

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 2025
7:00 PM

The second regularly scheduled meeting of October 2025 was called to order beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor James Olson; Council Members including Paul Heikkila, Sally Miller, April Wells, Corbin Keaster, and Becky Gorton; Great West Project Engineer Josh Sommer, and members of the public including Lynn Schilling and Travis Page. Council Member Michelle Stinson was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Consideration: Appointment from in house of an acting Clerk for the sole purpose of drafting Council Meeting Minutes. Mayor Olson announced that a council member or employee would need to be appointed to keep Minutes for a period not to exceed 30 days between the last day of the City Clerk and the first day on the job for the new City Clerk. Council Member Sally Miller volunteered for the job. Mayor Olson called for a motion appointing Council Member Miller as such. A motion was made to that effect, seconded, and carried by a unanimous vote of those present.

The Minutes, Claims, and Warrants were submitted for approval with all being unanimously approved by a vote of those present.

The Complaint Log was reviewed with no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS: Josh Sommer of Great West Engineering was present to give a water project update. Sommer indicated that JR Civil had finished substantial construction on October 14th, that all pressure and Bac T tests were complete, and that a substantial amount of retainage funds were being routinely withheld from JR Civil as various repairs and clean up is completed. He further reported that chip sealing will be completed in the Spring. Council Member Miller reported that Barb Archey on Bridge Street wants the lip of her driveway fixed. It was unclear if this repair is a private contract between Archey and JR Civil or a repair that falls under the liability of JR Civil as a contract item. Council Member Heikkila identified several asphalt crowns that had not yet been smoothed down by the East Side Bar on Bridge Street and a large depression collecting water on 3rd Ave. South that had yet to be repaired. Council Members Wells and Gorton reported that there was an uncorrected ripple in the new pavement under the viaduct and beyond, on Castner Street. Council Member Heikkila additionally reminded Sommer that the large amount of torn up asphalt that JR Civil had dumped at the burn pile needed to be hauled away and properly managed by JR Civil, noting that the material is hazardous waste. Sommer stated that in an early pre-construction meeting (to which Great West had kept Minutes) that Mayor Olson and then Public Works Aaron Strine had given permission to permanently dump the asphalt there. The issue is tabled and will be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Olson indicated that Ryan Coffman of Republic Services would be present to discuss ongoing problems and issues with garbage collection, billing, and stop and start of services in Belt, but that apparently he was going to be a no-show again. A motion was made and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council, to withhold the current garbage collection invoice from Republic Services pending the appearance of Ryan Coffman or another authorized representative of Republic Services at a meeting of the Town Council. No further action taken; issue will appear on the next Agenda.

The Council heard recommendations from the mayor's interview committee regarding the hiring of a new Clerk-Treasurer. It was recommended that candidate, Kellen Kirby be offered that position.

Following some discussion the Council voted unanimously to award the full time position to Kellen Kirby, at the starting wage of \$24 per hour, with a schedule choice of five 8 hour days or four 10 hour days, with a proposed start date of the first half of November.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works personnel not present.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Council Member Paul Heikkila reported that there are a number of campers and trailers that are in violation of the Ordinance and need to be tagged by Public Works. He also inquired about an update concerning construction and up and running timeline for the DEQ Mine Water Cleanup Plant.

Council Member Corbin Keaster reported that a backhoe, encroaching into the roadway was also parked in violation of the October 1st Ordinance and should be tagged for immediate removal by Public Works.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Olson reported that the water tanks had been inspected and cleaned, that Lift Station 1 was having electrical problems and that Cascade Electric had been retained to affect repairs, and that he would be out of town Friday through Sunday.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Approved by Mayor James M. Olson

Attested to and submitted by Council Member Sally Miller