

December 3, 2013 **December Council**

The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Henaman, O'Brien, T Schmidt, Thieme, Schraufnagel, Oestreich, Hederer and Kaiser. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Connie Gurtner, DPW Higley and citizens.

Agenda was posted by the clerk. The agenda will stand as the order of the meeting.

Minutes of the November 5, 2013 council meeting were pre-read and reviewed.

Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Oestreich to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Financial Statement and Bills were discussed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by O'Brien to approve the bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund \$214,415.79; Water Department \$17,403.24; Sewer Department \$51,321.25; TIF Fund \$105,921.12; Net payroll \$17,442.80. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Public Comment: Ted Lester asked the council if they had any questions or comments regarding the community garden. Jenny Jakel had presented information about the Abbotsford/Colby Chamber of Commerce branding information to date. The new logo being considered is "abbycolby Crossings" Meetings in Progress!

Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission met on November 11th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

2014 Security Health Plan: The department received the renewal notice from Security Health Plan. The new premium amount is \$6,156.18 per month. The old premium amount is \$5,584.15, which is approximately a 10% increase. The commission approved the 2014 Security Health Plan renewal with a premium of \$6,156.18 per month.

Chief Report: Chief Gosse stated the department has been busy. We have returned the squad to Clark County today and K-9 vehicle will be back in operation soon. It has been repaired and cleaned since it was returned from the crime lab. Chief Gosse explained that the reimbursement for damages to the vehicle may take up to a year. If restitution isn't paid then the insurance would consider reimbursement for damages. Numerous officers will be attending training on the new synthetic drugs.

Personnel/Labor Relations Committee met on November 18th – 19th.

The meetings were held in closed session to review wages/benefits for city employees.

The Personnel Policy was amended to change the residency requirement section to include the recent law changes stating that emergency, including snow plowing and on-call employees must reside within a 15 mile radius of the corporate limits. Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Kaiser to approve the amendment. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Kaiser to approve wages/benefits as follows: Harland Higley - \$26.48 to \$26.75, Connie Gurtner - \$20.85 to \$21.15, Jessie Polivka - \$14.75 to \$15.00, Allan Raatz - \$20.02 to \$20.55, Merlin Schaefer - \$20.02 to \$20.30, Craig Lieders - \$20.02 to \$20.30 and Roger Ried - no increase. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion by Hederer, seconded by Thieme to approve giving employees a \$25.00 Abbotsford-Colby Chamber Gift Certificate for Christmas gifts. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Mayor Schmidt: Mayor Schmidt reported on the meeting of the United Communities of Clark County. Mayor Schmidt appointed Joanne Bartnik, Larry Bartnik, Lee Kaschinska and Julie Johnson as Chief Inspectors and Yvonne Ruppert, Duane Webb, Mary Dorn, Karen Winkler, Janet Gurtner, Charlotte Haines, Sharon Radu, Doreen Newman and Donald Newman as Election Workers. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to approve these appointments. Motion carried with a voice vote.

DPW Harland Higley: The following building permits were issued: Dan Hederer, 212 S 3rd St, electrical service; Diane Eckert, 806 S Division St, commercial interior remodel.

DPW Higley reported on the precipitation and flows for November 2013 at the STP. He also reported on the pumpage of water for November 2013.

VFW 2227-Agent Change: Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Schraufnagel to approve an agent change for VFW 2227 from Manny Firnstahl to Kent Schilling. Motion carried with a voice vote.

2013 Auditing Bids: The city requested proposals from three different auditing firms. We received two proposals: Johnson Block & Company (current auditors) bid \$14,530 each year for 2013-2015 audit services. BakerTilly bid \$16,000 for 2013, \$16,480 for 2014 and \$16,975 for 2015. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Schraufnagel to accept the auditing bid from Johnson Block & Company in the amount of \$14,530 for the 2013 to the 2015 years. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Committee meetings for December: Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on December 9, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. at the Police Department. Public Works will meet on December 23, 2013 at 6:30 PM.

Adjourn: Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Kaiser to adjourn at 7:25 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved _____
James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest _____
Connie Gurtner, Clerk