

TOWN OF NACHES COUNCIL MINUTES

August 14, 2023

Present: Mayor Williams
Councilman Weekes
Councilwoman Schneider
Councilman Hawver
Councilwoman Hawver
Councilwoman Williams

Absent:

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

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

Honors & Recognition None

Additions to the Agenda None

Approve Agenda Councilwoman Schneider moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

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

- a) Approve Study Minutes of 7/10/2023.
- b) Approve minutes of 7/10/2023 Regular Council Meeting.
- c) Approve Claim checks, Second Payment July 14, 2023 claim check No. 21848 through 21872, 5 ACH Payments Dept. of Revenue, 2-Banner bank, Creative Artist & Pitney Bowes Total of \$2,519,567.75 Claim checks dated August 14, 2023 check# 218883 through 21930 3 manual check# 5525, 5526,

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5527 and 1 ACH payment Banner Bank-Fuel
Total of \$268,977.46 check# 21858 & 21863
were voided.

- d) Approve those Payroll Checks dated July 31,
2023 in the amount of \$44,375.26 Check
#21873 through 21882, 3 ACH payments to
Aflac, DRS, and IRS.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Planning Commission	None
Sheriff's Report/	Lt. Hendrickson attended the meeting. The report shows 35 calls for the month of July 2023. Lt. Hendrickson discussed some of the calls. 4 of those calls were related to Orchard Street. 4 alarms, there is one domestic that involve a grandma and granddaughter. The granddaughter was arrested for assault.
YVCOG	None
Lion's Club	Ron Freeze representing the Naches Lions Club stated that he will be paying the Depot area fee and will sign the document for the usage responsibility of the bathrooms and area making sure is kept clean he will also work on providing the Lions Club Insurance naming the Town of Naches.
Naches Depot Advisory Committee	Gail Welch representing the Naches Advisory committee reported on the July 14 th Naches Event Center event with Maddie & Tae and how much positivity that event brought. Staff has received a lot of positive feedback.
Addition to the Agenda	None
Public Hearing	None
Presentation	Amy McCargar-Davis as the Government Relations Analyst for Yakima Region of MultiCare, she introduced herself as a contact person and resource to the Town of Naches Councilmembers and other Town officials. As a life-long Yakima valley resident, she is a

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heartfelt advocate for the healthcare access for residents of our community. MultiCare would like to hear any concerns or questions that your or your constituents may have.

Unfished Business

- a) Mobility Grant Application (DOT) Park & Ride. Waiting on one release.
- b) Urban Growth Boundary Request to Yakima County. No further discussion was desired by Council.
- 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 annexation process. No further discussion.
- e) US Hwy 12 Study Corridor. No further discussion.
- f) Warehouse Demolition- TAP Funding. No further discussion.

New Business

- a) Warehouse Demolition Motion to advertise for bids. Councilwoman Hawver moved to approve and advertise for bids. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Motion carried unanimously.
- b) Employee Policy update recommendations from the Washington State Auditor. The modification is vacation buyback and sick leave.
- c) Town of Naches Municipal Code Text amendment request Chapter 17.XX.010 Short-Term rentals. Staff is working on the process with (SEPA) non project submittal and Public Hearing.
- d) Flood Damage Prevention Update. Updating the Town of Naches Municipal Code as required by Department of Ecology. Department of Ecology provide all the language required the Town staff reviews and submits the SEPA check list non project submittal and waits for comment from agencies. An ordinance will presented in the future.
- e) Local Parks Maintenance (LPM) asking Council's approval to submit an application for

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grant funding. Councilwoman Hawver moved to approve staff to submit an application. Seconded by Councilman Weekes. Motion carried unanimously.

- f) Town of Naches Purchasing Procedure- Draft Staff is still working on this policy as required by Washington State Auditors.
- g) Progress Estimate No. 05 for work performed by Pacific Civil & Infrastructure, Inc., for work performed through July 20, 2023 the total due the contractor of \$171,960.00 is net after retainage, per contract documents. Councilwoman Hawver moved to approve progress estimate No. 04. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Motion carried unanimously.
- h) TIB Resurfacing Application for 4th Street from the Old Naches Hwy to Naches Avenue. Councilman Hawver moved to approve the submittal of the application. Seconded Councilwoman Schneider. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions & Ordinance

- a) Proposed Resolution No. 2023-13: A resolution of the Town of Naches, Washington modifying the personnel policy for the Town employees. Councilwoman Hawver moved to approve resolution No. 2023-13. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

Audience Participation

Todd Huck 1382 Naches Washington non town resident. Mr. Huck has questions regarding his land that he has within the Town limits. He wants to back up 2 years ago if he comes to the Town proposed that I want to develop his land and wants to put over 200 homes if the treatment plant doesn't have capacity who pays for that, he wants to know what are his legal obligations or financial commitments for the infrastructure to get to that property he wants to know if he would have obligations for the treatment plant. Mayor Williams stated that it's hard to give an answer to what if. Admin. Ranger is going to try to answer his question all this assumed that the property you're speaking of it's your property west of your mom's house. You have to go

