

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 6:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY CENTER

NOTE TO PERSONS REVIEWING THIS DOCUMENT: THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT. WHILE AN ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO DOCUMENT PERTINENT POINTS, THESE MINUTES CONTAIN ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION AND VOTING

Mayor David Rafferty called the regular council meeting to order at 6:01 pm and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present were Alisha Anderson, Brady Collinson, Bill Enzler and Amanda Blood. Others present were Richard Ralidis, Diane Kooyman, Pastor Debbie Cato, and Devin Billington.

Excusal of Council Absences

There were no council absences this evening.

Correspondence and/or Guest

None tonight.

Public Comments

Pastor Debbie announced that Cynthia Davidson's memorial service would be Saturday 09/07/24 at 2:00pm at the Fairfield Community Church. In lieu of flowers the family asked that attendees wear blue or purple (Cyndi's favorite colors). Pastor Debbie also announced that there would be a food drive to help the North Palouse Food Bank with pick up happening via a "hayride" around town on Sunday, September 29th.

Old Business

Updates to Employee Handbook

The handbook was updated and discussed at the previous council meeting but needed a council vote to ratify it.

ACTION

Alisha Anderson made a motion to approve the 2024 updates to the employee handbook; this was seconded by Bill Enzler. The Motion passed 4 to 0.

New Business

.gov domain

The Town of Fairfield received approval for a .gov domain website. This will provide additional legitimacy to the town website and provide additional security measures. Jared will work with Kayla Billington of KBITs in getting the website updated and switched over.

Public Works

Sewer:

Sewer samples went in this week.
WWTF Lift Station #2 fault.

Streets:

Addressing the pushing on Main Street.

Parks:

Cameras are being installed in our parks.

Water:

Working on Lead Service Line Inventory per the EPA. Due October 16th.

Cameras and security systems are being installed around our department buildings, wells, and reservoirs.
Air in water system.

General:

Hiring for Public Works Department – Congratulations Alex Fuchs

An Example of a Regular Task:

High levels of Air in the Water System

Concerns have been brought up about high levels of air in the water system. This may lead to "milky" colored water when pulled from the tap. Other potential issues may be sputtering or noises as water comes from your faucets. There may also be small amounts of sediment that are stirred up due to the air in the system. This may be present when you use the water faucets.

This is a seasonal issue the town is aware of and has been working to address for a few years now. In this time not only has our Public Works Crew and in house Water Operator been working to resolve this, but Fairfield has also reached out to many different operators, Public works

crews, engineers, Evergreen Rural Water of Washington (ERWOW), Idaho Rural Water Association (IRWA), and Washington State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water (DOH ODW). Unfortunately, this has proven to be not a simple problem to solve. Initially when this issue came up it was isolated to one well but has progressed to all three of Fairfield's primary wells. This has caused the air in the water to be unavoidable without finding the cause. For example, we are unable to isolate a particular well for summer use. Fairfield has performed ongoing troubleshooting and investigation into this issue. We have been checking water drawdown, static, and dynamic levels of all primary wells insuring aduqite water supply. Checking amperage draw of the wells. Reducing GPM and flow rates of each well, to assist with any overdraw or cavitation issues has been attempted. Fairfield has increased well rotation of operation, which seems to allow more of a break for each well between runtimes allowing for higher quality water. We have also recently installed air relief valves at some fire hydrants throughout town to mitigate the issue, although this is only a temporary assistance to the overall issue. In a continued attempt to remedy this issue Fairfield has been in the process of applying for grant funding, this would allow us to further investigate and address the root of the issue appropriately.

We assure you that Fairfield is taking this matter seriously and has been and will continue working to resolve this issue. If there are any further questions or concerns about this matter, please reach out to Town Hall or our Public Works Department.

Approval of Minutes

ACTION

Brady Collinson moved to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on August 20, 2024; this was seconded by Alicia Anderson. Motion passed 3 – 0, with one abstention by BillENZler who was not in attendance at that meeting.

Approval of Claims

ACTION

Amanda Blood moved, and BillENZler seconded to approve the September 3, 2024 claims with EFTs for the total amount of \$4,358.48 and checks numbered 21751 - 21758 for \$12,945.85. This motion was approved 4 – 0.

Date	09-03-2024
Claims	\$11,083.27
Payroll	\$6,221.06
Total Paid	\$17,304.33

Check register signed by Alisha Anderson, BillENZler, and Amanda Blood.

Compliments, Concerns and Complaints

Devin suggested we allow for extra time in planning the 2025 budget due to the new council and new clerk. A series of budget workshops will happen over the rest of the year, with the first being held on October 8th.

Amanda brought up the possibility of having a fall cleanup for yard waste. Devin will look into the feasibility of that with a tentative date of Saturday, October 5th.

Alisha Anderson said she will not be able to be in attendance at the next council meeting on September 17, 2024.

Dates to Remember

MRSC Financial Bootcamp	September 29 – October 4
Fearfield Trunk-R-Treat	October 26

Adjourn

Alisha Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:35



David Rafferty, Mayor



Jared Harward, Clerk/Treasurer