

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 10, 2005
CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
420 NORTH BRIDGE, ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Beck, Councilmembers Joyce Edlefsen, Shawn Fransen, Cathy Koon, Darby Merrill, Garth Rose, and Bill Butterfield.

ALSO PRESENT: Supt. of Public Works Woody Andersen, City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard, Rod Chandler – Chandler Insurance, Marvin Fielding – Schiess & Associates, Will Rhea – Rhea Computer Consulting, Larry Stone, computer consultant, Linda Graham – CART, and concerned citizens.

ICRMP INSURANCE RENEWAL – ROD CHANDLER: Rod Chandler presented ICRMP's renewal for 2006. The renewal amount is a decrease from last year. Chandler suggesting someone review through the list of buildings, equipment and vehicles for completeness and indicated any changes or additions. Chandler then presented the 2005-2006 policy to the Mayor.

WASTEWATER PROJECT BID AWARD: The recent bids on the Wastewater project have been reviewed. The apparent low bidder was Hoffco from Burley. Marvin Fielding indicated that all letters to the various funding agencies had been sent. They have received concurrence from DEQ and Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor, but are still lacking any approval from USDA – Rural Development. They are still waiting for more complete information from the city about easement issues. In order to avoid a special meeting the Mayor asked for a motion to authorize him to sign a notice of award when the city has concurrence from USDA. A motion to approve the bid and authorize the Mayor to sign appropriate contracts made by Edlefsen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Beck also publicly thanked Marvin Fielding for his help with saving the city some money with the EPA fine. He pointed out some errors that saved just under \$20,000. Fielding thanked the council and Mayor for the opportunity to help and learn about the EPA fine process.

CART PROGRAM – LINDA GRAHAM: Mayor Beck introduced Linda Graham who is the director of CART, and stated that CART is a valuable asset to our community. Graham gave some background information about CART. The company is a 501C3 non-profit and has been in operation for about 16 years. They have diverse services including on-demand door to door service and services in some cities with scheduled stops and times. They are funded with grants to help with operating expenses, administration, and capital costs. Local match for the grants are required for those different areas served. They also received Medicaid in some cases. They have about 30 vehicles which are mostly older vehicles. She discussed how services in Idaho Falls have been reduced because Targhee Regional Public Transportation Authority (TRPTA) choose not to contract with CART and are doing their own fixed route service. They two entities are now in negotiations to consolidate services. They have services in Rexburg and to St. Anthony.

Mayor Stronks in Ashton has asked for CART to come to Ashton and do a run to Rexburg. They

are currently trying to figure out a way to do that. They currently have money in their budget to come up, but the vehicles need to be replaced and local match money for that is needed. They are looking into having the service begin in Ashton and then St. Anthony and on to Rexburg which would be more efficient. The vehicle would cost \$150,000 and match required is \$33,000, which would be \$16,500 each. Graham was not necessarily asking for that amount, but it is something the city could consider, or they could give a match for operating costs. Their fares are \$3.00 St. Anthony to Rexburg for the general public and slightly more to go to Idaho Falls. Beck informed the council that he had discussed this issue with Ashton Mayor Stronks. Ashton will be donating \$2,000 and a place to store the bus. Fransen asked if the county had been approached, and Graham stated letters had been sent, but she had not talked with them. Koon asked if a merger with TRPTA would give CART access with their funding, and Graham stated it would. The Mayor stated the council would take giving funds under consideration.

WEBSITE CONTRACT: Larry Stone, an IT and website consultant was asked several questions about the aspects of developing and maintaining a website. Koon asked him to explain how it works and what it takes to post and maintain a site. Stone explained that it can be done with little knowledge, but the good ones are done by people that have more knowledge. The internet is just a place to look at information. He also described what “hosting” is for website. You can lose placement for searches and it takes time to build it up again if you change your website name. Will Rhea explained that Fremont Telecom currently hosts the city’s website at no charge. Koon asked who has access to a site, and Stone explained that is determined by the website owner. Fransen asked about the time involved with a site. Stone stated it depends on the area and could be from \$35 to \$75 per hour. The complexity plays into what is charged on what is done. It depends on what you do with the site and what you make of it. \$2000-\$5000 could be what people spend on entry level. Maintenance can vary and is based on hourly basis. Edlefsen asked if routine maintenance were needed to de-bug website, and Stone indicated not.