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through a whole process of development to design your proposed deal before the Town can into consideration. Let's say you have twelve acres of land part of it you have town road part and rest is gravel road you would have to develop and improve that road to the Town standards. Mr. Huck repeated is he would be the one responsible to do it and the answer is yes. That would be one of the conditions of the plat. You would have to go through your own engineer and the Town engineers will review the proposal. Admin. Ranger used his personal experience when he had his done in the past, for example Admin. Ranger used Andreotti & Associates Engineering since it was for personal business. You have to have a different engineering firm than the Town. The other process is if the roads have capacity you would bring your proposal depending on what you're developing you have to a minimum of eight thousand square feet per lot for R1. You don't have just the road in front, it's the infrastructure roads is water, sewer and power services, streets, storm drains all these costs are to the private developer. Anything into the property would be any developer responsibility. Admin. Ranger asked if that was answering his question. Mr. Huck stated yes. Admin. Ranger stated that when he developed each lot has hook-up fees that go directly to sewer and there's a plant investment fees. Mr. Huck asked if those fees are to be paid upfront and the answer is no you pay as you go. Water hook-up, sewer hook-up. Those fees are paid when you get a building permit per lot, these fees are in the Town Municipal Code Book as well. Mr. Huck asked about the capacity everyone pays for the capacity Allan Bros., paid a capacity fee to hook-up to the Town's sewer plant as an obligation. Ecology establishes the basis of a sewer system plant and sewer plant life is 20-25 years. In my time here we are expanding and renovating for future life. Mayor Williams stated that his question was answered and what Mr. Huck was stating at this time was not what he asked. Mr. Huck stated that he wants to know in the last two years how much the Town of Naches has spent in the UGA in attorney fees, Town engineer and town planning department. He wants to know exactly how much the Town has spent because according to Mr. Huck the Town does not develop. Mayor Williams's answers with you are correct the Town doesn't develop. Mr. Huck then goes on to say that Admin. Ranger just

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said the Town should have ability to grow just like Allan Bros and Rowe Farms. Mr. Huck stated that those companies are private entities and they have the right to do whatever they want since they are spending their own money, he then stated that the Town is spending tax payer dollars. Mayor Williams asked Mr. Huck that if he wants to know how much money is spent to feel free and submit a freedom of information act request. Mayor Williams stated that Mr. Huck is asking for something that is not in front of him. The form is available on the Town of Naches website or here at Town Hall.

Matthew McCoy 137 Apple Loop Unit B. Mr. McCoy asked what the Town's business hours are. Mayor Williams answer with they are posted on the front door. Mr. McCoy asked if Town Hall is closed on Friday's and the answer is no. Mr. McCoy stated that he spoke with the auditor's office on July 25th specifically with Amy and she told him that the administrator and clerk told them that the Town was closed on Fridays that's why the local team was not auditing on Friday's at Town Hall. Mr. McCoy is asking if the Mayor is authorizing the Town employees to lie to Town citizens and state agencies. Mayor Williams stated that no employees are authorize to lie and Town Hall is open on Fridays.

Councilwoman Schneider made comment at this time regarding what is being said on social media all this vitriol and ridicules lies on face book I get that everyone likes to put their opinion on face book and just remember if you want people to come to your business and spend their money but they look on face book and there is all whining and complaining it just doesn't look good. I have questions all the time just look forward a little bit and be aware of what's being said. Just remember people have family here and remember people feel unwelcome and see comments that go in there and I think we can do better than that.

Mayor Williams is requesting for the public to get inform and ask questions if anyone has a questions just ask, the Town is open to answer questions, they can be asked in person or through our website and move forward. Mayor Williams stated that change is inevitable the future happens with change. Mr. Williams also stated that nothing is going to happen to him because he is retired, he is not here to waste your time

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questions can be asked, would he make you happy the answer is probably not but he will you answer to your question. Mayor Williams spoke about having a friend in Wapato he was born and raised in Wapato they were talking about the people in Naches not wanting change because they didn't to affect they're view of the mountains and first thing he said to me was hey I would like you people to tear down them houses my people use to walk through there all the time now they can't see the mountains anymore. Since he is a good friend I didn't mind him slapping me stupid for what I just said but change we don't like it nobody does we love where we are at and we don't want to see something we can't control I understand that, but I want to see us grow people ask why do you want the town grow believe it or not I would like people's taxes that you pay to the school to go down. Mr. Huck stated at this time that the school taxes will never go down because the school will keep on building more buildings. Mayor Williams continued with just like the fire district we pay the district for fire protection services and there is no representation from Town residents because we are not annex to it. The Town would like to get out of the fire department business and also town residents will have the ability to vote on what goes on at the fire department currently we pay them and town residents don't have a say on what goes on with the fire department, we are moving forward to change that so that citizens have the right to vote.

Andrew Matala 104 E Second Street. Mr. Matala repeated what Mayor Williams was speaking about working together and asking questions. Mr. Matala is accusing Mayor and Council of not being transparent because of the executive session held at the August 14, 2023 Council meeting. Mayor Williams explained what an executive session items are discussed that are not open to the public. Mr. Matala asked if it was talked about the UGA. Mayor Williams stated again the information discussed at an executive session is not available to the public.

Todd Huck stated that he sat through a few executive sessions at the Naches Valley School district and it was always about a personnel or an employee. Mr. Huck is has assumptions or what was talked about at the executive session. Mayor Williams agree to disagree at

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this point. Attorney Shinn asked Mr. Huck if he is aware of Attorney and client privilege on legal matters and he said yes. Mayor Williams stated that executive sessions are attorney client privilege. Admin. Ranger also stated that during the UGA process the Yakima County Commissioners went into executive session every entity has the right to discuss somethings in private and when time to make a decision is made in front of the public.

Executive Session	None
Other Business	None
Council FYI Items	None
Continue meeting or adjourn: 7:34 pm.	With no other business to be discuss, Councilwoman Hawver moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Schneider. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Paul D Williams, Mayor

Elvira Birrueta, Clerk Treasurer