

City of Sumas  
Council Meeting  
Minutes of February 08, 2021

The Sumas City Council met on February 08, 2021 with all councilmembers present; Deborah Morgan and Josh Clawson logged into the meeting via Teams. The minutes of January 25, 2021 meeting were presented and approved.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no citizen input.

Daniel DeBruin, Chief of Police advised that Officer Lucas Huyber has successfully completed his first year of employment. Chief DeBruin states that Lucas has done a great job.

Jennifer Bell, Finance Director, then presented the HR Memo recommending that Officer Huyber move from step 2 on the police officer salary step; to step 3 effective February 01, 2021 Bruce Bosch made a motion to for the salary increase for Officer Huyber moving him to step 3, effective February 01, 2021 Rich Postma seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Jennifer Bell presented the fourth quarter 2020 Finance Report, overall there was an increase 2020. The sales tax was down an overall of 10% and the local gas tax was also down 59% percent resulting from the COVID restriction. Jesse Clawson inquired about what caused an increase in 2020, Jennifer stated some projects were put off, a lot of building was still going on, and the economic development funds was not utilized in 2020.

The Finance Committee had met and discussed that the City of Abbotsford will be raising the sewer rates it will be approximately \$12,000.00 increase, at this time we will not be increasing our rates. Mayor Christensen wants to hold off for another year and revisit the sewer rates; to see if our rates will need to be increased at that time.



Michelle Quinn, City Clerk presented a list of old citations from the Sumas Municipal Court these fines are no longer collectable and need to be written off with council approval. Bruce Bosch made a motion to write off the Sumas Municipal Court old citations for \$27,243.55, Jesse Clawson seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Michelle Quinn, called for a Public Hearing for March 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm for a Conditional Use Permit from Mason Bode. Bruce Bosch made a motion to call for the Public Hearing for March 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Mayor Christensen updated the council on his legislative agenda that he is putting together to send to our state representatives. Mayor Christensen would like to submit a request for new sidewalks or pathways around the new school this will allow for connections with other areas in town. Mayor Christensen is also looking at phase 2 of the event complex, to complete the rest of project as much as possible. Also, the Hovel Road culvert that was damaged during the flood needs to be repaired the staff is looking for funding, but it will also require the city to match a certain percentage. The City will be asking for help with the extra expense from the repairing of the culvert.

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check Numbers #42371 thru #42399 and 21158-21171; in the amount of \$70,669.64; EFT's for \$2,357.25 and January Payroll for \$156,737.98. Bruce Bosch made a motion to pay the bills, Rich Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Jesse Clawson motioned to adjourn the meeting Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor  
 \_\_\_\_\_, City Clerk