

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 11, 2006
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, as well as newly elected Councilmembers Dee Rausch and Matt Blanchard.

ALSO PRESENT: Taci Stoddard, City Clerk-Treasurer, Police Chief Bryan Fullmer, Supt. of Public Works Woody Andersen, Chamber Board members, family and friends of new Councilmembers, concerned citizens and newsmedia.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Beck called on Bryan Stoddard to lead those present in the Pledge.

2005 CITY FINANCIAL AUDIT: Scott Bond of Rudd & Company presented the 2005 audit to the City Council. They have issued an unqualified opinion, which is as good of an opinion that the city could get. He gave copies and briefly reviewed some highlights of the audit with the council pointing out various fund balances and deficits. The City ended the year with a \$19,677 fund balance in the general fund. He commended the city for ending the year with a positive balance. Other items Bond discussed were the consolidated enterprise fund finances and the breakdown of the three departments as of September 30th. There are a few fund deficits that need to be looked at and monitored over the year such as the EDA Grant Fund for Business Development Building (Bond recommended the council considered budgeting to pay off), as well as some small deficits in the DARE Fund and Greenway Fund. He reported that the Road and Street Fund exceeded its budget by \$2,944. He also reviewed the single audit information for federal funds received in excess of \$500,000 and the reports that were issued for that. There were no problems with the single audit and he will file the necessary documentation. A motion to approve the audit made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

MINUTES: Minutes for the December 6th & 14th, 2005, meetings were presented for council approval. No changes were noted. A motion to approve was made by Fransen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BILLS: Bills to be paid were presented for council approval. After discussion and questions answered a motion to approve was made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS TO OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBERS: Mayor Beck presented plaques to Councilmembers Joyce Edlefsen and Bill Butterfield who did not seek office in the recent election. The Mayor commented on the assets they have been to the community. He thanked Edlefsen for her many years of service on the Council and Butterfield for being will to serve during his appointment. They were each presented with a plaque stating the City's appreciation for their dedicated service to the City.

INSTALLMENT OF NEW COUNCILMEMBERS: The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Bill Beck, who was re-elected. The Mayor then administered

the Oath of Office to newly elected officials Garth Rose, Cathy Koon, Dee Rausch, and Matt Blanchard.

The Mayor then called for a recess.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ELECTION: Councilmember Koon made a motion to nominate Councilmember Rose as Council President, 2nd. Koon motioned that all nominations cease, 2nd. All voted in favor and Rose was elected Council President.

CITY POLICY CONCERNS – DEBBIE KUNZ: Debbie Kunz, a local business owner, addressed the council. She presented them with a sewer bill for their business building with apartments. She stated the bill is killing them, and they are not really using that much water. The sewer equivalent user charges were discussed with Kunz. She asked the council to consider of business owners with the sewer rate and do some looking around at other options. The Mayor and Councilmember Merrill discussed with Kunz the reasons for establishing the sewer bill and base rate.

Kunz also talked about their garbage situation with the Council. She explained they have had dumpster with some other businesses paying them for sharing the dumpster. They have had other businesses and individuals dumping in their dumpster without permission. She read a letter to the City from her tenant Rocky Mountain Tax about charges for their garbage when they are already paying for it in their lease with Kunz & Hamilton Realty. She stated they had not gotten a dumpster with the new garbage collection, but had asked for two carts which for their use because they could bring them inside after hours. The Mayor and City Clerk will look at resolving the matters discussed in the Rocky Mountain Tax letter.

Kunz then discussed snow removal with the council and the enforcement of the no parking in the business district between two a.m. and six a.m. She stated she felt like they have only plowed once or twice during these hours, if at all. She talked about the difficulty with the slush and ice and people trying to get from their cars into their business. She stated she is just asking for help and appreciates the Council's time.

BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE: Mayor Beck explained to the Council that the City's 1st Bond Anticipation Note is due January 15th, and reminded them that the original plan was to essentially refinance the \$3.3 million note with a new Bond Anticipation Note with Wells Fargo. It would come due at the same time as the 2nd interim financing note at the completion of the entire wastewater project at which time the bonds would be sold. However, in the process of working on the new note Bud Way at Wells Fargo Public Finance found it would be in the city's best interest to access DEQ's loan funds as their interest rate would be better. Attempts to get that underway were difficult during the holiday season, and at this point closing out the DEQ portion of the bonds is not possible by the time the note is due. Wells Fargo is willing to do a new note for 90 days for \$3 million at the current rate, and the City will be paying the \$300,000 plus the interest at that time. Mayor Beck stated that it was likely the note will be paid off and bonds sold in the next few weeks. Due to the rush to get the new note done at this late date, the Mayor asked for the council's verbal resolution and authorization to sign any documents when they are received. A motion to pass a new bond anticipation note for 90 days at the

current interest rate, and authorize the Mayor to sign all necessary documents made by Councilmember Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

DOWNTOWN SIGNAGE: The Mayor discussed with the Council comments received from residents and business owners downtown about triangle/sandwich board signs. It is being allowed currently because the city doesn't have an ordinance against it. The Mayor asked the Council to think about the issue and decide if they don't this kind of signage they will need to have ordinance restricting them and/or having some qualifications. Chief Fullmer comment he thought it may already been addressed in ordinance. The Mayor stated he would look at the ordinance again. Jim Hobbs, a city resident, commented on the controversy these same types of signs created in West Yellowstone and they created a good ordinance one. He will get a copy of it and give it to the City Clerk.

GARBAGE ORDINANCE: The Mayor discussed the garbage ordinance with the council. The current ordinance states if they are hooked up to city utilities, people will be charged for garbage service. Beck reported he had received a few complaints about people who like to dump their own garbage, but still getting charged for the service. Comments have also been made that maybe the reason it is required is for people to have a place for the garbage and not let it pile up and be a health hazard. The Mayor did not ask for any decision at this council meeting, but asked the Council to look at the issue and decide if the ordinance needs to be changed or left as it is.

Other garbage issues were briefly discussed. Fransen commented on potential health hazard at the schools if the garbage isn't dumped frequently enough with the new service. The same thing may come up with the restaurants and other facilities. The Mayor this could be discussed with the contractor and any issues worked out with them.

DUMP TRUCK BED: Supt. Andersen explained will the City will only need one of three garbage trucks now that the garbage service has been privatized. He hopes to surplus the older garbage truck, but would like to use the newer tandem axel truck and convert it by removing the dump box and putting a dump truck bed on so the truck could be better used in other departments. Mechanic Scott Butigan found one in Idaho Falls for about \$3,000. Andersen is proposing purchasing the dump bed and putting on the garbage truck and splitting the costs between streets and sanitation. There will also be some installation costs. He is hoping to keep the costs under \$5,000. A motion to approve the costs up to \$5,000 taking half from sanitation and half from streets made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion was then amended by Rose to take all costs out of the sanitation reserves, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BILL LIST: The City Clerk presented a list of certain recurring and regular bills to be approved so they would not have to come before the council each month for payment approval. The Mayor reviewed list with council. Several items were discussed. The Council added petty cash, previously approved bills, and the City's Christmas and summer party costs. Motion to approve the list made by Fransen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS: The Mayor began by stated he was very pleased with the City's 2005 audit. He complimented the council, staff and all employees.

Administration: He commented on the city administration department. They are a great staff – confident, pleasant and a lot of fun. The office equipment is in good condition with new computers and a new copier & printer. He feels there are few needs in administration. There is adequate staff and facilities.

City Properties: City Hall still needs roof work addressed. The heating and air conditioning units - many are old, but have been taken care of well. A new entrance to the police department is needed, and there is still some time coming from the work camp. He will move ahead with putting a new entrance on the South. Many leases need to be reviewed, and he will be giving that responsibility for the review to a Councilmember.

