**ASOTIN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Monday, May 13, 2019**

**Asotin City Hall, 121 Cleveland Street, Asotin WA**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bonfield, called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilmember Appleton Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Joe Appleton,Jennifer Bly,Lori Loseth, Mervin Schneider, Dwayne Paris

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk/Treasurer, Tiffany Rogers

**PRESS**: None

**AUDIENCE:** Elaine Greene, Ellen Fuller, Mike Tatko, Mike Bailey, Elton Jones, Jim Jeffreys,

Matt McPeak, Alan Jones, Sherry Greenup

1. **PUBLIC HEARING:** None

1. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS- PUBLIC COMMENT**:

Resident, Mike Bailey 1319 4th Street wanted to thank the city, Mayor Bonfield, TDS and everyone involved for helping install the flag at the cemetery. It looks really nice. Mayor Bonfield stated the pictures are on Facebook and cities website.

1. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
2. **Minutes of April 22, 2019 Regular Meeting**
3. Expense Checks- #41923 #41924 #41926 #41931-#41951 #41954-#41972 $25,366.12

To Include EFT’s

1. Payroll Checks- #41894-#41903 $23,580.69 To Include EFT’s

Fire Fighters Payroll #41904-#41912 $9,709.36

1. Voids- #41913-#41922 #41925 #41927-#41930 #41952-#41953 Printer off line issue no $ amounts

Councilmember Appleton made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Councilmember Bly. All Ayes. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

**Approval of Unexcused and/or Excused Councilmember’s absence**: None

1. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
2. **Riverpointe Park**

Still working on this item.

1. **Washington Street-Kings Lane Issue Committee Report**

Public Works Superintendent, Bob Portlock received an estimate of approximately $20,000.00 to fix the street and remove the trees. Councilmember Appleton and Schneider did visit the site and stated they would have more information at the next meeting.

1. **NEW BUSINESS:**
2. **Avista Mike Tatko Advanced Metering Infrastructure Presentation**

Avista Regional Business Manager, Mike Tatko presented to the council a presentation on the new “Smart” electric and gas meter changes to homes and businesses that will occur in Asotin County staring this August. Gas meters will have a nodule placed on them for reading and the electric meter will be replaced. Wellington Energy will be under contract with Avista to change out the meters which will only take five minutes. With the new meter system, you will be able to go on line at myavista.com and track your usage during the month so you can prepare for the billing process. This new process is affordable, green renewable, instant turn on, and will have quick response and restoration times if the power goes out. There have been 75 million “Smart Meters” installed in the US for the past 15 years. By 2020, there will be 90 million “Smart Meters” installed. Power poles will have a senor transmission via secure wireless system up loaded to Spokane. With the new technology it will help trouble shoot problems, locate the outages and what caused it. Councilmember Appleton asked if you can hook a generator to the new meters. Mike Tatko stated yes, but he would recommend waiting until the new meters are installed. Councilmember Loseth stated has there been any negative issues towards the new meters. Mike Tatko stated yes, one is the radio frequency levels, however, the radio frequency levels are less than a TV. The other is the privacy issues which the usage data is the only information that is transferred through a secure line. Mike Tatko explained there is an option to opt out and not have the electronic meter installed however, there will be a $5.00 fee per month added to the bill because the meter reading will have to be recorded manually. Mike Tatko stated if anybody would like more information to please visit myavista.com/smartmeters or contact Mike Tatko at Avista.

1. **Aging & Long Term Care Older Americans Month Proclamation 2019**

Sherry Greenup read the Proclamation for the Older Americans Month. The month of May is designated as the Older Americans Month. Whereas, the City of Asotin has communities of older Americans who enrich and strengthen our community and who are committed to engaging and supporting older adults, their families, and caregivers. The City of Asotin is committed to take charge of their health, explore new opportunities, activities, and focus on independence. The City of Asotin acknowledges the importance of taking part in activities that promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being – no matter you age. Promoting home-and community-based services that support independent living and involving older adults in community planning, events, and other activities and providing opportunities for older adults to work, volunteer, learn, lead, and mentor. Now therefore, the City Council of the City of Asotin, Washington, hereby proclaims May 2019 to be Older Americans Month, and urges every resident to take time during this month to acknowledge older adults and the people who serve them as essential and valuable members who greatly contribute to our community. Councilmember Appleton made a motion for Mayor Bonfield to sign the 2019 Older Americans Month Proclamation. Seconded by Councilmember Schneider. All Ayes. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

1. **Cemetery Clean Up May 18th 9:00am Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed for the cemetery cleanup day on Saturday, May 18th at 9:00am. Please bring shovels, rakes, weed eaters and trimming tools. Mayor Bonfield stated she will not be there and asked Councilmember Schneider if he could be in charge of the cleanup day. Mayor Bonfield stated there are two trees that need cut down and asked Councilmember Schneider if he could take care of those for her. He stated yes.

