



COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday January 25,2022

1. Call to Order Time: 6:32p.m
2. Old Business
3. New Business

A. Discussion of increase of cemetery fees

There was discussion on the fees currently being charged for the cemetery. Mayor Ruelas discussed how the time being spent to provide cemetery services and the fees the City is currently charging is not breaking even. Public Works Director Juan explained the cost of materials and the cost of employee time is not covered by the fees. Council member Vera mentioned that our city needs to take into consideration that many cemeteries are privately owned. Mayor Ruelas went over the current fees. Council member asked if we had compared prices with other cities such as Sunnyside and Grandview. City Clerk Silvia did inform the council they had received paperwork fees from other cities. Sylvia also wanted to add the oversize adult fee as it has never been listed. Public Works Director did explain the process of cemetery preparation. Council Member Vera also discussed the need of mapping for the cemetery.

B. Discussion of **Resolution 2022-2 Approving Law Enforcement Assistance Services Assistance Agreement between The City of Mabton and the Yakima County Sheriff's Office for Communications Services**

There was discussion on the Resolution 2022-2. City Clerk Sylvia wanted to inform the council that this contract had been passed in the month before however it was not signed so it was brought to council again to be signed. Mayor Ruelas asked for clarification that her signature would now be on the contract. City Clerk Sylvia confirmed.

There was discussion on what this agreement was for. City Clerk Sylvia explained that this was an agreement to accept funds for residents struggling with their utility bill.

D. Discussion of Resolution 2022-01 DELEGATING VOTING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES FOR YVCOG PG

There was discussion on who was appointed last year and the responsibilities of monthly meeting that need to be attended. There was clarification that there would have to be a motion on the council meeting. This was just up for discussion.

E. Discussion of increase pay for new council members

There was discussion on the increase pay for the new council members. It was discussed that the City Treasurer would be the person who could answer any questions. Josh clarified that the new pay for council members would be effective January 1st, 2022 with a new pay of \$60.00 per meeting rather than the \$40.00 pay from last year. Council member Andy stated he felt the council member should be increased to \$125.00 per meeting. Josh then wanted to clarify if this was consensus or just Council Member Carrasco. Diana explained this was something they could discuss. Council member also agreed about the increase. Council Member De La Fuente pointed out the recent increase from 40 to 60. City Clerk also clarified we would have to do our research and review the RCW's. Mayor Ruelas wanted to clarify that it should be something to investigate because the amount was set by previous council members who locked it in for the new council members which isn't fair.

F. Discussion of Veterans Wall by Planning Commissioner Mr. Adams and Council Member Vera Zavala

There was discussion from Mr. Adams about creating a Veterans Memorial wall in Mabton. There was discussion on how the project would be funded and how Mr. Adams would make the initial donation. There was also some discussion as to where the wall would be placed. Some suggestions were to have it at Governor's Park however Public Works Director Juan clarified the plans placed by the previous Mayor.

There were also suggestions of updating our cemetery paperwork to help identify Veterans. Mayor Ruelas also discussed her point of contact to help with this project. Mr. Adams also voiced his concern about the basketball court being unsafe and the ongoing problem with the graffiti.

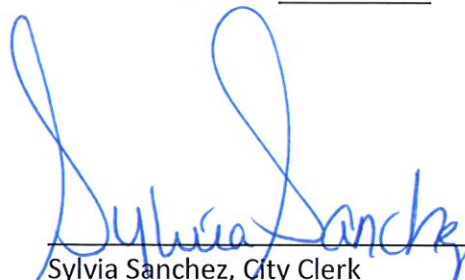
Vera also mentioned a previous discussion on forming a community to clean up the graffiti.

3. Executive Session: Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

4. Adjournment: Time: 6:31pm



Rachel Ruelas, Mayor



Sylvia Sanchez, City Clerk