Police Department: Beck stated the City has a great Police Department. We are grateful to have Jim Walker back from Iraq. Chief Fullmer will be retiring this year, so the City will be hiring and appointing a new chief. The Police Department has been able to purchase three new vehicles last few years and didn't have to borrow any money. The Department continues to get grants from Homeland Security to purchase items and equipment such as a new trailer with emergency response equipment, and new security camera equipment which will be placed around the city building and water and wastewater facilities in the spring. For the 1st time the Mayor feels dog control is working. Progress is also being made with the compliance officer. The Mayor discussed the dog pound facility and possibly bringing a proposal to the council to move the pound out to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Parks: The City has great parks – a lot of them. Some of the needs are new playground equipment, finalizing and adopted the Parks Master Plan, getting the new shelter built at Keefer Park with the CHC Grant, planning to take better care of the City's trees.

Airport: The City will be advertising for bids in the next couple of weeks for seal coating the airport with grant funds. The Mayor reported he has had a request for an individual to take over Sam Buckley fixed based operation at the airport, as Mr. Buckley would like to retire. This will be presented to the Airport Board for their recommendation.

Fire Department: The Fire Department does a great job with their volunteers and five paid dispatchers.

Streets: The Mayor stated the streets are in bad shape. Costs of maintenance and repairs have been being discussed as part of the Transportation Study. The Council will need a lot of public input about what to do with the streets.

Sanitation: The Mayor discussed the recent change to a working with a contractor for collection services. There are issues that will continue to be worked on. The rates on the garbage collection with residential and commercial need to be looked at.

Sewer & Water: The sewer project is coming together nicely. There are still some lines that will need to be replaced and reserves will need to be built up to address those needs. The Water Study will be presented to the Council soon, and instead of being

an emergency, the Mayor and Council will have time to devise a plan to work with what needs to be done. The Utility reserve is currently about 1.1 million, but rates will need to be monitored carefully for future needs.

Projects: Projects that the City is currently working on are water and sewer extension and road right of way into the Christensen-Tascher Survey property for new businesses, and a possible business park project at the airport.

City Revenues: The revenues in the General Fund will have to be watched closely. Most of the City's sources of revenue are static. One of the main sources is property tax. The City will need to watch the legislature closely as they try to address requests for property tax relief. There is also the possibility of the legislature discussing revenue sharing and taking that away from Cities.

COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS: The Mayor informed the Councilmembers of their new assignments. (A list is attached to these minutes.) The Mayor discussed his roles and responsibilities as Mayor, as well as the Council's responsibilities.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR BECK

The Mayor discussed his intentions to proceed on getting a Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee. He has lots of examples from other Cities. He passed around the annual police department report for the Council to review. The Mayor also showed the Council the plaque that was made for "key" (a skateboard key) for the grand opening of Skater's Haven, the City's skatepark. The plaque will be hung in City Hall.

COUNCILMEMBER KOON

Koon discussed the need to look at issues with the City streets, as well as moving forward with the nuisance ordinance. She also discussed looking into composting as a service. She would also like to see the Parks Master Plan be completed and approved. Koon brought up that the Council would still like to meet and hear from Economic Development Director Lacey Eckberg. The Mayor gave Koon information on Psuedoephedrine to look at whether the City should adopt an ordinance, or watch and see what the legislature will do while in session with the issue. Meth use in the community was discussed.

COUNCILMEMBER ROSE

Rose thanked the Council for their support and expressed his appreciation for being able to work with them. He thanked former Councilmembers Edlefsen and Butterfield, and stated he felt the City has some good additions to the Council with Rausch and Blanchard.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL

Merrill reported on the street conditions due to the sewer project.

COUNCILMEMBER RAUSCH

Rausch commented that she is looking for to this experience, and she hopes the City can benefit from the knowledge she will bring to the table. She has seen such positive growth with St. Anthony, and people are so friendly. She stated that she is very pro-community.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The City Clerk reminded the Council of the upcoming AIC legislative meetings. She asked that any Councilmember wishing to attend let her know by January 20th.

Chief Fullmer discussed the Meth drug use problems in the area and community, and the need to actually start doing something. He will arrange for the Council to have a presentation on Meth use at the next Council Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Willard D. Beck, Mayor

Attest:

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk-Treasurer