



TOWN OF CUSICK, WA

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

December 5th, 2023 | 6:00 pm

The Town Council of the Town of Cusick, Washington held a regular monthly council meeting on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 in Council Chambers at Cusick Town Hall. 111 S 1st Ave.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: (IN-PERSON)

Duane Schofield, Mayor	Jessamyn Fitzhugh, Council Member position #3
Everett Alford, Council Member position #2	Tina Alford, Council Member position #5
Roger Brown, Council Member position #4	Afton Servas, Council Member #1
Julie SiJohn, Records Officer/Clerk	Lisa Davis, Clerk/Treasurer

PRESENT: (VIA ZOOM/PHONE-IN)

Greggory Dobb, Dept of Ecology	Robert Rozencrantz, POC Commissioner
Cynthia Fuller, Dept of Commerce	Claire Miller, COM
Jim Hess	Robert Webber, Dist.4 Fire Chief, EMT
(509)***7925	

In the Council Chambers at the Town Hall in Cusick, Washington at 6:01 pm, the Mayor of Cusick, Duane Schofield greets the council and others present in the room. The Mayor recites the Pledge of Allegiance and all in attendance follows.

Timekeeper/Recorder Select:

Julie SiJohn, Records Officer/Clerk and Lisa Davis, Clerk

Roll of Attendance/ Remote/Pres/Quorum

Attendance is called by the Town of Cusick Mayor, Duane Schofield, via remote and in person, all council is present for a quorum.

Oath of Office

Records Officer & Clerk Julie SiJohn sworn in Roger Brown to council position # 4, Jessamyn Fitzhugh to council position # 3 and Tina Alford to council position #5. Welcome new council member Roger Brown.

Agenda/Minutes

Council member Tina Alford motions to approve December 5th agenda, Jessamyn seconds motion, Passes unanimously. Council member Afton Servas requested corrections to minutes as follows: New Business: 5. Councilmember Afton Servas requested a member of council be present at the Pend Oreille County Planning Commission meeting for Cusick/Usk Sub-Area Plan, council voted no on sending a representative from the Town. Tina motions to approve November 7th minutes with corrections, Everett seconds, passes unanimously.

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Sheriff/Fire Monthly Reports

Sheriff Glen Blakeslee read the sheriff's report for all November calls. Fire Chief Webber was on Zoom and read his report adding to make sure to check at home smoke detectors and keep your Christmas Tree well watered.

Public Comments/Grievances

POC Commissioner Robert Rozencrantz spoke of the Cusick/Usk Sub area re: the economic development & growth of Usk area & infrastructure of the sewer & water systems.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Payables for November \$46,516.92. Revenue received in November \$62,840.87
Resolution 2023-004 changing the regular Council meeting date from January 2nd, 2024, to January 9th, 2024. Council member Jessamyn Fitzhugh motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-004, Everett Alford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Library Committee

Library Committee accepted POCLD's contract offer of \$300 @ month rent, no extra hours – Library has to rent community center for extra space for their programs at the current rent fee of \$35, Library's maintenance needs to have prior approval by council or chose from a list of preapproved repair companies. Afton Servas motioned to approve the POCLD contract, Tina Alford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Maintenance Report

Maintenance Tech Everett Alford replaced lights, approx 16 new meters installed, purchased a new surveillance system for the Town, little snow for plowing operations so far, heat tape was installed and pulled in on water connection under the bridge, ponds are doing good.

Water/Wastewater Water related Business

1. Discussion regarding new water/sewer hook-ups was Tabled until January 9th, 2024.
2. Engineer companies were reviewed and the Town of Cusick chose Varella for the WTP project. Council member Jessamyn motioned to approve hiring Varella, Everett seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Cynthia Fuller, Dept of COM, suggested hiring a grant manager for the WTP project. Everett mentioned the Kalispel Tribe has previously offered their grant administration services to the Town.
3. Previous contracts with Keller & Associates were reviewed by the Town's Attorney, and advised to send the currently contracted engineer firm Keller termination of services letter.
4. Cynthia Fuller, Dept of COM, asked the Town to apply for the Public Works Board Grant for the Lift Station emergency that occurred in 2022. Cynthia asked to apply for application process, Council member Tina Alford motioned to approve the application process for the grant for the Lift Station, Everett Alford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.
5. WTP Tech Casie Monge requested the Town hire Nathan Johnson, Sacheen Sewer Services, to dewater & camera the Lift Station per Ecology agreement to be done by the end of the month, Tina motioned to approve hire of Sacheen Sewer Services, Council member Roger Brown seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Waste-Water Treatment Facilities

Cynthia Fuller, Dept of COM, requested that the Town make a RFQ for wastewater general engineering

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procurement. Jessamyn Fitzhugh motioned to approve the procurement of an engineer for the Wastewater Treatment plant, Everett seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Council member Afton Servas requested acquiring the property line maps to the ponds. WTP needs end of year scope of work drawn up.

Work Session Sept 6th

Cynthia Fuller mentioned the Lead Service lines study and the Oct due date.

Audit/Complaint Loss Recovery

Tabled until January 9th, 2024.

Surplus Sales/Exchanges

Kalispel Tribal sale of Town lots was not concluded, Kalispel Tribe did not honor their agreement per sale of lots.

Letters/Violations/Nuisances

Letters were sent to 115 2nd property owner re: RV's. As winter hits, there have been several nuisance vehicles reported blocking the path the Town snowplow at addresses 412 Winchester, 414 Winchester, 318 1st Ave & 424 Monumental in Cusick. A complaint of no line-of-sight at the intersection of Wright and Monumental Way was discussed where the school has a crosswalk leading to the Kalispel Tribe Language center parking area. The KTI had previously put up boulders on the south end of the parking area where the complaint is occurring, but vehicles continue to park next to the boulder disrupting the line-of-sight requirement. KTI language center parking in this area is infringing on the street easement and a letter will be sent reminding KTI of line-of-sight for property owners.

Old business

1. The new River Road improvements included safety rumble strips the entire length of the pedestrian/bike path and is currently replacing the benches that were there prior to the improvement.

New business

None

Public Meetings

None

Loans/Grants/Donations

None

Payment Plans

All customers are in compliance with Town payment plan for utility services reports Julie, clerk.

An Executive session started at 7:35pm and concluded at 8:19 pm. During the Executive session the council agreed to give each clerk a raise as follows: Julie SiJohn, \$1.00 @hr. Lisa Davis, \$.50.

At 8:20 on December 5th, 2023, the Town of Cusick's regular council meeting was adjourned until January 9th, 2024.

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Signed Duane Schofield January 9th, 2024

Mayor Duane Schofield

Attested Lisa Davis January 9th, 2024

Lisa Davis, Clerk