

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 9, 2005
CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
420 NORTH BRIDGE, ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Beck, Councilmembers Joyce Edlefsen, Shawn Fransen, Darby Merrill, Garth Rose, and Lowell Williams. Councilmember Koon was excused.

ALSO PRESENT: Supt. of Public Works Woody Andersen, City Attorney Penny Stanford, City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard, members of the High Country Flyers, Chris McQueen, BYU-I Journalism student, Sherrie Thomas from the Chamber of Commerce, and newsmedia.

USE OF AIRPORT BY MODEL AIRPLANES: The Council discussed with members present from the model airplane group, High Country Flyers, about use of the airport for their group. At first it was thought it would be possible for them to use the airfield if they obtained a letter from FFA and some additional insurance, but City Attorney Stanford explained that when she talked with the city's liability insurance carrier, ICRMP, it would not be the group that would have to obtain the additional insurance, it would be the city and it would be very expensive. With that information Mayor explained the group would not be able to use the airport and would need to look at using Kit McBride Field at the gravel pit. He asked the group to discuss use of that model airplane field with Parks and Recreation Committee.

MORATORIUM ON SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES: The Mayor explained he was to discuss this item with the council because of some recent phone call received in the city offices about the city's code regarding sexually oriented businesses. City Attorney Stanford stated the Idaho Falls has an ordinance, and she had called their city attorney to get some information about their ordinance. He told her there were some websites to help to studies and drafts or and ordinance, but he advise being cautious because the subject is subject to legal challenge and misinterpretation. Stanford informed the council it would take months to do an ordinance similar to Idaho Falls. She explained that the city is already protected under state code, but if they want to be more restrictive that an ordinance would need to be done. The council discussed whether the state code was good enough, and decided to refer the issue to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review. Stanford suggested it could be addressed as the Planning and Zoning Commission is redoing the comprehensive plan.

TROST FEED & SEED VARIANCE: The Mayor explained the council that in looking at getting a zoning permit after the recent fire, it was discovered that they would be in violation of city code with a new building as it would not be the 75 feet setback of the centerline of the road. The code stating this requirement isn't consistent with other city code and would make several buildings, including the new business development center out of compliance. The Planning and Zoning Commission is currently reviewing the code and an amendment to it that has been drawn up by the City Attorney, but Trost needed to move forward quickly and decided to go ahead and do a variance and not wait for the ordinance to be amended. Planning and Zoning held a hearing for the variance and found no reasons to object, and recommended that council approve. A motion to approve the variance made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER NAME: Mayor Beck stated several names that had been

suggested, including “Bridge Street Business Beacon” and “Bridge Street Business Center”. Councilmember Fransen stated that someone had suggested “Fort Henry Business Center” to him. A motion to name it Fort Henry Business Center made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. The council also briefly discussed the possibility of a sign policy for tenants of the building. Mayor Beck will discuss with ECIPDA.

APPROVAL OF FORESTRY GRANT CONSULTANT: City Clerk Stoddard discussed proposals received from and RFP sent out for a consultant to do work on a Community Forestry Plan with a grant that has been received. Thorne Brown Associates was selected and motion to approve hiring made by Edlefsen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

STREET SWEEPER PURCHASE: Mayor Beck explained to the council the current sweeper was purchased in 1969 for \$15,000 and has served the city well. The city has made quite a number of repairs over the past few years, but is struggling to keep up and parts are getting hard to obtain. Supt. Andersen told the council it would take around \$5,000 to repairs it currently and even then he may not be able to get the parts. He has been trying to purchase a sweeper from the state surplus for the last 6 years but has not had any luck in getting the bid on one. Andersen received notification of a surplus sale of sweepers from the Ada County Highway District. The Mayor and Andersen went and looked at them while in Boise this week. The sweepers look good and have been maintained, and the highway district would train a driver and mechanic in the operation and repair of the sweeper. The minimum bids are \$10,000 on two, and \$13,000 on the sweeper that has a vacuum system. Andersen and the Mayor recommend bidding on all three and just take one if the city is award more than one of the bids. They would like to go \$2,000 over on each of the minimum bids. Funds would come from the street fund, but if later on in the fiscal years, money was tight, funds could be borrowed from the utility fund. Williams suggested he would like to obtain the vacuum system model and that the bid amount should be some odd number. A motion to authorize the Mayor and Andersen to move ahead made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. Williams discussed the possible need to bid higher, and made a motion to allow the Mayor and Andersen with their judgment be allowed to bid up to \$5,000 on the vacuum unit. Andersen feels they could still get one at some point from the state highway department, but then the city may be without sweeper for a time. Motion dies for lack of 2nd. The Mayor and Andersen will proceed with the bids.

