

**PORTOLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 26, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cooley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Cooley led the Council in the reciting of the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Morton, Powers, Peiler and Mayor Cooley were present. Mayor Pro Tem Oels appeared telephonically at the agendized location.

Finance Officer, Susan Scarlett and City Clerk, Melissa Klundby were also in attendance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Several community members who live and work at the Senior Apartment complex addressed the Council with complaints regarding removal of watering hoses, restrictive rules regarding cats and dogs, parking and a large pile of yard debris.

Larry Douglas read the Council a statement covering a wide variety of topics including; but not limited to, the FireWise committee and the Portola 192 project.

Mayor Cooley reported that Councilmember Peiler needed to leave the meeting at 6:30 to assist with the Community super and requested that the agenda be re-ordered; finding no comment the agenda was heard in the following order*:

- 7. C/D/E**
- 7. B**
- 5. A**
- 5. B**
- 5. C**
- 6. A/B/C**
- 7. B**
- 8.**

**the minutes below are in the order the agenda was published, however the order they were heard is reflected above.*

5. CITY COMMUNICATIONS

A. City Council/Committee Reports

Councilmember Powers reported that he had attended the Plumas County Transportation Commission meeting where the budget and upcoming transit work was reviewed.

Mayor Cooley reported that he had attended a legislative workshop on cannabis sponsored by the League of California Cities.

Mayor Pro tem Oels reported that he had attended the FireWise meeting and requested more community involvement. He also reported that the FireWise Council was putting together a community workday, tentatively scheduled for July 13, 2019.

B. Staff Communications/Fire Chief Report

Elaine Frank delivered the monthly call log; which included: 16 medical calls and 1 burn pile call. She also requested more community involvement on the FireWise Council and reported that the District had obtained a Type 6 Quick Attack Wildland fire vehicle. Elaine further reported that CalFire had extended the burn season and that the District is working with the City on the weed abatement program.

City Manager Report

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The City Council will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Councilmembers, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion. Additional budget appropriations will require a four/fifths roll call vote.

A. Minutes – Adopt the minutes of the City Council regular meeting held on June 12, 2019.

B. Claims – Adopt Resolution No. 2395 authorizing payment of claims for the period of June 15, 2019 through June 21, 2019.

*Resolution No. 2395
A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Authorizing Payment of Claims for the Period
June 15, 2019 through June 21, 2019*

C. Response to Grand Jury– Ratify Letter of Response from the City of Portola in response to the Findings and Recommendations in the 2018-2019 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury Portola Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services Report.

Larry Douglas requested to make public comment on item 6 C. Mayor Cooley removed item 6 C from the consent calendar with the concurrence of the Council.

Finding no Council or public comment on items 6. A and B, Councilmember Powers made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on June 12, 2019 and Resolution 2395. Councilmember Morton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously following a roll call vote by those in attendance (Councilmember Peiler was absent during this vote).

Mayor Cooley asked for comment and discussion on item 6 C. Larry Douglas made comment that he is concerned with the City working to restore the Portola Fire Department. Councilmember Powers reported that Plumas LAFCo is looking at District consolidations and mergers.

Finding no further comment, Mayor Pro Tem Oels made a motion to ratify the Letter of Response from the City of Portola in response to the Findings and Recommendations in the 2018-2019 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury Portola Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services Report. Councilmember Morton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously following a roll call vote by those in attendance (Councilmember Peiler was absent during this vote).

7. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Ponderosa Drainage Improvement** – Review the Engineered Ponderosa Improvement Drainage Plan and associated budget amendment. Discussion and possible action.

City Engineer, Dan Bastian, presented the Council with information on the proposed Ponderosa drainage plan and noted that the budget had been amended to reflect the projected expenditures for this item. Dan requested the following:

1. Find that the proposed work is required.
2. Approve a Notice of Exemption and authorize the City Clerk to prepare and file with the County Clerk.
3. Authorize the City Public Works Department to make the improvements.

Mayor Cooley asked for Council comment. Councilmember Powers commented that climate change is contributing to warmer winters with longer periods of precipitation and that if these trends continued, additional drainage issues would occur in the City limits. Mayor Cooley asked for clarification on the drainage pattern and the inlet to the culvert. Mayor Pro Tem Oels commented that the City should look to resolve the drainage issue since the culvert was part of the problem. Councilmember Morton noted that Ponderosa Avenue had flooded several times this winter and asked if the culvert repair would fix this problem. Todd Roberts, Public Works Director, reported that if winter precipitation was as high as it had previously been, that Ponderosa Avenue would flood under all circumstances.

Mayor Cooley asked for public comment and Richard Johnson commented extensively on the drainage issue.

Finding no further discussion Mayor Pro Tem Oels made a motion to, 1) find that the proposed work is required. 2) approve a Notice of Exemption and authorize the City Clerk to prepare and file with the County Clerk.; and 3) authorize the City Public Works department to make the improvements. Councilmember Powers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously following a roll call vote by those in attendance (Councilmember Peiler was absent during this vote).

- B. Climate Change**- Presentation on Climate Change and Request for Action or Support. Discussion, direction to staff and possible action.

