

TOWN OF CUSICK, WA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 6, 2022 | 6:00PM

The Town Council of the Town of Cusick, WA held a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2022, in council chambers, at Cusick Town Hall, 111 S. 1st Ave.

All Councilmembers were present and accounted for, constituting a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm, with Mayor Duane Schofield presiding.

Roll Call:

Present (In-Person)

Duane Schofield, Mayor
Everett Alford, Councilmember
Tina Alford, Councilmember

Afton Servas, Councilmember
Jessamyn Fitzhugh, Councilmember
Luke Servas, Clerk/Council

Present (via Zoom/Phone)

Kate Hupp, WA. Dept. of Ecology
Cathi Read, WA. Dept. of Commerce
Glenn Blakeslee, Sheriff
Nathan Johnson, WW Operator
Kim Prisock, WA. Dept. of Ecology

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Cusick, WA was called to order by Mayor Schofield at 06:04 PM.

Review & Approve Meeting Minutes – 11/23/2022 & Agenda – 12/6/2022:

Tina motioned to approve the agenda for 12/6/2022. The motion was seconded by Jessamyn and passed unanimously.

Luke made a motion to approve the minutes from 11/23/22. The motion was seconded by Everett Alford and passed unanimously.

Public Safety Updates

Sheriff Blakeslee and Chief Webber gave their updates for the month. Luke passed a message along to the Chief from Clarence Chitwood regarding fire hydrants.

Public Comment Period

Luke read a statement that was submitted by resident Alan Zapp that proposed the Town setup a refuse collection station and services.

Water Business

Luke gave updates on the WWLS easement process for both the school and the railroad. He also shared that Kelly Driver found the Town's current agreement for the existing lift station. Everett asked what the agreement said.

Sacheen Sewer Services Contract

This item was also tabled until the January 3, 2023 meeting.

Winterizing Water Meters

Nathan (Sacheen Sewer Services) does not want to hire an employee under him as this would mean he would have significant expenses associated with L&I, insurance, etc. These costs would then be passed along to the town.

Council discussed the need to winterize the existing water meters that are currently installed at services, then in the spring the new smart water meters can be installed. For now the Town will ask Roger Brown if he could start insulating existing meters, starting with those that are most in need of insulation.

Maintenance Supervisor Position

Duane said that we should re-write the Town's current job posting for the Maintenance Supervisor position. Everett expressed, and Council agreed, that we should just put together a package that will be appealing enough to a well-qualified candidate. Luke asked if we should look in to purchasing health insurance for the right candidate. Increasing the pay rate for this position was discussed and Council was in agreement that this would likely need to happen in order to attract a candidate that is willing to do the work and is a good worker.

WWLS# 1, Water Treatment Operator

Luke shared that Nathan would be coming out on Monday (11/28/22) and that they would be working to install the new check valve. Luke also shared that he had spoken with Nathan and a level 2 WTP

operator willing to work with Nathan to take on our water system as well. They spoke for over 2hrs. and the conversation was very productive. There was a question as to whether Rustin would be needed still and Tina told Luke that Rustin is the Town's cross connect operator which is different than water treatment.

Funding for Wastewater System Projects – Design/Engineering


Luke shared that he and Afton met with Kim Prisock, Greg Dobb, and Kate Hupp from Ecology and the Town can submit a request for funding for design and engineering of the lift station, collection system improvements, and groundwater monitoring projects. Ecology will fund 100% of these expenses and there are even funds leftover from the current cycle that can be applied so we can receive them that much sooner. This loan will be 50% forgivable upon completion and 50% low-interest.

SEPA Lead Agency

Luke explained the benefits to the Town becoming a SEPA lead agency and that there is no formal training. We just need to make a request. Jessamyn motioned to approve requesting to become a SEPA lead agency. Luke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjourn

Luke asked Council for a motion to adjourn. Mayor Schofield said he will end the meeting and the meeting is adjourned until December 6, 2022 at 6:00PM.

Signed on this 3rd day of Jan., 2023, by 

Duane Schofield, Mayor – Town of Cusick, WA

Attested to by _____

Luke M. Servas, Clerk – Town of Cusick, WA