PUBLIC WORKS PAYSACLE CHANGES: The Mayor informed the council that the Personnel Committee had reviewed the public works pay scale. It had come to the city’s attention that with building of a new sewer system a new position with new responsibility was actually created. The Committee recommends a new job on the pay scale of wastewater supervisor with a starting rate of \$15.16, and also to add \$1.00 to the Superintendent pay scale. These decisions were all based on increased responsibility. Increases would come of the utility fund and would have little impact. A motion to approve made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

AIC DISTRICT SEMINAR: Mayor Beck asked if any councilmembers would be able to attend the seminar in April. He will be attending, along with the city clerk. Williams stated he would be able to go, and Rose stated he could possibly go and will let the city clerk know by the end of the month.

WATER/DROUGHT ISSUES: Mayor Beck discussed drought issues with the council. He doesn’t

believe the city will be affected this summer. It could affect Idaho Falls and that surrounding area. There will be enough water for domestic use, but they may not be able to water their lawns. He stated that the city needs to prepare especially if the drought continues. He suggested citizens need to check on how they water their lawns, and look at their sprinkler systems and their settings. People also need to look at household use. At this point it is all voluntary, but residents need to be thinking. Councilmember Fransen opened a discussion about the city flowers and watering, and whether or not flowers should be planted or if maybe a drip system could be installed. Andersen stated a drip system may not be cheap, but it would be a way of showing we are trying to conserve. Mayor Beck agreed and mentioned being careful and more conscious of how our parks are watered. The Mayor asked that looking at a drip irrigation system for the flowers be put on the Parks and Recreation agenda.

LANDFILL AND GRAVEL PIT TRANSFER: Mayor Beck asked for clarification about the transfer and whether the council had indeed approved it some months ago. The council agreed that it had. Mayor Beck will sign the agreement, the legal descriptions will be attached and he will move ahead.

MINUTES: No changes were noted. Motion to approve made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BILLS: After discussion a motion to pay, after checking for duplication on a bill from Jewel Electric, made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Beck told the council he, the City Clerk, City Attorney, Councilmember Williams, Supt. Andersen, and Schiess & Associates will have their 1st conversation with EPA on the phone tomorrow morning. He also talked about water re-use issues that were recently discussed at Idaho Rural Water Association meetings he recently attended.

The Mayor announced the City would be having an Earth Day Celebration on April 26th. On this day USDA and Idaho Department of Commerce are hoping to make possible announcements about funds for the wastewater project. The Mayor stated ECIPDA has done these before so we should be able to get their help in planning. He asked Councilmember Fransen to head up a committee for the event, along with help from the City Clerk, Dorothy Bowen at ECIPDA, Craig Thurgood at USDA-Rural Development, and the Parks and Recreation Committee Members.

The Mayor discussed concerns with policies the city may have that have never been formally written down and approved by the council. He feels these need to be discussed and formally approved. Councilmember Edlefsen suggested the donation policy needed to be formalized.

Councilmember Fransen reported Arbor Day planning is moving ahead. They are calling to find out if the railroad will approve planting trees in the park along the railroad tracks at the South Yellowstone Highway. They have also put together boxes at the schools to name the skatepark.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Attest:

Bill Beck, Mayor

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk