



**EATONVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR  
COUNCIL MEETING**

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**DATE:** September 26, 2022

**PLACE:** Eatonville Community Center/Virtual Zoom Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Baublits called the meeting of the Eatonville Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Town Clerk Miranda Doll called the roll. The following were:

Present: Councilmembers Emily McFadden, Bill Dunn, Robert Thomas and Peter Paul.  
Councilmember Litzenberger was absent.

Also Present: Mayor Baublits and Town Clerk Miranda Doll.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mayor Baublits led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/SET TIME RESTRICTIONS**

Councilmember Paul moved approval of agenda with a three-minute time limit and was seconded by Councilmember Dunn. All were in favor.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

Colin Stephens- 401 Skylar Way, is not against the train coming to town but does not feel that the Town should be the one going after the grant. He also inquired about the SR161 Project and the barricades that were put out, but no work is being done.

Bethan Maher – WFIM Executive Director, gave a brief overview of the grant and the impacts the railroad would have on the Town. She provided a handout, a copy of which is on file at the Town Hall.

Matthew Hildebrand – 44025 State Route 161 East, feels it would be good to have the train in town and feels it is a great opportunity for the youth. He worked on the Polar Express when it was operational.

Terry Van Eaton – 41918 Lynch Creek Rd, feels bringing the railroad back to Eatonville is a unique opportunity and thinks it will really make a difference for the future of Eatonville. It is something that has been explored several times in the past, but never followed through on.

Scott Heagle – 321 Maple Dr N, spoke representing several families as well as businesses. He feels it is a great opportunity and would bring money into town and be good for local businesses.

Rick Adams – 29906 SR 706 E, supports keeping the Town in the driver's seat of the planning of the project. He feels that the Town should take advantage of collecting money from everyone who drives through the Town.

Byron Adams – 45220 Alder Cutoff Rd E, grew up here and went off to college. He feels he would not have come back if he didn't work from home, and if the railroad was back in town, it would give job opportunities. Mt. Rainier gets over 2 million visitors a year and Leavenworth just celebrated having their 1 millionth.

Rich Williams – 300 Center St W, gave a history surrounding the railroad project. He favors the Town and WFIM working together on the grant, it is just a grant for the study. He then gave a brief history of the Tacoma Eastern Railroad and the several attempts to get the lumber company back to Eatonville.

Betty Capestany – 349 Mineral Creek Rd, spoke as the president of the WFIM Board of Directors. The Board is in support of the Town taking the lead on the grant application and is ready with the matching funds. She feels that, if a similar grant would have been available for the Washington State Dinner Train, they could have planned better and avoided some of the unintended consequences.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes from the September 12, 2022 Council Meeting
- B. Payroll      26784 to 26787      \$106,448.91
- C. Claims      41172 to 41201      \$137,454.22

Councilmember McFadden made a motion to approve the consent agenda and was seconded by Councilmember Paul. All were in favor.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD/COUNCIL COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMMISSION REPORT**

- A. Public Safety Committee** – Councilmember McFadden stated that the Committee met on the 14<sup>th</sup> and discussed the Town parking issues.
- B. Public Utilities Committee** – Councilmember McFadden let the Council know that, when the Committee met on the 14<sup>th</sup> they received an update on the water main leak, the grant for charging stations as well as the needed Mashel River Intake repairs. They also discussed implementing the door hanger fee and raising the reconnect fee.

## **SETTING PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 3, 2022**

Councilmember McFadden made a motion to approve the Planning Commission agenda as presented and was seconded by Councilmember Paul. All were in Favor.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-XX – FIRST READING**

A Resolution of the Town of Eatonville, Washington, updating fees related to past due utility payments, disconnect notices, utility reconnection and repealing Resolution 2013-KK.

Town Clerk Miranda Doll read the Resolution by title into the record.

Councilmember Paul made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-XX and was seconded by Councilmember McFadden. All were in favor.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-YY**

A Resolution of the Town of Eatonville, Washington, authorizing the Town of Eatonville, as lead applicant, to jointly submit with Western Forest Industries Museum a Federal Reconnecting Communities Pilot Planning Grant.

Town Clerk Miranda Doll read the Resolution by title into the record.

Councilmember Paul made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-YY and was seconded by Councilmember Dunn. After discussion, Councilmember Thomas made a motion to table Resolution 2022-YY until the following Council meeting for further review of the Grant and was seconded by Councilmember Paul. All were in favor.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-ZZ**

A Resolution of the Town of Eatonville, Washington, authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract amendment with Bonneville Power Administration.

Town Clerk Miranda Doll read the Resolution by title into the record.

Councilmember Dunn made a motion to table Resolution 2022-ZZ until the following meeting and was seconded by Councilmember Thomas. Motion passed 3-1.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Councilmember Paul thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. He then made a motion to excuse Councilmember Litzenberger from the meeting and was seconded by Councilmember McFadden. All were in favor.

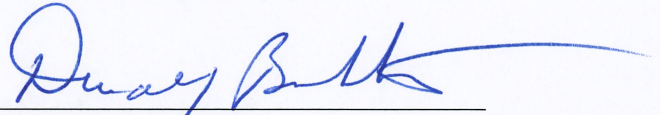
Councilmember Thomas stated that he is 100% behind the train coming to town; he just wants to make sure it is done the right way. He wants to be able to review the grant assurances before the next meeting.

Councilmember Dunn thanked everyone for coming out and stated that he is open to having conversations with anyone who would like to have one with him about what he stated in the meeting.

Councilmember McFadden echoed the same comments of fellow Councilmembers. She is in support of the train project; just is not sure about the partnership with WFIM and the Town taking the lead on the grant. She stated that she would like to see people come to more meetings to see the problems we face all the time, not just when there is a pet project.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With all business completed, Mayor Baublits adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

  
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David Baublits, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Miranda Doll, Town Clerk