

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
PORTOLA CITY COUNCIL
35 THIRD AVENUE | PORTOLA, CA 96122
JULY 14, 2021 | 6:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilmembers attended this meeting via teleconference as permitted by California Governor Newsom Executive Order N-29-20. Members of the public were able to join the meeting via Zoom live streaming. Mayor Powers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Tom Cooley, Phil Oels, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Morton, and Mayor Bill Powers responded to the roll call. City Manager Lauren Knox, City Attorney Steve Gross, Finance Officer Susan Scarlett, and Deputy City Clerk Tara Kindall were also present. Councilmember Stan Peiler was absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Josh Hart commented about the supporting efforts for a non-lethal wildlife control program for Plumas County.

4. CITY COMMUNICATIONS

A. City Council Communications/Committee Reports

Councilmember Oels reported that even though he didn't attend any meeting, he's been very busy helping with wildfire preparedness on Pine Street, cutting trees for the Disc Golf Course, and staffing the Cooling Center.

Councilmember Cooley reported that he attended a LAFCo Commission meeting and an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Morton reported that she attended LAFCo Commission meeting and helped staff the Cooling Center.

Mayor Powers reported that he attended a LAFCo Commission meeting, helped staff the Cooling Center, and shared some wildfire information.

B. Staff Communications

Gay Miller with Beckwourth Fire reported that they are sending personnel and resources to the Dotta and Sugar fires. They continue to be concerned about fire prevention and cannot stress enough the importance of every citizen to follow all burn bans. These bans are in place for a reason.

The Plumas County Sheriff’s department has no report as they are very busy with the fire going door-to-door for evacuations.

Air Quality had no report.

C. City Manager Report

City Manager Knox reported that work continues on the William’s House mitigating the wood rot; Beckwourth Complex Fire Camp will be moving this weekend; Plumas National Forest will have a community meeting on Facebook concerning the wildfires; she attended an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement meeting; a Northern Sierra Air Quality meeting; the Disc Golf Course is moving along; spoke briefly about the Grizzly Lake water issues; attended a meeting with Liberty Utilities; attended a SCORE Board meeting; and reminded everyone that Concerts in the Park start this Friday.

Finance Officer Scarlett commented on the claims. The large accounts payable check run on June 30th is due to the end of the fiscal year. Also, at the beginning of the fiscal year there are big payments that we pay right away.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Cooley moved and Councilmember Oels seconded a motion to approve the consent calendar as presented:

- A. Minutes** – Adopt the minutes of the City Council Regular Meetings held on June 23, 2021.
- B. Claims** – Adopt Resolution No. 2475 authorizing payment of claims for the period of June 16, 2021 through July 9, 2021.

Accounts Payable:	\$262,828.11
Payroll:	<u>\$ 86,993.81</u>
Total:	\$349,821.92

Roll call vote, yes: Cooley, Oels, Morton, and Powers. So carried.
Roll call vote, no: none.

6. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Certificates of Appreciation.

City Manager Knox explained that this item will be removed from the agenda at this time. Councilmember Morton mentioned the desire to be able to have this item in person, which was unable to be accommodated at the time. This item will come back to Council in the near future, when it can be more personal.

B. CalTrans Presentation on Highway 70 Rehabilitation.

CalTrans representatives gave a detailed presentation that explained the extensive rehabilitation project that is being planned for Highway 70 from Cromberg through Portola. The project is scheduled to begin in 2023 and will take three years to complete at an estimated cost of \$91 million. CalTrans is requesting comments on the project. Councilmembers requested additional information.

C. Sheriff Contract Ad Hoc Committee.

City Manager Knox stated that after the last Council meeting there was clarification on the type of committee needed to negotiate and discuss the Sheriff's contract. It would be best to appoint an Ad Hoc committee for this purpose. Councilmember Cooley moved and Mayor Pro Tem seconded a motion to create a Sheriff Contract Ad Hoc Committee and appoint Mayor Pro Tem Morton and Councilmember Cooley to said committee.

Roll call vote, yes: Cooley, Oels, Morton, and Powers. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: none.

D. COVID-19.

City Manager Knox reviewed the different changes in the COVID-19 protocols that the City has been observing. City Hall is now open to the public again and there was a brief discussion how the Council would like to proceed with Council Meetings. General consensus was to continue with a hybrid meeting with City Council and Staff present in the Council Chambers and the public attendance remaining on the Zoom conference platform. As the shift to more normal operations continue within the next few months the question of how to address delinquent utility accounts once penalties and late fees begin to be assessed again has arisen. Staff would like to begin outreach to the accounts that are significantly delinquent with a letter explaining how the balance on the account may adversely affect them. Finally, the emergency proclamation was reviewed and discussed. Councilmember Oels moved and Mayor Pro Tem Morton seconded a motion to continue the Emergency Proclamation at this time.

Roll call vote, yes: Cooley, Oels, Morton, and Powers. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: none.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Mayor Powers adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Tara Kindall, CMC
Deputy City Clerk