



# TOWN OF CUSICK, WA

## REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

January 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 | 6:00 pm

The Town Council of the Town of Cusick, Washington held a regular monthly council meeting on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 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	Lisa Davis, Clerk/Treasurer
Julie SiJohn, Records Officer/Clerk	Casie Monge, WTP Cert Tech
Mary Yann	P.Gardner
Alan Zapp	

#### PRESENT: (VIA ZOOM/PHONE-IN)

Afton Servas, Council Member #1	Robert Rozencrantz, POC Commissioner
Cynthia Fuller, Dept of Commerce	Claire Miller, COM
Kate Hupp, Dept of Ecology	Brenda Smits,
Rustin Rathburn, WDM CCC Specialist	Kurt Holland, Valera
Madi Casto, Kalispel Tribe of Indians	Bernice's Ipad
Selkirk Sun	Jim

#### Timekeeper/Recorder Select:

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

#### Roll of Attendance/ Remote/Pres/Quorum

At 6:00pm on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> Mayor Duane Schofield calls roll and states there is a quorum, and the monthly council meeting may start.

The room recites the pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

#### Agenda/Minutes

Council member Tina Alford motions to approve the January 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda v.2, Council member Jessamyn Fitzhugh seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Council member Jessamyn Fitzhugh motioned to approve the December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 council meeting minutes, Roger Brown seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

#### Sheriff/Fire Monthly Reports

Clerk Julie SiJohn read the Sheriff's report for December 2023 in lieu of Sheriff Blakeslee. The Town did not receive a monthly fire report. Sheriff Blakeslee and Fire Chief Webber were not present at tonight's council meeting.



Town of Cusick  
Regular Council Minutes  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Public Comments/Grievances

Alan Zapp of 5<sup>th</sup> and Winchester in Cusick, had comments regarding the latest election and current council members and asked that a representative of the POC Sheriff's office be present at the next meeting to answer questions about the missing Town money. Ms Gardner asked about the community center and rental procedures.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Treasurer for the Town of Cusick, Lisa Davis, reported the payables for December \$ 64,317.47 and revenue was \$56,005.49.

Maintenance Report

Maintenance hired new personnel, Dustin Miller. Maintenance Tech Everett Alford informed the council that he had been installing more security cameras overlooking the park and parking areas around the Town Hall. Maintenance also mentioned that the ponds are high due to the recent rain and run off in the past month. 162,000 gallons in a 24 hr period.

Water/Wastewater Water related Business

WTP Cert Tech Casie Monge reported she received an extension for the groundwater study due to the water runoff, and new due date is June 2024.

1. Discussion about new water/sewer utility services, Maintenance Tech Everett Alford stated his frustration over current new construction in Cusick and Town water utility requirements not being followed, ie: homes on Monumental way that are being built have flooded the back ally way and other residents' home's yard with water, and also reported the Town charges below average costs for hook up compared to Newport and surrounding towns. Kurt Holland of Varela stated that the Town water hook ups should consist of "setting the meter and turning it (water) on" and the Town should not install water/sewer lines, only the meter, and The Town should have code requirements for the construction of all new water service lines and sewer systems and drainage that must be followed, or services will not be turned on to the address. Questions were asked about current water and sewer capacity limits, Claire Miller of Dept of COM, stated that the Town has legal capacity for more approved connections but the state of the WTP hinders the physical capacity of the system. Everett Alford said the Town was at capacity for sewer due the repairs needed on the system. Sub Growth Plan and the zoning for residential/industrial was brought up concerning water and sewer connections and the Town's concern over capacity connections.

2. Cynthia Fuller, Dept of COMM, requested the Mayor sign a Public Works Board Application Certification to apply for an emergency loan for the WTP. Council member Everett Alford motioned to approve the application, Roger Brown 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, passed unanimously. Robert Rozencrantz, POC Commissioner will send a letter of support with the Tribe.

3. Afton motioned in agreement of Varela contract and scope of work contingent upon approval from Town attorney Logan Worley, Jessamyn seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Work Session Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>

Cynthia Fuller, Dept of COM, went over the work session notes mentioning the Lead Service Lines Survey, Nathan, Dept of Health, will help the Town get started and send an excel file for record keeping.

Audit/Complaint Loss Recovery



Town of Cusick  
Regular Council Minutes  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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No updates, tabled until February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Surplus Sales/Exchanges

Sale of 2 Town lots and further discussion was tabled until February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Letters/Violations/Nuisances

Nuisance letters have been sent out to several residents concerning nuisance vehicles. A vehicle was towed from a residence on Winchester that had been impeding traffic during the winter months. A congested parking area on Monumental was abated by the resident. A disabled vehicle was repaired and moved by the resident on 1<sup>st</sup> that was impeding the town snow plow. 2 parked RV's on Timber and 2<sup>nd</sup> have been sent nuisance letters and the Town clerk will be calling the Sheriff's dept to aid in removal of RV's. Dog Tag Licenses are due February 28<sup>th</sup> and notices will be sent out to KTI property owner to pass on to their renters. Recently, Cusick had a residence fire at 114 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Council member Tina Alford motioned to send a letter to give the property owner 30 days to remove the fire damaged RV from the property, Roger Brown 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, passed unanimously.

Discussion was had about the garbage at the house across the street from the Cusick Post Office.

New business

The Mayor and other council members talked about the Kalispel Tribe utility service agreement and renegotiating the contract and discussion of property taxes and possible renegotiations every 2 years due to expansion of the casino and KTI property purchases in Cusick.

Loans/Grants/Donations

Abby Gromlich of Varlea will be going forward with grants for the Town of Cusick for the WTP.

Payment Plans

All customers are compliant with their agreements.

At 7:30pm on January 9<sup>th</sup>, the Town of Cusick's regular council meeting was adjourned until February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Signed  February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Mayor Duane Schofield

Attested  February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Lisa Davis, Clerk