**4. Memorial Day Ceremony Monday, May 27th 11:00am**

* Asotin City Cemetery
* American Legion Post #246
* Speaker Asotin County Commissioner Brian Shinn
* Clarkston High School JROTC
* Clearwater Pipe and Drums
* Refreshments and Water

New bleacher have been purchased for the cemetery. The American Legion Clarkston Post #246 paid a portion and Potlatch #1 Federal Credit Union donated $2,000.00 towards the bleachers.

1. **Letter of support for the Public Ports Group requesting the Governor to veto the $750,000**

**study to breach the four lower Snake River dams**

The Honorable Jay Inslee Washington State Governor. We are urging you to remove the $750,000 in funding in Section 118 of ESHS 1109 (the biennial operating budget) for a study of breaching of the lower Snake River dams. We make this request for the following reasons. This issue remains profoundly controversial and divisive, and the general issue of Snake River dam operations is already being thoroughly studied under the federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion and the comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement associated with that effort. A parallel state study, which is less comprehensive and with far less funding, will divide the interests who are working to recover Orca whales, and will not occur within a time frame that will provide meaningful progress in Orca recovery efforts. The Snake River is a key part of the transportation and agricultural sectors of our economy. It also provides reliable carbon-free power that underpins our baseline power needs. The facts are that juvenile fish survival rates past each of the eight federal dams on this river are between 95% and 98%. In addition, returns of chinook, sockeye and steelhead on the Snake River have been on an increasing trend for twenty-five years. Extreme measures such as dam breaching have been studied and rejected many times over the years. The State of Washington and the tribal community have steadfastly defended the existing federal Biological Opinion process. Instead of pursuing this divisive path, we need to renew our investments in fish passage, habitat and other river improvements that have led to a dramatic increase in Snake River fish returns over the past ten years. In addition, these dams are 100% federally owned, and state measures to remove them are simply the wrong approach. The federal agencies are required to explore a range of reasonable alternatives for long-term system operations that accounts for flood control, irrigation, power generation, navigation, fish and wildlife, cultural resources and recreation. The federal EIS and Record of Decision are on track for completion by September 2020. Funding a state study needlessly diverts funds that could be used more effectively in other Orca and fish-recovery efforts. Councilmember Paris made a motion for the City of Asotin to support the Public Ports group requesting the Governor to veto the $750,000 study to breach the four lower Snake River dams and have Mayor Bonfield sign the letter on behalf of the City of Asotin. Seconded by Councilmember Appleton. All Ayes. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

1. **CONSULTANT/CONTRACTOR REPORTS:**

**Keller Associates, Inc.**

1. **2nd Street Stormwater Project**

Still working on paperwork.

1. **TIB 4th Street Rehabilitation**

The contractor will remove 1½ inches of pavement and redo the street in August. The equipment is not available until August. At this time the contractor is working on driveways.

1. **2019-2020 TIB 2nd Street Pavement Project**

Survey’s are being conducted and the plans are being prepared.

1. **CLERK’S REPORT:**
2. **April 2019 Asotin Municipal Court**

The City of Asotin Municipal Court received $3,346.50 for fines and fees for April.

$1,985.35 was distributed to the State of Washington. $23.50 was distributed to Asotin

County for Crime Victims. The city received $1,337.65.

1. **Past Due Utility Accounts for April**

Clerk/Treasurer, Tiffany Rogers reported there were 31 past due utility accounts for April.

