** moved to appoint a candidate to fill Council Position #5 vacancy. **Councilor Jim Frank** seconded the motion. Discussion followed regarding the two candidates that submitted a “Letters of Interest.” **Councilor Stu Terry** moved to amend his motion; and his recommendation is for Mayor Anthony Caldwell to appoint Vicky Watkins to Council Position #5. **Councilor Jim Frank** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**2) Fire Chief Jerry Thorson and Commissioner Dale Mitchell – Agreement with East Pierce Fire and Rescue for Emergency Medical Services and Fire Services:**

Fire Chief Jerry Thorson and Commissioner Dale Mitchell attended the Council meeting to discuss updating the contract between the Town of South Prairie and East Pierce Fire and Rescue. Mayor Tony Caldwell and Chief Thorson plan on meeting again to work out the contract language and bring it back to the Council and the Board for final review and approval.

**ENGINEERING REPORTS - James Morgan, Town Engineer – On-Call Services:**

**Segregation of Fire Station Property:**

**James Morgan** presented the Engineering Report to the Mayor and Council. He stated he did not have a written report to submit. He stated the research on the fire station property did not go as planned; and we might have to revisit the budget, because it might be a couple hundred dollars more than estimated. Discussion followed.

**Relocating Phone Lines in Front of Fire Station:**

**James Morgan** stated he would follow up with the phone company about relocating their lines in front of the fire station in order to finish the project. Discussion followed.

**Transfer of Water and Sewer Utilities to Valley Water District:**

**James Morgan** stated last month some of the Commissioners stated concerns about moving forward with the South Prairie Water and Sewer System Utilities transfer to Valley Water District. Discussion followed.

**PLANNER REPORT – Mart Kask, Town Planner:**

**South Prairie RV Park Office and/or Club House:**

**Mart Kask** stated there are several issues regarding the RV Park Office and/or Club House. They submitted the application and site plan to the Town Hall and paid the fees. He stated he could only report on those issues that pertained to planning. Discussion followed.

**South Prairie RV Park – Relocating RVs:**

**Mart Kask** stated the RV Park is planning to relocate 59 RV spaces. We have had a meeting with the RV Park representative. This project is quite involved and requires a public hearing. We are considering running with the old SEPA let the State determine whether the old SEPA is adequate. It is in process and a recent letter was sent to the RV Park. Discussion followed.

**Foothills Trail Environmental Impact Statement:**

**Mart Kask** stated Pierce County sent out the Environmental Impact Statement for the Foothills Trail from South Prairie east towards Buckley. We sent them our comments, such as the Trail being partially located inside the Town limits. We have a meeting scheduled with Pierce County to discuss these issues. Discussion followed.

**Marijuana Retail/Processing Facilities in South Prairie:**

**Mart Kask** stated we have been contacted about locating marijuana retail and processing facilities in South Prairie. He stated the Liquor Control Board has stated that the Foothills Trail is not considered a park, only the Trail Head. He stated he would review the Pierce County and South Prairie Comprehensive Land Use Plans to determine if the Trail is considered a park in these documents. He stated if we measure from Global Equipment and Castle Heating properties, they are 1000 feet from the Trail Head. We have an appointment tomorrow with the applicants to discuss this issue. **Councilor Jim Frank** stated we have to look at this like any other business. Discussion followed.

**Shoreline Master Program:**

**Mart Kask** stated he and Larry Harter went out and measured the shoreline buffer zone. He stated the buffer measurements are only one part. We have been told by Sarah Lukas of the Department of Ecology that we have to prove that the fifty foot buffer zone is not detrimental. He contacted Kenny Booth of the Watershed Company to find out how he came up with his findings on the “No Net Loss” report; but he has not responded. He stated if Kenny Booth does not respond he would have to come up with his own formula to determine “No Net Loss.” **Mart Kask** stated he would send a letter out to Sarah Lukas. Discussion followed.

**Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update:**

**Mart Kask** stated he would have the “Scope of Work” completed by the end of March; and he would have a report to the Council by the April Council meeting. Discussion followed.

**Floodplain Management Audit:**

**Mart Kask** stated he would have a memo and cost estimate to respond to the findings in the Floodplain Management Audit by the April Council meeting. Discussion followed.

**Metal Building:**

**Mart Kask** stated the dumpsters were supposed to be located in the metal building. He stated he would contact Steve McClain, Pierce County Building Official and send a letter to the property owner to remind them of the “Conditions of Approval.” Discussion followed.

**Code Enforcement:**

**Mart Kask** stated he contacted the property owner in the 200 block of Highway 162 W about removing junk vehicles from their property; and they are not responding to the code enforcement letter. He said the Mayor has informed him to hold off on the code enforcement, because we are dealing with more pressing issues at this time. Discussion followed.

**South Prairie RV Park – Relocating RVs:**

**Councilor Jim Frank** stated he would like to revisit the issue of relocating RVs at the South Prairie RV Park. He stated concerns about the stormwater runoff. **James Morgan** stated they have to comply with the stormwater regulations. Discussion followed.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2014:**

❖ **Councilor Jim Frank** moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2014. **Councilor Stu Terry** seconded the motion. Discussion followed. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR FEBRUARY 2014, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,548.04:**

❖ **Councilor Jim Frank** moved to approve the bills for February 2014, in the amount of \$37,548.04 (thirty-seven thousand five hundred forty-eight dollars and four cents). **Councilor Stu Terry** seconded the motion. Several questions were asked and answered regarding the February bills. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**3) Review Nuisance Ordinances from Other Jurisdictions – Direct Town Attorney to Draft Revised Ordinance:**

❖ **Councilor Phil Marshall** moved to review nuisance ordinances from other jurisdictions. **Councilor Stu Terry** seconded the motion. Discussion followed. **Councilor Phil Marshall** moved to amend his motion to table this issue until the April 1, 2014 Council meeting. **Councilor Stu Terry** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:**

None

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated he has the insurance attorney looking into Resolution No. 151. Discussion followed.

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated we relocated the sand bags from the Town garage to the fire station and we gave some of them to the City of Orting. Discussion followed.

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated he was approached by the Bonney Lake to switch over to them for police services. He stated he wants to meet with the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department before bringing this issue to the Council. Discussion followed.

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated the incidents of theft appear to have gone down. Discussion followed.

**Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated the transfer of the water and sewer utilities to Valley Water District is on hold until the issues involving the South Prairie RV Park and Resolution No. 151 are resolved. He stated the RV Park has to submit a response to Valley Water District. Discussion followed.

**PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT:**

**Larry Harter** stated his computer at the wastewater treatment plant is old and XP is no longer supported by Microsoft. He stated this issue was discussed with the former Mayor; and he was told that Valley Water District would be taking over soon. Discussion followed. **Mayor Tony Caldwell** stated he would be speaking with Betty Vance, Valley Water District, tomorrow; and he would talk to her about this issue. Discussion followed.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

None

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT:**

**Councilor Phil Marshall** said on the police issue, ask them about their response time. **Mayor Tony Caldwell** said they gave me a timeframe of less than ten minutes. He stated he would like to see where we are before requesting a proposal from Bonney Lake. Discussion followed.

**Councilor Jim Frank** said he spoke to Dean Mundy and he would like South Prairie to look at his prices and consider him as the Building Official. **Mayor Tony Caldwell** said Pierce County keeps the fees they collect for building permits; but they do not charge the Town a separate fee. Discussion followed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- ❖ At 9:00 PM, **Councilor Phil Marshall** moved to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of March 4, 2014. **Councilor Les Rossich** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Date Approved: April 1, 2014**