

DRAFT (Not Adopted by Council)

PALOUSE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Regular Council Meeting
February 22, 2022 @ 7:00 pm
Palouse Community Center 220 E. Main St

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sievers called the Council Meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Deputy Clerk Misty La Follett took Roll Call.

Council members present Sarah Bofenkamp, Leslie Jo Sena, Bill Slinkard, Samuel Brink, Travis Deerkop, Robert Brooks, and Ann Barrington.

City staff present: Deputy Clerk (DC) Misty La Follett, Public Works (PW) Supt. Mike Wolf, and Police Officer Joel Anderson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Sena asked that the minutes be amended under the Police Report that at the end of Officer Anderson's statement relating to the mask mandate, be changed to say: Officer Anderson wanted to remind everyone that it is a misdemeanor not to wear your mask indoors, according to RCW 70.05.120(4). If he receives a call about someone not following this statute, he will investigate and forward it to the proper authorities, including L and I for businesses and the Whitman County Prosecutor's Office for individual violation.

Councilmember Sena introduced a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on February 8, 2022, with the amendment to the Police Report; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Bofenkamp, and the **MOTION** passed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Supt. Wolf presented his report to the Council.

Councilmember Bofenkamp thanked Evan Weagraff, public works assistant, for his hard work on refurbishing the City's benches.

Councilmember Barrington asked if this process would help with future corrosion and Supt. Wolf stated it will, and if we keep up with the maintenance, the tarp cart will last for a long time.

*PW report attached to the minutes.

POLICE REPORT:

Officer Anderson presented his report to the Council. There have been seventeen calls for service and zero call-outs since the last council meeting.

*PD report attached to the minutes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/DEPUTY CLERK REPORT:

DC La Follett presented a liquor license renewal for the Palouse Caboose. There were no objections, and the license will be renewed.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Ainsley Sievers presented the YAB report to Council. Ms. Sievers informed Council that the YAB discussed the survey results at their last meeting, and they did receive positive feedback. They will present their findings to the Council shortly. They also met with former Councilmember Mary Welcome regarding using the American Rescue Plan Act funds and using the Library for a game night.

Councilmember Brooks asked how many members were on the YAB, and Ms. Sievers stated that there were 5.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: No old business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy & Administration, Chair Barrington: They are working on a revised flag policy. Councilmember Bofenkamp stated that there was some concern from the community as to why the flags were not flown on President's Day, and Mayor Sievers that it was not on the City's current flag policy.

Budget, Finance, & Major Acquisitions, Chair Bofenkamp: No report

Streets, Properties, & Facilities, Chair Deerkop: No report

Personnel, Chair Sam Brink: No report

Water and Sewer, Chair Slinkard: No report, but Chair Slinkard asked about the completed Value Planning Study report. Mayor Seivers stated that he had not received it, but he would forward the draft report to Chair Slinkard.

Joint Fire Board, Chair Sena: Chair Sena stated she had concerns that the City did not have reverse 911 functional on cell phones, which she addressed with the JFB and Whitman County. Another option might be to use the community phone book.

Budget, Finance, & Major Acquisitions, Chair Bofenkamp: No report

OPEN FORUM:

Cynthia Johnson addressed the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor called for an Executive Session at 7:29 pm to discuss personnel. The regular city council meeting resumed at 8:09 pm.

Upon their return for Executive Session, Mayor Sievers asked for Council's consent to appoint Officer Anderson as interim head of the Palouse Police Depart. His salary is equal to the previous department head.

Councilmember Slinkard introduced a **MOTION** to approve Mayor Sievers's request to appoint Officer Anderson as the department head and adjust his salary accordingly; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Barrington and the **MOTION** passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Sievers wanted to make sure that the Council was prepared to attend the training regarding Public Officials' liability before the next council meeting.

According to TD & H, the bid process for the looping main was delayed slightly. It was published, the prebid meeting will be on March 16, and the project will be open to bid on March 23, 2022.

Mayor Siever's offered the open City Administrator position to DC La Follett, and she has accepted the position. Mayor Siever's asked the Council for their approval to make this appointment.

Councilmember Bofenkamp introduced a **MOTION** to confirm Misty La Follett as City Administrator; **MOTION** was seconded by: Councilmember Brink, and the **MOTION** passed.

ALLOW PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Councilmember Slinkard introduced a **MOTION** to allow the payment of bills. Councilmember Brooks seconded the **MOTION**; the **MOTION** passed.

The following checks are approved for payment:

Claims Paid 02/22/2022 Ck. #12232-12246 \$27,093.67

ADJOURN: Councilmember Sena **MOVED** to adjourn, Councilmember Bofenkamp seconded the **MOTION**: the **MOTION** passed.

The council meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____

Public Works Superintendent Council Report

Date: February 17, 2022

(Keep in mind this is 5 days from each council meeting)

WATER:

Mike attended a water class via zoom on Thursday Feb. 10th. The water license requires 30 hours of training in a three year period.

We are flushing fire hydrants today.

We had a few more locates.

I am getting prices on a locator due to the volume of locates that the city has received and also the growing infrastructure. It will be a very important tool that we need badly.

SEWER:

We had a sewer plug on North Mary Street last Friday. The resident has a collapsed line that they have to snake pretty often. We do believe that was the cause of the plug.

We will be washing sewer lines tomorrow.

STREETS:

We got a quote from Bill's Tree Service and one from Wilson Tree Service to remove a tree that is on the city right of way. The tree is leaning towards the resident's house and is worried about it coming down on their house. The quotes are the same price and the city has used Wilson's in the past.