1. **Next council meeting will be Tuesday, May 28th due to Memorial Day**
2. **Invitation to the Clarkston Campus of the Walla Walla Community College**

**Graduation Ceremony, Friday, June 14, 2019 4pm Clarkston High School Auditorium**

The Board of Trustees, President Brandes, Dean Miltenberger, faculty and staff, and the

associated student body of Clarkston cordially invite you to join them in honoring the 2019

Graduates of Clarkston Campus-Walla Walla Community College. Friday, June 14th

Clarkston High School Auditorium 401 Chestnut Street, Clarkston WA. Graduation

Ceremony starts at 4:00pm, Nurses’ Pinning Ceremony starts at 5:30pm Receptions will

follow each ceremony.

**DEPARTMENTS:**

1. **POLICE DEPARTMENT:** None
2. **CITY ATTORNEY:** None
3. **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

City of Asotin Fire Lieutenant, Dwayne Paris stated the fire department will be taking a fire

truck to clean an area at the cemetery. Another fire fighter in training has joined the department.

1. **PLANNING COMMISSION:**

* Next Planning Commission meeting will be Thursday, July 11, 2019 7:00pm City Hall

* Planning Commission Opening contact City Hall for an application or call 509-243-4411
* The City of Asotin did receive an official resignation letter from Planning Commissioner Jenni Light
* Chairman, Jim Jeffreys stated the Mayor had asked the Planning Commission to examine the current questions on the Variance Application form. The wording on the City of Asotin Variance Application form mirrors what Washington State Law prescribes. City of Clarkston has the same questions as well. Chairman, Jim Jeffreys stated the Planning Commission does not write or change policies. He suggested talking to the city attorney for advice. He also advised placing a second form with the six questions on it for more in-depth answers. Councilmember Paris stated Municipal Research & Services Center (MRSC) stated the form can be revised. The city can add questions to help clarify the original six questions and ask for a site map. Mayor Bonfield will discuss this with Building Inspector, Bill Frye to work on the second form with additional language to include a site map, drawing and/or footage markings and clarify current language with City of Asotin Attorney, Jane Richards.

1. **ASOTIN MUNICIPAL COURT:**

**2019 ASOTIN MUNICIPAL COURT DATES**

May 23 June 27 July 25 August 22 September 26 October 24 November 21 December 19

**f. ASOTIN DAYS:**

* Next Asotin Days Meeting will be Wednesday, June 19,2019 5:30pm City Hall

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a. **Mayor Pro-Tem–**Jennifer Bly

b. **Administrative Personnel**-Jennifer Bly

c. **Public Safety (Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Emergency Services)**–Joe Appleton &Dwayne Paris

d. **Public Works (Water, Sewer, Utility Franchises)**–Jenifer Bly

e. **Transportation (Streets, Dept of Transportation Liaison)** - Mervin Schneider

f. **Parks and Recreation (Parks, Cemetery, Asotin Community Center)**– Joe Appleton & Mervin Schneider

g. **Finance -** Jennifer Bly & Mervin Schneider

h. **Asotin County EMS Board -**Lori Loseth Quarterly 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30am Tri-State Hospital

i. **Asotin County Health District -** Vikki Bonfield & Lori Loseth 4th Monday @ 1pm Asotin County Annex

j. **PTBA -** Mervin Schneider 2nd Wednesday @ Clarkston PTBA Bldg 15th Street

k. **MPO Technical Advisory Committee** - Bob Portlock 4th Wednesday @ 1:30pm Lewiston Public Works Bldg

l. **MPO Policy Board**–Vikki Bonfield 2ndThursday @ 4pm Lewiston Public Works Bldg

m. **Stormwater -** Jennifer Bly & Bob Porlock Quarterly 2nd Monday @ 3-5pm Asotin County Annex

n. **Asotin Days** - Lori Loseth 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 5:30pm City Hall

1. **COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Agenda Related Topics**

**Joe Appleton-** None

**Jennifer Bly-** Councilmember Bly commented on the need for extra “Equestrian Entry” cleanup during the Asotin County Fair and Hells Canyon Rodeo Parade.

**Lori Loseth**- None

**Dwayne Paris**- None

**Mervin Schneider-** None

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

Mayor Bonfield stated the bridge lights on the right side have LED bulbs, the other side has different bulbs but they will be fixed.

1. **RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: RCW 42.30.110:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilmember Schneider. Seconded by Councilmember Appleton. There was no discussion. All Ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:21pm.

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Mayor, Bonfield

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Clerk/Treasurer, Tiffany Rogers