Will Rhea explained the various things he does as maintenance to the city’s website. He updates and titles the minutes for council, planning and zoning and parks and recreation. Agendas are also posted on the site. He does a monthly search engine submission to keep the city’s ranking and makes sure links are working back to city’s website. Stone discussed the different ways to charge for the work. Stone commented getting our website done for the three hour Rhea charges a month seems fair. City Clerk Stoddard discussed some different website options and costs, and indicated she was happy with the current work, and that if the city chooses not to use Rhea further that she would like to see the website done within the city office. Stone commented that doing a website the way Stoddard suggested would be a step down for the city and the city may not be happy with it. Councilmember Rose made a motion to approve the website contract with Rhea Consulting, 2nd, Councilmember Butterfield opposed, all others in favor, motion carried.

VARIANCE APPROVAL FOR MARGARET STANFORD: Stanford applied to the Planning and Zoning Commission asking for a variance to be allowed to not have to place curb, gutter and sidewalk on the East side of the property. Planning and Zoning held a hearing and their recommendation was to not require the sidewalks, but the curb and gutter would need to be done. After brief discussion a motion to accept the recommendation and approve the variance

was made by Councilmember Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

POLICE VEHICLE PURCHASE: Mayor Beck explained problems and repairs needed to one of the Police Departments older vehicles. With the age of the vehicle and number of miles the Mayor recommends borrowing funds from the utility fund and paying it back over time, possibly a three year term. The Mayor and Council also discussed officers possibly sharing costs, but it was generally agreed that the same amount of money on vehicles would be spent overtime, and the vehicles would be better taken care of if only one was assigned to an officer.

Councilmember Butterfield cited that there is a point and time when a new vehicle is more practical. Term and interest rate for the note to the utility fund was discussed. A motion to borrow funds for a police vehicle for a five year term at 5% with an option to payoff earlier, and with first payment being due September 30, 2006, made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Rose stated he would like to see a concerted effort to buy locally or in the area. Councilmember Fransen asked to make sure everyone has the same list of specifications to bid on.

AIRPORT GRANT RESOLUTION: Councilmember Koon read a resolution accepting a \$52,000 grant from ITD Aeronautics Division for a seal on the City's airport runway. A motion to accept the grant made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WRITING PROPOSAL: Jared Wight, a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, submitted a proposal to help write up the city's comprehensive plan. His proposal was for \$20 per hour, not to exceed 100 hours. Discussion followed regarding appropriateness of \$20 per hour. Motion to approve proposal made by Edlefsen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

WEST 3RD NORTH STREET AT SCHOOL PROPERTY – Councilmember Koon questioned what the status was regarding West 3rd North where the old junior high had been demolished. Several Councilmember also cited concerns and questions from the public about reopening the street. Edlefsen reminded the council they had decided to wait on opening the street because the City didn't have the funds to pave the street so it could be opened. Mayor Beck suggests he, Councilmember Koon and Supt. Andersen get together to look at the property and discuss what should be done at this time.

GREENWAY LETTERS: Mayor Beck reviewed with the council two letters received from Kyle Babbitt, Greenway Consultant. The first letter asked for the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for a grant being submitted by the Henry's Fork Foundation to CHC for the Greenway. The second letter listed concerns about the repairs that need to be done on the South side of the Greenway due to construction at the wastewater treatment plant. Supt. Andersen stated he could find out what the contractor would be repairing at the next construction meeting. Then he would know what the city would have to do to get that portion of the trail back to it original status. Mayor Beck did state that the trail could not be compacted because of the new sewer line running under it.

2006 BUDGET: The proposed budget was discussed. Figures have not changed much after

final levy figures were calculated. The Mayor talked with the council figures about what expenses will be for the sewer project for 2006. He also explained how all the interim financing will be done with recommendations from ECIPDA, DEQ, and USDA. The original interim financing note will mature in January 2006 and be extended or refinanced. Additional interim financing will be obtained for Phase II of the project. The notes will be set up to be due at the same time next fall, so that when all construction is complete, all the bonds can be sold at the same time. This would make the 1st bond payment not due until 2007. The council then discussed whether or not to increase sewer rates this year, or wait until next year. The Mayor recommends not raising yet, but waiting one more year. By next budget year the city will have an idea of the operation costs of the new treatment plant. Motion was made by Merrill to leave sewer rates at the current amount, 2nd, all in favor.

