

Peshastin Community Council
Regular meeting
November 17, 2021
Via videoconference

Council members present: Lauri Malmquist, chair; Doug Clarke , Steve Keene, Patricia Ortiz; Leticia Vizcaino was present but unable to connect

Council member absent, excused: Cheryl Parsley

Council member absent, unexcused: Stan Winters

Community members Tracey Beckendorf-Edou, Tom Alexander and Clare Morrison were present but unable to connect

The meeting was started at 7 p.m., then called to order by chair Lauri Malmquist at 7:17 p.m. after multiple efforts to connect attendees, not all successful.

The minutes of meeting October 20, 2021 were read and accepted after motion by Steve and second by Doug.

Treasurer's report: bank balance of \$584.11

The annual Post Office box rent is due, \$118 for one year. Discussion followed as to whether the council needs a box, since communications from the county are sent by email. We will postpone box rent payment and confer with the treasurer about how much mail of importance was received during the past year before deciding whether to renew.

Old Business

1). Pine Ridge development

The development proposal will go before the hearing examiner via Zoom, but there is no way to tell more than one week in advance what date the hearing will be scheduled. All public comments need to be received two weeks prior to the hearing date. Lauri recommends one more set of comments be sent to the county, sooner rather than later, so they can be entered into the record. She suggested some photo documentation of traffic problem areas that can be sent to accompany the comments; all are in agreement.

Lauri spoke with Alex White about the revised traffic study for the proposal, and the only apparent changes are to make narrower roads within the development. Washington State DOT has approved the proposal, but Public Works has not, and we have no more information about that.

Doug states we need to include measurements of the roadway underneath Burlington Northern Railway, including the width. He thinks it is too narrow, and there is no room for it to be widened.

Steve suggests the council contact both Blue Bird and Hi-up to make sure they enter comments, as both have voiced concerns about the development, especially relating to water supply and roadways. Lauri and Tricia will meet for planning requests for comments from both.

The Council feels that the county responds to money and influence from outside Chelan County, to the detriment of the citizens and taxpayers of the county.

2). PRSA

The PRSA has held discussion about the boundaries of the district, and is considering the need to adjust boundaries. The main focus currently seems to be development of a year round pool. The Council discussed options for a survey of Peshastin residents regarding use of the pool, as it seems not many residents are using it, while all taxpayers within the district are

charged for it. Since Peshastin residents were included in the PRSA by vote, it would take another vote to be excluded; the next vote for the PRSA will be in 2024. If Peshastin withdrew from the PRSA, residents would still be eligible to use the pool at a different fee.

(Zoom canceled the session at 7:48 p.m.
The session was restarted at 7:55 p.m.)

3). Council vacancy

Stan Winters has not contacted the Council with his resignation; Steve reports Stan says he is leaving the country next week. Since he has now missed three consecutive council meetings unexcused, he is now removed from the Council. The Council members will encourage applicants to fill out the term vacated by Stan; if possible we can appoint a successor at the next meeting.

4). Peshastin Water District

Steve has continued to work with Lydia Folden for the problem of water entry into her basement, but unfortunately no source has yet been identified. She has been in contact with the county on multiple occasions, but it now appears she will need to pay for excavation around the building in an attempt to identify the source before any solution can be accomplished.

Steve reports a tentative timeline for merger of the water district with Chelan County PUD is mid year 2022. This month the PWD has paid off two of the five loans that were taken out to meet ongoing operation needs. Using grant money available, plans are taking place to start in late spring or early summer to proceed with the Blue Bird project. The PUD would like to take the lead on construction of the new well that is needed.

As previously scheduled, there will be a water rate increase of 4% for residential users starting January 1, 2022.

For information, Blue Bird is the biggest single user, of approximately 2 million gallons per month.

The next meeting will be December 15, 2021 at 7 p.m.

It was suggested the council make an effort to invite community members and elected officials.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ortiz, secretary