The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt via Zoom. On roll call: Solberg, O’Brien, T Schmidt, Kolden, Hesgard, Oestreich, Hederer and Kaiser. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Gurtner and DPW Harland Higley Jr.

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

**Minutes** of the September 1st meeting were pre-read and reviewed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Solberg to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Financial Statement and Bills** were discussed. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Kolden to approve the financial statement and bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund $383,686.17; Water Department $25,557.34; Sewer Department $61,282.50; Net payroll $22,552.22. Motion carried with a voice vote. Motion was made by Kolden, seconded by Hesgard to approve Pemper’s final pay request in the amount of $57,366.14 and Change Order #5. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Comments from the Public**: None.

**Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission** met on September 14th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

SRO Agreement: Chief Bauer said School Resource Officer (SRO) Patrick Leichtnam and the Abbotsford School District did not come to an agreement on a proposal to have Leichtnam serve as a social worker for Abbotsford only. Bauer said Leichtnam would remain as the SRO for both the Abbotsford and Colby school districts. Bauer said he was happy that the situation turned out as it did, and that he hopes the SRO position would be a long-term relationship between the schools. Kramer asked about vacation time being approved by the police chief. Bauer said the SRO offsets some vacation time when schools are not in session.

Health Insurance Co-op: Chief Bauer presented a report on potential inclusion in a health insurance co-op, with coverage provided by Security Health Plan. Bauer said premium increases would be minimal, as the co-op would not approve high-risk people. He said a one-month premium payment would be required to join the co-op. Premiums charged by other companies would be higher, by 3 to 7 percent at a minimum. The CAPC concentrated on Co-op Option 1, with a $2,000/$4,000 individual/family deductible. President Schmidt said the current demographics of the police officers should make the CAPD an ideal candidate for inclusion in the co-op. The commission authorized Chief Bauer to pursue an application in the co-op, with coverage outlined as Co-op Option 1.

Training Update: Chief Bauer said in-person officer training was still limited. He noted firearms training had been cancelled three times. He said EVOC training would be offered sometime in October. Kramer asked why the CAPD did not participate in recent de-escalation training offered by the Clark County Sheriff's Department (CCSD). Baier said the CAPD would continue to share future training opportunities with the CCSD.

Transfer Funds From Metal Plate Fund to Sick Time Payout: Chief Bauer said there was currently $17,731 in the Metal Plate Fund. He recommended keeping a balance of approximately $5,000 in the Metal Plate Fund, and transferring $8,000 to the Sick Time Payout line item and applying $4,500 to the regular budget. The commission approved a transfer $12,500 from the Metal Plate Fund, designating $8,000 to the Sick Time Payout line item and applying $4,500 to the regular budget.

Purchase Records Management System: Chief Bauer said the CAPD did not have a lot of choice in investing in Incident Based Reporting computer software. He said reports must be sent electronically to the state by the CAPD in January 2021. He said current software platforms through the Clark and Marathon county sheriff's departments would not be available in 2021. Bauer said he would seek donations to cover part of the cost of the software provided by CORE Technology. The commission approved an expenditure of $8,250 to cover the cost of an annual subscription and installation and configuration of Incident Based Reporting computer software provided by CORE Technology.

2021 Budget: Chief Bauer presented a 2021 budget proposal. Polivka answered several questions about how the line item amounts were calculated. Bauer said the 2021 budget would reduce the Fund Balance of $99,701 by an amount of $4,337. The City of Abbotsford's share would be $459,532; the City of Colby's share would be $375,980. Total increase to the municipalities would be $23,449 above the 2020 budget (Abbotsford, $12,897, Colby $10,552). The commission voted to submit the 2021 budget of $1,037,664 to the Abbotsford and Colby city councils for approval. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Hesgard to approve the 2021 budget amount for the City of Colby of $375,980. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Chief's Report: In August, the K-9 was deployed 11 times resulting in 11 arrests. There were 807 activities reported for the month of August. Year-to-date activities have been 7,215, compared to 6,898 activities through the month of August 2019. Bauer said new Officer Eric English was continuing to progress well, and that he would be on his own on the night shift by the end of October. Officer Stubbe will then be moving to the afternoon shift. Bauer listed vehicle maintenance issues including a failed alternator, battery replacement and a bad cylinder on the K-9 squad.

The commission voted to forward a union contract to the Abbotsford and Colby city councils for approval with the following changes from the existing contract: 1-year contract; language on overtime revised to include "department" and "lieutenant"; Fair Share Dues deduction language clarified; increasing wages for all officers 75 cents per hour; increasing insurance deductibles $250 for the single plan and $500 for the family plan. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Kolden to approve the union contract as presented by the commission. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Public Works Committee** met on September 22nd.

2021 Budget:DPW Higley reviewed budget items with the committee. Additional items discussed were purchases of a Dump Truck w/plow - $120,000; crushing the pile - $36,000; engineering for N 2nd - $125,700; engineering for Community Drive - $70,500. The committee reviewed the designated funds for 2020. The committee discussed the option of a new TID for the recently purchased property.

**Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee** met on September 23rd.

2021 Budget:The committee discussed park projects to be included in the 2021 budget. Ballpark outfield fence, water drainage and the planting of new trees was discussed. The potential carryover funds from 2020 to 2021 is estimated to be about $5,000.00 but won’t know for sure right now as some of the park budget for 2020 is being used for the new handicap ramp at City Hall. The following numbers were estimated for next year’s park projects:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Fence at Ballfield | 9,025.00 |
| Wood Chips | 1,500.00 |
| Dirt work | 3,000.00 |
| Trees | 1,000.00 |
| Roller | 500.00 |
| TOTAL estimated 2021 budget | 15,025.00 |

**Central Fire & EMS District** met on September 17th.

The Clerk’s office will send the minutes when they receive them.

**Finance Committee** met on October 6th.

The committee met prior to this meeting and discussed the 2021 proposed budget.

**Mayor Schmidt:** Mayor Schmidt reported on the meeting of the United Communities of Clark County.

**Harland Higley:** The following building permits were issued: Joseph Schaefer, 408 W Salter St, 14’ x 28’ storage shed; Richard O’Brien, 408 N 3rd St, blacktop driveway and cement garage floor; Forward Financial Bank, 1122 N Divisions St, reroof building; Jessica Sweda, 405 N 7th St, blacktop driveway; John Feiten, 409 N 2nd St, replace driveway; Eric Schoelzel, 203 N 6th St, 10’ x 16’ storage shed; Thrivent Financial, 109 S Division St, signs.

DPW Higley reported on the water pumpage and well levels and the sewer influent and effluent. Leaf pick up will start the Wednesday prior to Halloween.

**Engineer Voss:** The binder coat of asphalt has been laid on the library parking lot. The water retention pond has been re-landscaped to design. Vicky Calmes is not happy with how it looks, but it has been completed to design. Voss reported that he is working with the DNR to get the final approval for the new equipment in the #9 & #12 transmission line.

**Operator’s Licenses:** The city received the following applications for operator’s licenses: Trevor Ellenbecker, 317 N 3rd St, Abbotsford; Sandra Seiler, 824 Community Dr, Colby; Nicole Bernt, 109189 Wuertzburg Rd, Abbotsford. Motion was made by Hesgard, seconded by Oestreich to approve. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Designate Trick or Treat Hours:** The City of Colby’s normal trick or treat hours would be Saturday, October 31st from 4-7 PM. The council discussed options this year considering COVID and reviewed information from Clark and Marathon County Health Departments. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded Oestreich to designate trick or treat hours for Saturday, October 31st form 4-7 PM.

**Committee meetings for October:**  Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on October 12, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at the Police Department. Central Fire & EMS will meet on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at Station 3. Personnel/Labor Relations will meet on October 19, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

**Adjourn:**  Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Kolden to adjourn at 7:14 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Connie Gurtner, Clerk