A motion to approve the proposed budget and set a hearing date for August 24, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor.

GEISLER-BENNETT ANNEXATION ORDINANCE: Councilmember Edlefsen introduced the ordinance for annexation. A motion to read by title only for 1st reading made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor. Edlefsen read. A motion to approve on 1st reading made by Edlefsen, 2nd, all in favor. A motion to suspend the rules and read by title only for 2nd and 3rd readings made by Merrill, all in favor. Motion to accept ordinance made by Fransen, 2nd, all in favor.

MINUTES: Minutes were presented for the July 13th and July 27th, 2005 meetings. Changes were noted. Motion to accept minutes as corrected made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor.

BILLS: Bills were presented for approval. After brief discussion a motion to pay made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss possible property purchase was made by Edlefsen, 2nd, all in favor by voice vote. A possible property purchase was discussed. No decisions were made.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS DEPARTMENT REPORTS

MAYOR BECK: The Mayor updated the council on the Airport/Gravel Pit/Landfill Agreement. The concerns with the property at the airport near the fairgrounds have been addressed. An error was found in the legal description the correction of which dismissed concerns by the Fremont County Fair Board regarding the amount of property being deeded back to the City for the Airport. A survey will be obtained for the landfill portion of the transfer, and then the Mayor will proceed with finalizing the agreement.

COUNCILMEMBER KOON:

Cathy Koon reported meeting with city resident Charlie Harris the previous evening. He talked with her about the street next to his house being overgrown with weeds and also how the street had been built up over the years with various seal coats which now made it difficult to pull cars out of his driveway. They also discussed curbing and gutters and concerns with drainage near

his property. Koon explained to him the road would not be repaired until the city had funding to do a street project. Koon asked that Supt. Andersen clear out the weeds and debris that can now be seen with Harris moving some cars he had parking along the street. She also asked if maybe city crews could look at placing some gravel for Mr. Harris in his driveway to bring it up to the curb.

Koon informed the Council that in the Airport Managers recent report he stated there were some abandoned vehicles along the building at the airport. Supt. Andersen reported the vehicles will be tagged and owners would try and be located first, and then the cars could be removed and parking signs and striping be placed at the building. He suggested the signs and striping wait until the new slurry seal is laid down first.

Koon also brought up the possibility of a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Committee to meet with the Forestry Consultant who is doing the Community Forestry Plan.

COUNCILMEMBER ROSE: Rose discussed the interest that has been shown in the privatization of the garbage service.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL: Merrill reported on the losses of the utility funds do to rental skips, so now property owners will now receive a copy of their renter's bills so they are aware of billing and payment history of their tenants. She is also looking at how to further address the problems of collections from rentals.

COUNCILMEMBER EDLEFSEN: Edlefsen presented to the council the possibility of a Jake brake ordinance for the city and asked the City Clerk to get copies of other city's ordinances.

COUNCILMEMBER FRANSEN: Fransen passed out to the council a letter from Devon Weaver proposing additional concrete work, signs and beautification for a memorial at the Army Tank area near Keefer Park. Parks and Recreation discussed the proposal. Melissa Hinkley of Parks and Recreation will contact VFW and the American Legion for their thoughts and funding ideas. Fransen asked what the council to review the proposal for their thoughts. The Mayor stated costs would be needed

Fransen discussed the new Keefer Park Shelter. Rotary has plans to build the shelter in the next thirty to sixty days. Discussion followed about the Rotary's plans for the shelter as there seems to be some discrepancies between different Rotary members city employees and officials have talked to about construction of the shelter. Fransen indicated he would attend the next Rotary meeting and get some clarification.

Fransen also briefly reviewed information presented by Sandra Thorne-Brown, Forestry Consultant, about possible city goals and high risk trees that need to be considered for removal. Fransen would like approval to remove two high risk trees at Keefer Park. Mayor Beck asked Supt. Andersen to get some bids for removal.

There being no further business to come before the council the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Willard D. Beck, Mayor

Attest:

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk