

TOWN OF NACHES COUNCIL MINUTES
March 13, 2023

Present:
Mayor Williams

Absent:

Councilman Weekes
Councilwoman Hawver
Councilman Hawver

Excused Councilwoman Williams

Others in Attendance: Admin. Ranger

Call to Order
Introductions
Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor Williams. Councilmember present Weekes, Councilman Hawver and Councilwoman Hawver with the exception of Councilwoman Williams excused. Mayor Williams led the Council/Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Honors & Recognition

None

Additions to the Agenda

None

Approve Agenda

Councilman Weekes moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Hawver. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Councilman Hawver moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman Weekes. Motion carried unanimously. The consent agenda includes

- a) Approve Study Minutes of 2/13/2023.
- b) Approve minutes of 2/13/2023 Regular Council Meeting.
- c) Approve Claim checks, Second Payment February 23, 2023 claim check No. 21611 through 21613, 2 ACH Payments Dept. of Revenue, 2 Banner bank Total of \$49,857.00 Claim checks dated March 13, 2023 check# 21620 through 21651, 2 manual check# 5516, 5517, and 2 ACH payment Banner Bank-Fuel & Pitney Bowes Total of \$107,692.81

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- d) Approve those Payroll Checks dated February 28, 2023 in the amount of \$42,112.05 Check #21614 through 21619, 3 ACH payments to Aflac, DRS, and IRS.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Planning Commission	None
Sheriff's Report/	Sheriff Udell, attended the meeting. The report shows 17 calls for the month of February 2023. Sheriff Udell discussed some of the calls. Contract time was met for the Town of Naches.
YVCOG	None
Lion's Club	None
Naches Depot Advisory Committee	None
Addition to the Agenda	None
Public Hearing	A Public Hearing to receive comments regarding the proposed Franchise application from Spectrum Pacific West LLC, also known as Charter Communications Inc., the regular meeting closed at 6:34 p.m. to receive comments, no members of the public spoke at this time. Charles Deister representing Charter Communications Inc., spoke regarding the application and project plan involved in the Town of Naches.
Presentation	Sheriff Udell presenting the crime lab and its services answering questions from Council Members. Sheriff Udell spoke about the benefits about having a local crime lab with analysts available to the Sheriff department. Sheriff Udell also stated that the Yakima County Sheriff Department will still be using the Washington State crime lab and they'll never move away from using the State lab. The proposed crime lab will take about 18 months to get certified any cases processed with it prior to being certified are not viable for legal use in courts system. Councilman Weekes requested for YVCOG to provide future costs for the

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Town of Naches. Mayor Williams addressed the concern with the City of Yakima not participating in the crime lab investment. Sheriff Udell answered that it'll cost the crime lab one person's salary instead of having 4 they'll hire 3. The understanding of Staff is that YVCOG is requesting for the Town to pay all 3 years upfront and not yearly as stated at this time. Sheriff Udell said his office is committed to invest \$83K. Mayor Williams asked if the Town will be billed to include the crime lab fees for the Town's portion if the Town decides not to participate. Sheriff Udell answered and said that it is a possibility to pass down those costs to cities/towns it is part of doing business. Sheriff Udell reported that they are in the process of hiring 3 analysts for the crime lab, the NIBIN machine is to arrive May 1, 2023. Council Members requested more information.

Unfinished Business

- a) Mobility Grant Application (DOT) Park & Ride. No further discussion was desired by Council.
- b) Urban Growth Boundary Request to Yakima County. Attorney Shinn spoke regarding the continuance of the Public Hearing with the Yakima County Planning Commission on the Naches Urban Growth Area application. Preceded by a presentation from Tua Vang Yakima County Planning Staff. The Town of Naches Staff had submitted a letter to Yakima County Planning Staff were the Town was clarifying the application to only include the addition of the Diener property in the UGA taking the removal of the Huck property off the table. Yakima County Planning Staff indicated that if it was approved by Planning Commission and it was done in that fashion they would recommend approval of the application to the Yakima County Commissioners. Planning Commission then heard testimony from the Town of Naches Staff, HLA, Inc., Bill Hordan, Attorney Shinn and the Public made comment. Planning Commission deliberated and proceeded with the removal of the Huck property and only proceed with the Diener property as an addition to the Urban Growth

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Area. Once they decided to move forward on that basis the Planning Commission recommended disapproval of adding the Diener property to the Urban Growth Area with a 3 to 2 vote. That recommendation will be formalized in the form of findings with written record and it'll proceed to the board of Yakima County Commissioners with the Town Staff recommending approval and Yakima County Planning Commission recommending disapproval. Councilwoman Hawver wanted to clarify if it was Yakima County Planning Commission and the answer is yes.

