

TOWN OF NACHES STUDY SESSION MINUTES
August 14, 2023

Present:

Mayor Williams
Councilman Weekes
Councilwoman Schneider
Councilwoman Hawver
Councilman Hawver
Councilwoman Williams

Absent:

Others in Attendance: Town Attorney Shinn, Admin. Ranger and Clerk/Treasurer Birrueta.

Staff Report

Admin. Ranger, presented the Staff Report.

- a) Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2. Construction by Pacific Civil & Infrastructure Inc., Staff received pay estimate No. 05 included in the packet. Project completion estimate summer of 2024. Funded by USDA- Loan/Grant. New work schedule was provided by request to amplified work load because Paul has to be able to run the plant during the winter. The contractor is waiting on electrical equipment that is to be put in but they can work on the plug in and play in the meantime. The Startup up time can take between 4-6 weeks to become fully functional. There's a few other added things that may be added there is additional grant money out there that's going to be left on the table depending on whether someone can handle that we will go from there.
- b) PacifiCorp Energy rebate program qualified the Town for a rebate of about 75K once the WWTP Phase 2 project is complete and fully functioning.
- c) Orchard Street Warehouse removal. Yakima County is the Town's CA. Staff submitted the environmental process to WSDOT for review and it can take between seven to ten days. We are also working on a disposal plan before NEPA is completed. Staff is still hoping to go out to bid as requested in the packet for approval. Staff is still

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waiting on the NEPA review and once is review by NEPA and WSDOT staff can advertise for bids the project. Depending how soon that happens maybe we can accept bids in meeting in September it'll still take about 30 days for the contract to take in place. Hopefully take the warehouse down this winter and it might be the best time to get it done.

- d) TIB Application was submitted for Fourth Street resurfacing from the Old Naches Hwy to Naches Avenue, along Applewood Park. Pavement rating was readjusted to meet the criteria including raised crosswalks to the park to slow down traffic and pedestrian safety. Someone told a Council member that they didn't want their taxes to go up because for that road, well is 85% to 90% funded by TIB the rest of it we have money from the state that goes into the street fund. That is a false statement that taxes will go up because of the road.
- e) Regional Mobility Grant. Closeout process 2 release has been received staff is waiting on the other 1 agency.
- f) Staff is working with the Yakima County Fire District No.3 for the annexation process. Staff provided the boundary maps of the town's portion to Kelly Mansfield. If the Town votes to pass the annexation the residents of the Town will end up paying less taxes for fire protection services. Councilwoman Schneider asked if DNR is part of the fire district and the answer is no they are just located here in Naches. The Yakima County Fire District is the same demographic as the park district.
- g) WSDOT Traffic Study on US12/CVP Crossing (Spring 2023) the study is ongoing till the end of September 2023. WSDOT and YVCOG will be in the building of the Depot during Sportsman's Days presenting the study with large boards. It is up to WSDOT to decide what goes on the US Hwy all we can do is make suggestions.
- h) Fast and Furious funding:
- i) UGA- Yakima County Commissioners met and they motioned to deny the Town's application for expansion by 2 to 1. UGA mediation through RCW request staff is still waiting on a legal opinion from Foster Garvey. One of their

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Naches Event Center
Summer Series

comments is that our Town attorney did a phenomenal job with the UGA process. Staff has to abide by RCW's but on this case Washington State Department of Commerce doesn't. At this point the Fire District is allowed to grow, the school district is allowed to grow, Allan Bros, Inc., is allowed to grow, Rowe Farms is allowed to grow so we asked ourselves why isn't the Town allow to grow.

- j) Naches Event Center: Staff is working on the pickle ball courts preparation for painting. Staff sent out a legal notice for bids on this project and tomorrow is the last day for bid submittals to the Town, Staff has received two bids as of today. First event was held on July 14th Staff has received a lot of positive feedback. Staff is preparing for the final event for September 9th Sportsman's Days weekend. This event is all ages American Honey will be the opening band, Lindsay Ell to follow and a fireworks show to end the summer series at the sports center.
- k) Clerk Birrueta spoke about the financial and accountability audit. Staff had the exit conference on August 1, 2023. Staff received 3 recommendation from the Washington State Auditor's office. Staff is working on those recommendations, staff included in the packet for review. Councilwoman Hawver commended the Town staff for having a clean audit. Staff is working on a couple of procurement purchases going through advertisements and bid process. The local audit team recommends the procurement in place one of the items the Town purchase without going through procurement was the Hydraulic Stage. Staff didn't advertise since is not available in the US and the Town submitted for the grant funding using that specific stage, Department of Commerce and State Legislature was aware what the Town was purchasing.
- l) Public Works have been working on irrigation and regular maintenance. Public Works are working early summer hours due high heat weather. Staff is also addressing an L&I complaint. Public Works department is short one person, staff is advertising for a Public Works I position. Staff will start painting crosswalks and marking some parking

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spots in front of the coffee shop Cot's Peak as compact parking spots after talking to the people at the Coffee shop, Town's engineers and the school district with the traffic of the school buses staff is trying to prevent any accidents when school starts. Everyone is on the same page of doing that with trucks unfortunately are stuck with small size standards roads. Public Works will be realigning the parking spots and parking some as compact vehicles only to minimize the liabilities. Staff will measure and mark about 4 spots as compacts. Councilwoman Hawver comment on how much traffic is coming through with the new coffee shop.

Review Vouchers & Treasurer report

Clerk Birrueta, included the voucher register dated second payment July 14, 2023 claim check#21848 through 21872, 5 ACH payments Dep. of Revenue, 2- Banner Bank, creative artist and Pitney Bowes. Total of \$2,519,567.75 checks dated August 14, 2023. Check# 21883 through #21930 3 manual checks# 5525, 5526, 5527 and 1 ACH payments Banner- Fuel Total \$268,977.46 checks 21858 & 21863 were voided. Payroll checks through July 31, 2023 check# 21873 through 21882. 3 ACH Payments Aflac, DRS & IRS total of \$44,375.26

Other:

None

Adjourn: 6:22 pm

The Study Session adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Paul Williams, Mayor

Elvira Birrueta, Clerk/Treasurer