

COLTON TOWN HALL MINUTES
October 4th, 2021

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Mayor Jerry Weber, Sam Keller, Dot Sharp, Cory Cucchiara, Kyle White and Scott Miller, Clerk Jenni Straughan, Steve Bremer, Rick Heitstuman and Ken Darby.

Minutes Sam Keller motioned to approve the September minutes and Dot Sharp seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.

Warrants: Warrants, as follows, were approved, with a motion by Dot Sharp and a second by Cory Cucchiara. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Salary and Benefits

Warrant #904724-904735 for: \$13,185.93

Warrant #'s 911011-911019 for:

General: \$ 1,160.66

Streets: \$ 8,829.61

Real Estate Excise: \$

Cemetery: \$

Water/Sewer: \$ 14,526.53

Subtotal: \$ 24,516.80

Grand Total: \$ 37,702.73

Old Business:**Sewer Pumps:**

Steve told the council that a new sewer pump has been put in. He said that the bill was almost \$10,000. He said the pump is now pumping 268 gallons a minute and that exceeds what the new sewer amendment states. So, the town has already met one of the requirements from the Department of Ecology. Steve told the council that he pulled metal testing from pond #1 and #2 where the gun club shoots. Both ponds showed an excessive amount of metal. This will be addressed in the sewer amendment.

Dump Truck:

Steve told the council that the truck is back and he put the plow on today. He said it ran well.

Trailer Park:

Dot Sharp told the council that the garbage at the trailer court has not been removed. Officer Keller will go back and talk to the homeowner and renter about this.

New Business:**Preliminary 2022 Budget:**

The council reviewed the preliminary 2022 budget and discussed 3% raises. Cory Cucchiara motioned to grant 3% raises to Clerk, Public Works Director and Officer. Scott Miller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all. The budget will be presented at the November council meeting for approval.

Snow Removal:

Whitman County sent a letter back to the town that they will help with snow removal, if needed.

Rick Heitstuman:

Rick presented the council with drawings to renovate the fire station. He said that with these new plans that the fire district needs to add 20 more feet of the town's property. Sam Keller motioned to give the fire district 20 more feet for a total of 90 feet to the north of the fire station. Scott Miller seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Pruning Evergreens at Legion Park:

Dot Sharp requested that the town pay for \$750 of a \$2,700 bill to have all the evergreen trees pruned since the Legion has very little revenue. Kyle White motioned to use the park budget to pay the \$750. Dot Sharp seconded the motion. The vote was carried by voice and passed by all.

Whitman County Recycling:

Dot Sharp told the council that the bidding for containers will probably take at least 2 months.

Mayor Weber:

Mayor Weber has retired and has a new email address. It is jerryweber@icloud.com.

Riser Property:

The town was contacted by a bank agent to have Office Keller accompany him to Mr. Riser's home to serve him with papers. Officer Keller accompanied him, but Mr. Riser didn't answer the door. Whitman County informed the clerk that property tax has not been paid for over a year and suggested that the town put a lien on the property, so it could collect unpaid utility bills. The town's attorney was contacted and will look into this.

Riser Letter:

Mayor Weber gave copies of a letter from Mr. Riser to all council members stating his grievances with the town. Mayor Weber said that the town's attorney has been sent the letter and will respond, if necessary.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Sam Keller and seconded by Kyle White. The meeting closed at 8:15 p.m.

Approved By Mayor

Attested By Clerk