

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 27, 2024**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ashley Lara called the Committee-of-the-Whole (C.O.W.) meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

The meeting was held in person and was also available via teleconference.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present in person: Mayor Lara and Councilmembers Steve Barrientes, David Diaz, Laura Flores, Bill Moore (Mayor Pro Tem), Javier Rodriguez and Joan Souders

Present via teleconference: Councilmember Robert Ozuna

Absent: None

Staff present: City Administrator Shane Fisher, City Attorney Quinn Plant, City Treasurer Matt Cordray, Parks and Recreation Director Gretchen Chronis, Police Chief Kal Fuller, Public Works Director Hector Mejia and City Clerk Anita Palacios

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Patty Swager, 207 Jefferson Drive, Grandview, Washington, provided comments concerning the lack of the City's response to the removal of her neighbor's dead tree and lack of police enforcement in the neighborhood.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League**

Parks and Recreation Director Gretchen Chronis explained that Washington Cities Insurance Authority strongly recommends that the City enter into Recreational Use Permits between those athletic organizations that are utilizing City owned recreational facilities to conduct their respective programs. She presented the Recreational Use Permit between the City and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League for the 2024 season. Baseball League Coordinator Alicia Trevino of the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League has reviewed and signed the agreement.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Rodriguez, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Recreational Use Permit by and between the City of Grandview and the Lower Valley Cal Ripken League to the March 12, 2024 regular Council meeting for consideration.**

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

**B. 2023 Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Annual Report**

Vicki Baker, Deputy Director with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments presented the 2023 Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Annual Report.

**C. Yakima Valley Local Crime Lab**

Vicki Baker, Deputy Director with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments provided an update on the Yakima Valley Local Crime Lab.

**D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Agreement No. 38223 between Yakima County and City of Grandview in conjunction with the American Rescue Plan, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Award for the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements**

City Administrator Fisher explained that Yakima County awarded ARPA grant funds in the amount of \$600,000 to the City of Grandview for the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements. This project would involve resurfacing six miles of recreational pathway from the City of Sunnyside's Park and Ride facility to the City of Grandview's Park and Ride facility and would include vegetation removal, crack sealing and resurfacing of the pathway, and increasing the shoulder width of this highly traveled pedestrian pathway bordering the Yakima Valley Highway. He presented Agreement No. 38223 between Yakima County and the City of Grandview in conjunction with the American Rescue Plan, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Award for the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements for consideration.

Discussion took place.

**On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Agreement No. 38223 between Yakima County and City of Grandview in conjunction with the American Rescue Plan, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Award for the Lower Yakima Valley Pathway Improvements to the March 12, 2024 regular Council meeting for consideration.**

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes

- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

**E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Satellite Management Contract for Contract Operator of the City of Grandview Group A Community Water System in Yakima County**

City Administrator Fisher explained that when City Administrator/Public Works Director Cus Arteaga retired on December 15, 2023, the City did not have a certified water system operator per the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). Mr. Arteaga held a Water Distribution Manager 3 (WDMIII) certification and was the City's responsible operator in charge. The City was required by DOH to have a Water Distribution Manager 2 (WDMII) on staff. Staff reached out to DOH to find out what options were available. On December 29, 2023, DOH sent the City a letter giving the City until March 2, 2024, to have a responsible operator in-charge. The Public Works (PW) Department has two employees who were in the process of taking the certification test, but have not yet passed. The City had two options: Option 1 – one of the City's PW employees passes the certification or Option 2 – the City contracts with a Satellite Management Agency (SMA) to be the responsible operator in charge. An SMA is another agency who was certified by DOH to oversee and manage other agency water systems. For example, a very small municipality might not have the certified staff to manage their system and would contract with an SMA to stay in compliance with DOH. DOH provided a list of SMA's to contact for this service. Evergreen Valley Utilities was contacted to see if they would be interested in conducting oversight of the City's water system until one of the PW employees was certified. After speaking with them and explaining the City's situation, they agreed to contract with the City. The cost of the service was \$1,000 per month and if the City has any additional work or issues that the SMA needed to address, the cost was \$100 per hour. This would be paid out of the water fund and a budget amendment would reflect these costs. He expressed confidence that the PW employees would pass their certification test in the very near future. But for right now, the City would need to enter into a contract with Evergreen Valley Utilities to be the responsible operator in charge in order to stay in compliance with DOH. He presented a Satellite Management Contract for Contract Operator of the City of Grandview Group A Community Water System in Yakima County for consideration.

Discussion took place.

Councilmember Ozuna recommended Section 7 of the contract entitled "Duration" be amended to provide that either party may terminate the contract at any time upon 30 days written notice to the other party.

City Attorney Plant would provide amended language.

**On motion by Councilmember Ozuna, second by Councilmember Diaz, the C.O.W. moved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Satellite Management Contract for Contract Operator of the City of Grandview Group A Community Water System in Yakima County as amended to the February 27, 2024 regular Council meeting for consideration.**

Vote:

- Councilmember Barrientes – Yes
- Councilmember Diaz – Yes
- Councilmember Flores – Yes
- Councilmember Moore – Yes
- Councilmember Ozuna – Yes
- Councilmember Rodriguez – Yes
- Councilmember Souders – Yes

5. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR STAFF REPORTS** – None

6. **MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

Washington State Capital Visit – Councilmember Souders reported that she visited the Washington State Capital with the GHS DECA students.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion by Councilmember Moore, second by Councilmember Souders, the C.O.W. meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.**

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Mayor Ashley Lara

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Anita Palacios, City Clerk