We repaired Tidwell Road in the city limits. It's a temporary fix until we can grade roads.

I am working on getting lumber prices to replace some of the boards on the foot bridge.

SHOP:

I called Pape' Machinery for a few checkups and new batteries for the backhoe. They might be here tomorrow or the beginning of next week.

We replaced the battery on the Dodge Journey.

OTHER:

Evan and Mike attended more pesticide recertification classes the last two Wednesday's.

Evan is busy refurbishing benches for Main Street and is almost done. He only has a couple of benches left and they look great.

Palouse Police report for Palouse City Council meeting February 22, 2022:

17 calls for service the last two weeks and two call outs.

220205-03: Report of a vehicle sliding off the hill on a residential driveway at 2330 hours. This was the incident I referred to after Brew Fest last council. Subject was arrested and booked into jail for DUI, DWLS, and Violation of the Ignition Interlock Device. Subject was three times the legal limit. Vehicle impounded. WCSO helped greatly by handling the DUI investigation while I did collision/impound.

220211-01: Attempted commercial burglary at the construction site of the new vet clinic on Main St. Suspects attempted to pry open the heavy duty fire proof door to the construction trailer. While unable to gain access to the trailer the suspects did do good amount of damage to base of door (estimated in the \$500 range). Surveillance camera footage from Chappel Motors shows vehicle lights shining on the construction site at about 2330 hours but no vehicle or persons seen. Large spools of copper wire and other tools/equipment went untouched. A few working theories on suspects that we cannot divulge at this time as it is an active investigation.

220212-01: Overdose of prescribed medication that may have been the result of a panic/anxiety attack. Subject with history of depression and suicide attempts transported to hospital.

220216-01: Residential burglary alarm on Clear Creek Rd. WCSO deputies unavailable as they were dealing with a physical domestic violence call. WCSO requested I handle the alarm. Drove to the location and located heating/air conditioning worker on the premises who had punched in the wrong code. Spoke with home owner via phone who confirmed the company had permission to be at the residence working. Home owner tried to call alarm company to keep them from calling dispatch but was not successful. Another example of inter-agency cooperation.

220216-02: Unattended death occurred in the city. Victim was a very elderly male with history of medical and health issues. A thorough investigation of the scene and circumstances revealed there was nothing inconsistent with an apparent natural death per the WCSO Coroner Annie Pillars

220217-01: Second overdose within a week occurred when a day laborer was discovered unresponsive in a work truck at a construction site on Main St. EMS personnel arrived and performed life saving measures to include the successful administration of Narcan. The adult male quickly responded, became conscious and sat up. He was interviewed and admitted to starting off the day with a hit of ½ pill of fentanyl before being picked up in Spokane and heading to Palouse for the days work. He was transported to the hospital in Pullman for further evaluation. Just another reminder that the inherent evils and dangers of the meth/heroin/fentanyl epidemic can even creep into small town USA.

As the weather gets a little warmer the call volume will also increase as evidenced by the number of calls in the last two weeks. I would caution citizens to do there due diligence and take heed that this may not be your Grandma's Palouse anymore. Thefts and burglaries are crimes of opportunity and there is no shame in locking your doors. I request that all of Palouse help me out by being the eyes and ears of the community. Call my cell or 911 if you see suspicious people, vehicles or activity. Being pro-active can deter and prevent crime before it happens.

Thanks – Officer Anderson

02/17/22
13:15

Palouse Police Department
Law Incident Summary Report, by Incident Number

1100
Page: 1

| Number | Time and Date | Nature | Address | Loctn | Dsp |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------|-------|-----|
| Agency: Palouse Police Department | | | | | |
| 220205-01 | 18:06:58 02/05/22 | Parking Problem | | | INA |
| 220205-02 | 19:57:22 02/05/22 | Animal Stray | | | INA |
| 220205-03 | 23:21:37 02/05/22 | Accident Noninj | | | INA |
| 220208-01 | 12:01:27 02/08/22 | Animal Stray | | | INA |
| 220208-02 | 22:49:19 02/08/22 | Domestic Disput | | | INA |
| 220209-01 | 08:13:05 02/09/22 | Found Property | | | INA |
| 220209-02 | 14:04:40 02/09/22 | Animal Stray | | | INA |
| 220211-01 | 08:43:03 02/11/22 | Burglary | | | INA |
| 220212-01 | 14:36:55 02/12/22 | Overdose | | | INA |
| 220213-01 | 12:20:19 02/13/22 | Suspicious | | | INA |
| 220213-02 | 13:45:12 02/13/22 | Civil | | | INA |
| 220216-01 | 09:05:20 02/16/22 | Alarm Burglary | | | INA |
| 220216-02 | 17:06:28 02/11/22 | Death Unattend | | | INA |
| 220216-03 | 12:12:24 02/16/22 | Threatening | | | INA |
| 220216-04 | 13:14:55 02/16/22 | Parking Problem | | | INA |
| 220216-05 | 15:16:15 02/16/22 | Disabled Vehicl | | | INA |
| 220217-01 | 09:48:20 02/17/22 | Overdose | | | INA |
| Total Incidents for This Agency: | | | | 17 | |

Total Incidents for This Report: 17

Report Includes:

All dates greater than `00:00:00 02/05/22`
All agencies matching `PAPD`
All officers
All dispositions
All natures
All locations
All cities matching `PALOUSE`
All clearance codes
All observed offenses
All reported offenses
All offense codes
All circumstance codes

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