- c) USDA Rural Development Grant/Loan for Phase II of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. No further discussion was desired.
- d) Yakima County Fire District No. 3: the Town is supplying the boundary maps to proceed and then forward to the auditor's office for elections, maybe Fall 2023 or Spring 2024.
- e) US Hwy 12 Study Corridor. No further discussion.
- f) Warehouse Demolition- TAP Funding. No further discussion.
- g) Charter Communication cable franchise. Councilwoman Hawver comment the benefit of the franchise will give the community options and service residents around the community, cable, and internet communications services.
- h) ARPA Flock Camera Application. Staff will inquire into the progression on the request and contract agreement. After receiving the service agreement staff is researching with a competitor of the Flock Camera. Craig Warner with Yakima County said as long as the camera meet the federal guidelines they would qualify for ARPA funding. Staff is looking for option because of the future costs to the Town. Staff will keep researching on options.

New Business

- a) Flock Group Inc., Service Agreement. Admin.

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Ranger has been in contact with Craig Warner about the service agreement and fees, Staff didn't realized that the annual service fee is \$2500 per camera plus tax. The Town doesn't have that in the budget nor sees how this service can pencil out being that expensive. Admin. Ranger requested information on a different camera system from Craig Warner trying to find a better price with a different vendor providing the similar services and better pricing. Councilman Weekes moved to table this agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Hawver. Motion carried unanimously.

- b) Release retainage to Pacific Civil & Infrastructure Inc., for Phase I of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in the amount of \$71,401.33 all the releases have been received. Councilwoman Hawver move to approve and release retainage. Seconded by Councilman Weekes. Motion carried unanimously.
- c) Application for Council Position: Staff received one application for the open Council Position No. 2. The application came from Susan (Lorri) Schneider. Mayor Williams asked to stand at the podium Lorri stated her name and she works for Yakima County tax division. She stated how long she has lived within the city limits of the Town. Councilman Weekes move to appoint Susan Lorri Schneider to serve on position No. 2. Seconded by Councilman Hawver. Motion carried unanimously. Attorney Shinn swore her in at this time.
- d) 2023 YVCOG general membership member and alternate. Councilman Weekes was nominated to be a representative of the Town for YVCOG with newly sworn in Lorri Schneider as an alternate. All councilmembers agreed.

Resolutions & Ordinance None

Audience Participation Elliott Baker owner of Van's Tavern at 208 Naches Avenue and 21 W Second St building. Mr. Baker spoke regarding the projects being done with grant fund from

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tax payer dollars. Mr. Baker addressed the signage on the highway he complaint about the Town having a sign on the highway that reads Depot- top of the sign reads City Center. Mr. Baker doesn't understand why the Town was in need to place that sign on US Hwy 12. Admin. Ranger addressed that particular sign question that belongs to the old Banner Bank building and the pole of that sign is in WSDOT right-of-way. Banner Bank asked for permission to place something on that sign since it was going dark once they closed the bank. Banner Bank added the Depot banner on that sign until someone opens a business in that building that the sign belongs to. No one else has rights to that sign. Mr. Baker reiterated the need for his business to have a sign on the hwy. Mr. Baker claims that if the business opening at the old bank building belongs to a church a nonprofit organization which will generate zero dollars for the community. That sign belongs to that building or no one. Mr. Baker proposes a suggestion he does have state sign that drives to a piece of property on the highway license by the state. Mr. Baker stated that they have a written agreement that may or may not transfer ownership on the signage. Admin. Ranger stated that is not the Town prerogative to make those choices since it is a private property. Mr. Baker also proposes that Mr. Thompson is on the audience and wants signage on the highway. Mr. Baker said this signage came out about 15 years ago and wants the Council to proceed and allow signage. DOT right-of-way permit signage.

Chad Greenwalt 9393 Old Naches Hwy. spoke regarding the sign on the highway belonging to the old bank building permitted by DOT for all the banks that have been opened in Naches. Mr. Greenwalt assumed that the Town had paid for the sign to display Depot on it, which it was donated by Banner Bank.

Executive Session

None

Other Business

Councilwoman suggested to have different options for the Naches Parks and Recreation Plan survey. At this time Mr. Baker stated that he has been in business for 17 years in Naches and has never heard anything about the warehouse building being removed even though is about 100 yards away from his business, happening in the Depot park area he stated that the Town is selling a

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secret which he says the Town is trying to do having a QR code survey. He suggests for the survey to be mailed to all community members. Councilwoman Hawver apologize to hear rude comments in the audience and suggesting that Council has secrets in the open Public Meeting, she stated that you don't need to have hostile attitude when attending a Council Meeting she supports all business people. Councilwoman Hawver stated that she has served in the Chamber of Commerce and has been involved in the community for a lot longer than the 17 years and they have gone through the signage issues on the highway, she doesn't like the idea of Mr. Baker stating that meetings are run with secrets. Councilman Hawver stated the people should be receiving this survey by mail or volunteers going door to door. April 5th the Town is having a meeting at the Depot for the US Highway 12 Corridor Study. Councilwoman Hawver suggested talking to Deb LaCombe and having more ideas with the Naches Park & Recreation Plan.

Council FYI Items

None

Continue meeting or adjourn: 7:38 pm.

With no other business to be discuss, Councilwoman Hawver moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Weekes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Paul D Williams, Mayor

Elvira Birrueta, Clerk Treasurer