

**City of Medical Lake
Regular Council Meeting
February 7, 2017**

Mayor Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Council, staff and audience said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Present: John Paikuli, Elizabeth Rosenbeck, Shirley Maike, Jessica Roberts, AJ Burton, Destiny Stein, and Laura Parsons

Staff Present: City Administrator Doug Ross, Finance Director Karen Langford, City Attorney Cindy McMullen, and Assistant Fire Chief Corey Stevens

Others Present: Residents and Cheney Free Press reporter

Additions to the Agenda: None

Excused Absences: None

Approval of Minutes: Councilmember Maike motioned to approve the January 17, 2017 minutes. Councilmember Paikuli seconded. All voted aye.

Interested citizens: Bobbi Wilson, 207 N Prentis, Medical Lake, WA made public comment. Mrs. Wilson stated she has lived in Medical Lake for over 46 years. After the last big snowfall on Saturday, February 4th, a two and a half foot berm was left in her driveway. Due to this has never happened before, she wanted to know why this was done this time. She stated she has major concerns for the elderly in the community in regards to if an emergency situation had happened. She does not believe the City maintains the roads and driveways the way they used to and would like an explanation. Mayor Higgins stated the matter would be looked into and the City would get back to her. Councilmember Roberts asked about recourse if the City is awarded any money but never sees any of it. City Attorney McMullen explained

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

Mayor's Report:

1. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions:

a) Spokane County Sheriff's Office – Discussion of 1/10th of One Percent Emergency Response Communication Tax Renewal

Captain Dave Ellis who is in charge of the patrol division, gave a presentation on Proposition 1 and the Communication tax. He stated the tax helps in the operation of Crime Check. Crime Check answered over 270, 000 calls last year. The tax will help in the upgrade of the alert system and help speed up the communication process in times of crisis. The upgrade will also allow citizens to take pictures from their phones and upload the pictures with their information to 911. Councilmember Parsons asked how much money the overall upgrade would cost. Captain Willis did not have the overall figure but stated the cost was about \$12.00 a household. City Administrator Doug Ross verified this was a renewal on the existing tax. . Councilmember Roberts asked how the processed worked in regards to a call that is made to crime check but needs to be forwarded to 911. Captain Ellis informed the council that Crime Check and 911 are a combined communication system and are

housed in the same building. If a call is made to Crime Check that should really go to 911, it is immediately transferred from the Crime Check dispatcher to a 911 dispatcher with all the information that was collected in the original call. Councilmember Roberts stated some citizens were under the impression Crime Check calls were sent to a SCOPE office. Councilmember Roberts wanted to verify that this was not the case, and that all calls were indeed going to a dispatch center and being dispatched accordingly. City Administrator Doug Ross explained the difference between Crime Check and 911, and how City Hall advises citizens to call Crime Check for anything that has happened and to call 911 for anything that is in progress.

2. Appointments: None.

3. Meetings and Other Information: Mayor Higgins reported on his recent testimony via Skype, in regards to getting funding from the State to help pay for local law enforcement costs. Mayor Higgins put in a request for \$300,000 to \$350,000. It still needs to go before a committee but the request has been made. City Administrator Ross sent a letter this past week asking for more information reference the funding. City Administrator Ross explained the funding proposition is due to Western Washington State Hospital crafting a Senate bill. The bill states Western and Eastern State Hospital would get 9 cents a square foot compensation for police services. In the next section it states Western Washington would get \$600,000 biennium for community policing services. Due to Eastern State Hospital benefits from Medical Lake's contract with the Spokane County Sheriff's Department, Medical Lake is requesting to be considered for a portion of this funding. Councilmember Roberts asked about recourse if the city is awarded funding but never sees any of it. City Attorney McMullen explained it is not a contract but appropriated by Washington State's legislator. City Attorney McMullen advised that Washington State does a good job of issuing monies once they have been appropriated. City Administrator Doug Ross gave credit and thanks to the City of Lakewood and to Mayor Higgins. Due to Mayor Higgins efforts, the City of Lakewood noticed and asked the City of Medical Lake if they wanted to be included in the funding proposition. Councilmember Maike pointed out this funding is not new, however, the nine cents per square foot compensation is. City Administrator Doug Ross concurred.

4. Staff Report: City Administrator Doug Ross advised the city council that he has noticed the maintenance department working extremely hard.

Finance Committee Report: No Report

Planning Commission Report: No Report. City Administrator Doug Ross explained at the last committee meeting in January he went over the City's insurance, how it works and the importance of it.

Parks and Recreation Committee: No report.

Public Works/Recycling Committee: Councilmember Paikuli wanted the council to know he has noticed the maintenance department working hard as well. However, he also had a berm in his driveway and explained that he understood that the snow somewhat dictates when the gate has to be lifted. He stated he understands it's rough at times but the maintenance department does try to clean the streets to the best of their abilities but that it is hard for them when there is so much snow and there is limited places to put it.

Public Safety Committee Report: Councilmember Rosenbeck reported the Fire Department had 62 calls in January. Of the 62 calls, 48 were EMS and 10 were alarms, 3 were auto accidents and 2 were service call and there was a total of 4 missed calls. City Administrator Doug Ross informed the council the maintenance department was in Fox Hollow widening streets because the Fire Department was afraid they would not be able to get their trucks down the narrow streets in case of emergency. City Administrator stated there have been several complaints about the sidewalks getting covered up with snow due to the snow being pushed back, however, the city has 60 feet of right-of-way. In special circumstances, the city will invoke the right-of-way, especially when it comes to public safety.

Members Report: No Report.

Consent Agenda: Councilmember Maike moved to approve Payroll Warrants in the amount of \$142,314.09 and \$122,786.44 for Claim Warrants. Councilmember Paikuli seconded. Council polled; all ayes.

Old Business: None. City Administrator Doug Ross advised the council that Public Defender ordinance needs to be revised. Once the ordinance has been revised it will need a second reading.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Councilmember _____ motioned to adjourn. Councilmember _____ seconded. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Mayor

Finance Director