

**POLSON CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL – CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008, 7:00 P.M.**

**ATTENDANCE:** City Commissioners: Bruce Agrella, Jim Sohm, Jules Clavadetscher, Elsa Duford, Fred Funke, and Mayor Lou Marchello presiding. City Attorney James Raymond and Interim City Manager Mike Lies present.

**Mayor Marchello called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA:** Mayor Marchello informed the Commission that Shawn Rowland had asked that agenda item #7, Resolution 957, be pulled because they were not ready. He also noted that there would be a public meeting in the Commission Chambers with MDOT to discuss the bridge repair and the berm on Memory Lane on Wednesday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m. **Commissioner Sohm moved to approve the Agenda, removing item #7, Resolution 957. Commissioner Agrella seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2008**
- B. CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 27, 2008**
- C. OCTOBER 15-31 CLAIMS**

**Commissioner Clavadetscher moved to approve the consent agenda, items A-C. Commissioner Funke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPOINT NEW INTERIM CITY MANAGER UNTIL PERMANENT CITY MANAGER IS HIRED:** Commissioner Funke moved to appoint James Raymond as the interim City Manager until a permanent City Manager is hired, seconded by Commissioner Agrella. Commissioner Clavadetscher opined that he knew both Mark MacDonald and Tim McGinnis to be very qualified for the position. He expressed that he had worked with City Attorney Raymond on administrative, legal, and personnel issues at the City. Commissioner Sohm noted that James Raymond had the best knowledge of the City, and former City Manager Jay Henry had recommended Mr. Raymond to temporarily replace him. Rory Horning asked what specifically would be compensation for taking the interim City Manager position. Lee Manicke questioned if the City Attorney taking the City Manager position could appear as a conflict of interest. **Commissioner Clavadetscher moved to amend the motion to include James Raymond's starting date as the interim City Manager would be November 8, 2008, seconded by Commissioner Sohm. The amendment passed unanimously. The motion to appoint James Raymond as the interim City Manager beginning November 8, 2008 carried unanimously.** Commissioner Funke thanked all those who sent in letters of interest for the position.

**ORDINANCE #639 – SECOND READING – INCREASE WATER RATES BY 15 CENTS PER 1,000 GALLONS AND SEWER RATES BY 17 CENTS PER 1,000 GALLONS – EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 16 TO DECEMBER 16 BILLING WHICH IS MAILED OUT JANUARY 1, 2009:** Commissioner Funke moved to approve the second reading of

**Ordinance #639, seconded by Commissioner Agrella.** Commissioner Duford questioned the necessity of the increase and explained that due to the economic circumstances, she could not be in favor of increased rates. Rory Horning asked to have public comment. Mayor Marchello replied that he would not be calling for public comment on this item. Rory Horning questioned the open meeting laws. Mayor Marchello requested Mr. Horning to return to his seat. **The motion carried 5-1, Commissioner Duford opposed.** Commissioner Duford stated that she was opposed to not allowing the public to comment.

**BERM ON MEMORY LANE:** City Manager Lies explained that MDOT had proposed a berm on Memory Lane, however there was very little information given about it. He suggested the Commissioners table the item until the next meeting so that the MDOT representatives attending the November 5<sup>th</sup> special meeting could explain the details. **Commissioner Clavadetscher moved to table the berm on Memory Lane until the November 17, 2008 meeting. Commissioner Agrella seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**RESTRICT PARKING ON NORTHSIDE OF 19<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE WEST FROM NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> TO MARCH 31, 2009:** City Manager Lies informed the Commission that both Street Department Superintendent Rod Hanson and Police Chief Doug Chase had requested this item be approved for snow plowing. He added that parking would only be prohibited at night. **Commissioner Sohm moved to restrict parking on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue West from November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Commissioner Funke.** City Manager Lies advised that all the residents along 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue West had received flyers about the parking restriction and no complaints had been received. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**WATER TSEP GRANT PROJECT INFORMATION:** Water and Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrizzo informed the Commissioners that the company providing the concrete tanks for the project would give a substantial discount if both of the tanks were poured and dug at the same time since it was all done on site. Anderson Montgomery had done a study on metal tanks and found that they lasted only 40 years to the 100 years concrete tanks would last. These tanks would be reinforced with steel and a free spanned roof. He indicated that they would likely be under the estimated cost. He added that if this company becomes the general contractor he would request they only subcontract the job to local contractors. Commissioner Clavadetscher asked how the project was being paid for. Water & Sewer Superintendent Porrizzo replied that \$750,000 would be coming from TSEP, \$100,000 from DNRC, and the rest would come from ratepayers and impact fees. The budgeted total was \$1.6 million.

**INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION ON A PROPOSED 20,000 SQ FT PROFESSIONAL BUILDING/MEDICAL CLINIC TO BE BUILT BY CSKT IN POLSON:** CSKT Health and Human Services Department Head Kevin Howlett advised the Commission that they had outgrown the present facility, and to provide adequate healthcare they would be building an outpatient operational hospital with about 31 professional physicians, dental services, physical therapy, optometry, x-ray, a mobile MRI unit, and other services. Currently the only medical service they can provide is emergency care. He added that they were looking forward to the enhanced services and the building would be a simple contemporary design with distinct cultural identification. He expressed that Water & Sewer Superintendent Tony Porrizzo and Building Inspector Ron Melvin had been very helpful working with them on

the project. The Tribe would not be required to get a building permit, but they would be paying the appropriate impact fees. He noted that Ron Melvin had bridged the gap working with the Tribe. Commissioner Agrella felt there should be a pedestrian walkway during construction. Paul Bishop replied that they would put up signs, however there was not enough space with the machinery needed for urban construction. Commissioner Clavadetscher asked if any of the property was on the City tax roles. Paul Bishop replied that they were all Tribal facilities except for a small piece that belonged to Rod Johnson. Commissioner Clavadetscher expressed that it was a good project. Kevin Howlett added that the new facility would be fully handicapped accessible. Commissioner Agrella asked what the old Mission Valley Power building would be used for. Kevin Howlett replied that it would be parking.

**.61 ACRES OF PROPERTY BY GOLF COURSE:** City Manager Lies advised that the taxes for the .61 acres the City has a half interest in were still unpaid and were due again. He expressed that City Attorney Raymond had suggested putting the property on the market. Mr. Ingram was not interested in purchasing it from the City, and the Golf Board had no objection to selling the property. Commissioner Funke felt they should sell it if there was no use for it. Commissioner Sohm mentioned that Roger Wallace had told him he could not fathom a use for it. **Commissioner Funke moved to put the City's half interest in .61 acres up for sale, seconded by Commissioner Agrella. The motion passed unanimously.**

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:** City Manager Lies reminded the Commission MDOT would be giving their presentation to the Commission on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at a special meeting. The meeting for the public to comment on the bridge would be held by MDOT at Kwatuqnuq on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The new signs for Skyline were up and the fill was completed and the ground reseeded. The concrete was nearly complete at Westana and it looked far better than it had previously. Commissioner Funke expressed appreciation for Mike Lies going up and helping take care of Westana. Commissioner Clavadetscher asked if there had been a resolution to the funding. City Manager Lies replied that Engineer Shari Johnson and Jack Jenks were taking care of it and would have the figures by Wednesday.

Mayor Marchello advised that the Search Committee had worked diligently and by the end of the week would have the information on each of the final candidates for the Commission. The open house would be November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Tee Box Café from 5:30-7:00 p.m. and the interviews would be earlier that day.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Murat Kalinyaprak commented that it looked like there was a power drunk Mayor, and with the Charter the Commission has the power to remove the Mayor or any other member of the Commission. Tonight was an example of the Commission being tyrannical and oppressive. In this type of government the Mayor is a figurehead to conduct meetings and cut ribbons. He is equal to the other members of the Commission and has no right to talk down or speak for them. He felt the Commission should not arbitrate what is of significant interest to the public, the public should be free to comment and the Commission just has to take it. He asked the Commissioners to take action and take steps to remove the Mayor. Rory Horning thanked those who believe in public comment and open government. He commented that it was interesting to see the fear in those who keep the public in the dark. The only people whose philosophy is to violate the constitution for personal benefit would not want to tell the public

how they're spending their taxes. He expressed that he didn't want to see the Mayor removed, he comes from a long line of westerners and they believe that if they give you enough rope, you'll do the job yourself. He commented that if you follow the history of this body through the minutes the picture becomes very clear. Dennis Anderson, on behalf of the many he represents in the community, expressed appreciation to all the members of the Commission for the work they do and for being excellent members of the community. He commented that the Commissioners contribute more than people realize. The Chamber of Commerce and the Mission Valley Friends of the Arts appreciate the Commission and the City, and they know the sacrifices that they all make. Even being here tonight, with the dignity and character to fulfill your mission and to accept those who disagree. That's how we make progress in the community, thank you all.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

---

**Mayor Lou Marchello**

---

**Attest: Kala Parker, Assistant City Clerk**