

Work Session Minutes

Citizen Comment Period: None

January 28, 2025

Call to Order: Mayor Carson called meeting to order at 0905 a.m. on January 28, 2025.

Employee Attendance: Anthony Gravenmier - Back-up Operator, Leroy Kuykendall-maintenance, Cindy Nichols clerk/treasurer and Justin Beard - Water operator

Public Attendees: None

Pledge of Allegiance: lead by Milt Nodacker

Roll Call and Conflict of interest: Council President Milt Nodacker, Council Person's Tammy Hassell and John Leneve. Mayor Cheryl Carson. No Conflicts of interest. Council Person Rob Milchak reported that he will be a little late.

Respectful Workplace: Mayor Carson began by letting everyone know that there had been complaints brought to her by not only council members and employees, but by citizens who had been offended at the January 8th council meeting by Council Person Leneve's behavior. Mayor Carson referred to the Respectful Workplace training with ICRMP and to the City of Pecks Personnel Policy section III Rules of Employee Conduct section A. Personal Conduct. Council Person Leneve stated that he was not going to comply and that he would resign before doing so. Mayor Carson advised him that it is his right if he chooses to do so. She told him that she could not and would not stop him, that was his right. Moments later he decided that he was not going to participate in this meeting any longer starting he was "Taking his toys and going home". At 0910 Council Person Leneve left the building.

At 0910 Mayor Carson suspended the meeting until Council Person Milchak arrives.

At 0912 Council Person Milchak arrived.

At 0914 Mayor Carson called the meeting back to order and had Council Person Milchak report to roll call.

Mayor Carson shared the Respectful Workplace expectations with Council Person Milchak and moved on to the next topic on the agenda.

Clarification info on Microsoft 365: Mayor Carson announced that she had put a hold on getting the \$2.00 upgrade for the memory storage on the cloud, as it was going to require more money and would not give a specific fee amount for the completion of the upgrade without putting in the banking information first.

Anthony explained in more detail the pros and cons of the Business Microsoft 365 and explained how we tested out its capabilities and it seemed to work. He also explained that

the system we have right now is not the Business Microsoft 365 and that it has personal information from the prior Mayor as the administration and will not let us access certain aspects of the program.

Anthony will be gathering more information on the cost for a government account and presenting it at the February council meeting.

Letter to the Peck Elementary regarding Community Building Gym not being available from February 27th to April 1st. Mayor Carson shared her intentions on sending the Peck Elementary school and the Joint School District 171 a letter to let them know that the Community Building will not be available due to some work being done in the Gym by AmeriCorps. She will send the letter via email and cc a copy to Robin Bonner at the Peck Elementary.

BREAK 0953

RESUME 1008

Discuss expansion of the Lulu and North/Moore Streets and rerouting of water from the overflow pond. Mayor Carson received a phone call from a real estate agent by the name of Melody Finnell wanting to know the cost of getting city water to the properties known as plots 22 and possibly 23. After discussing the logistics of the property location to the water plant, the current infrastructure is unable to provide water to those properties without a suitable backflow system along with a booster station.

Regarding the rerouting of the overflow pond path of water...the discussion was as to the exorbitant cost on the city that the city cannot afford. There is also a spring on the Deyo property that is causing a great deal of moisture, so Mayor Carson will be taking this issue to the city attorney Todd Richardson and getting his advice on how to handle the demands made by Penny Deyo and how to handle the issue moving forward.

It was suggested that Nez Perce County Planning and Zoning be contacted to see if they could come out and check properties before the next council meeting.

Review map of Palmer Property for request of vacation of roads Pine, May, and Moore dividing/abutting blocks 004, 005, 006, & 007: It was established by looking at several maps that what is being called North Street is actually Moore Street.

BREAK 1114

RESUME 1128

After a long discussion and reviewing of city maps it was suggested that the Deyo property issues be put on the February agenda and the Palmers request for property vacation be put on the March agenda.

Review past due accounts for leans or collections. The mayor will add leans or collections to the question being sent to the attorney. It was also discussed that the ordinance pertaining to water bills needs to be on the list for updating. There needs to be specifics as to when the water will be shut off due to late payments or non-payments. The dollar amounts for the shut-off need to be specified and a clause for the habitual late payment offenders should have a 3 strikes rule. The process for shutting off the meters was clarified by the council and some suggestions were made as to how to conduct the shutoff process more securely/safely. When discussing the amount of payment that the city must carry was approximately \$20,000.00 that is owed to the city by citizens who are not making their water payments. And on top of that the city has not had an economic rate increase since 2018. In past years there has not been enough money in the city's savings to deal with or handle a major water plant event. The Mayor and Council will be researching and looking into what steps to take to improve these issues.

BREAK 1240

RESUME 1300

Review financial reports to clarify what the council wants to see at monthly Council meetings. The council was pleased with the financial reports that were presented by Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Nichols and Council Person Tammy Hassel. Tammy advised she would continue to tweak the accounts specifications a little more before the February Council meeting.

Build a bull pen just inside the door at City Hall. After some discussion it was suggested that those who were interested could work on some designs, and we would revisit the idea when some designs/ideas were ready to be presented. The mayor stated that she may have some lumber that could be used and would donate but does not have enough for the complete job.

Explore the idea of increasing rates for the city water to enable the city to maintain the water services. It was discussed in depth as to the importance of the city increasing its water rates by a small amount yearly to be able to continue the running of the water plant. In previous years this has not been done, and the city is in dire need of a thorough and in-depth review of how we can do this with the least amount of shock to the citizens of Peck. Council Person Hassell will put together a spreadsheet to show the cities expenses for running the water plant and once it is completed it will be uploaded to the website.

Strategize a plan for working on city roads this spring. (fixing potholes, build/repair ditches, repair/replace culverts, etc.) Leroy has been keeping an eye out for road graders or maintainers for the city to purchase. It has been suggested that the city hire Brian Deyo to grade the roads this spring. Leroy has experience building and working on roads and understands the process and is willing to do what he can with what he has to work with to

get the roads repaired and in a much better condition. We will continue to work toward making the roads better as spring approaches.

Review Post Office lease for future updating / renewal. The word is that everyone working in the post office to include Kevin the postmaster is very happy with the new heating and air conditioning system. The mayor will get with Kevin in early spring to discuss the savings, if any, that the Postmaster has seen over the winter months in the electricity bill. The mayor will also look into an early renewal with the post office before 2027.

Reminder of the next regular council meeting will be held Wednesday, February 12, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Peck Community Building.

Meeting Adjourned at 1441

Mayor

Date

Clerk/Treasurer

Date