Mayor Cooley asked for public comment and Jeannie Dansby and her granddaughter made comment in support of the Council taking action to reduce climate change. They encouraged everyone to think globally and act locally.

Robin Anderson introduced herself and spoke about her efforts to influence change in government to address climate change.

Jason Christen gave an extended comment on forest health, climate change and the economics of the area as they related to the timber industry.

A resident of the Gold Mountain community and a member of FireWise Committee commented that making changes to reduce climate change on a local level was very important.

Donna Lindquist, a retired Biologist, noted that climate change has become a much politicized issue and encouraged everyone to look past that to address climate change.

Leela Mowry stated that she thinks global warming is the number one threat to our planet and that we must do something. She reported that in order to be fire wise we need to be climate wise.

Mayor Cooley closed public comment and asked for Council discussion. Councilmember Powers reported on a meeting he had attended with the Forest Service in regard to climate change and forest management.

Councilmember Morton reported that she is hesitant to pass a resolution in support of a particular piece of legislation.

Mayor Pro Tem Oels reported that climate change has been happenings for a very long period of time and that he believes that everyone needs to take personal responsibility in doing their part to reduce their impacts on the climate.

Mayor Cooley asked for Council support and appointed Councilmembers Morton and Powers to an ad hoc committee to review and draft a Resolution for Council action regarding climate change. The Council concurred with this action.

- C. Public Hearing- 2019/2020 Operating Budget and Fee Schedule**- Receive public comment regarding the 2019/2020 Operating Budget and Fee Schedules. Discussion and possible action.

Mayor Cooley opened the public hearing and asked for public comment on the 2019/2020 Operating Budget and Fee Schedules. Finding none, Mayor Cooley asked closed the public hearing.

- D. Investment Policy**- Review Resolution 2396, Acknowledging the Review, Receipt, Filing and Approval of the Statement of the Investment Policy. Discussion and possible action.

Resolution 2396
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Acknowledging the Review, Receipt, Filing and Approval
of the Statement of the Investment Policy***

City Finance Officer, Susan Scarlett, presented the Council with Resolution 2396 and reviewed the investment policy. Susan noted that this resolution and policy must be reviewed and passed annually and noted that the City has a very conservative investment policy.

Mayor Cooley asked for public and Council comment and finding none, Councilmember Powers made a motion to adopt Resolution 2396 as presented. Councilmember Morton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

- E. 2019/2020 Budget** - Consider adoption of Resolutions 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401 relating to the 2019/2020 City Budget. Discussion and possible action.

Resolution No. 2397
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Approving and Adopting the Annual Appropriations Limit
for Fiscal Year 2019/2020***

Resolution No. 2398
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Approving the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019/2020***

Resolution No. 2399
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Adopting Monthly Rates for Water and Wastewater
for Fiscal Year 2019/2020***

Resolution No. 2400
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Adopting Monthly Rates for the Solid Waste Administration Fee
for Fiscal Year 2019/2020***

Resolution No. 2401
***A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Portola
Adopting Administrative Permit Fees, Application Fees
and an annual Agenda subscription fees***

Susan Scarlett requested that the Council review each resolution separately. Susan reported that Resolution 2397 must also be reviewed and adopted annually and explained that the annual appropriations limit relates to the population and the amount of taxes that can be collected. Mayor Cooley asked for public comment and Larry Douglas asked if this Resolution was based on affordability. Susan responded that no, it was not. Finding no further comment, Councilmember Morton made a motion to adopt Resolution 2397 as presented. Councilmember Powers seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

Susan presented that Council with the 2019/2020 operating budget and noted that \$22,000 had been added to the professional services in the streets budget to budget for the Ponderosa Avenue culvert project and the possible vacation of “Hospital Hill”. Finding no public or Council comment, Councilmember Powers made a motion to adopt Resolution 2398, approving the operating budget for the 2019/2020 fiscal year as presented. Councilmember Morton seconded the motion and it was approved following a roll call vote, with Councilmember Peiler abstaining.

Susan presented the Council with Resolution 2399 and Mayor Cooley asked for public comment. Larry Douglas commented that he objects to the use of a COLA for a water and wastewater fee increase. Following a brief Council discussion, Councilmember Powers made a motion to adopt Resolution 2399 as presented. Councilmember Peiler seconded the motion and it was approved following a roll call vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Oels voting no.

The Council then reviewed Resolution 2400 and finding no Council or public comment, Mayor Pro Tem Oels made a motion to adopt Resolution 2400 as presented. Councilmember Morton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved following a roll call vote.

City Clerk, Melissa Klundby, presented the Council with Resolution 2401 and noted that this item had been reviewed at the previous Council meeting. Melissa also noted that staff will bring back policies for the waiver of fees for 4-H animals and for extended RV stays by persons caring for ill family members. Finding no public comment and following a brief Council discussion, Councilmember Morton made a motion to adopt Resolution 2399 as presented. Councilmember Powers seconded the motion and it was approved following a roll call vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Oels voting no.

Councilmember Peiler left the meeting at 6:40 pm

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Klundby, City Clerk