

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2007
CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
420 NORTH BRIDGE, ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO

PRESENT: Councilmembers Shawn Fransen, Darby Merrill, David Loomis, and Matt Blanchard. Mayor Willard D. Beck and Councilmembers Garth Rose and Dee Rausch were excused.

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Jim Smith, Supt. of Public Works Woody Andersen, City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard, Parks & Rec Committee Chair Melissa Hinkley, Economic Development Director Cathy Koon, and concerned citizens.

Councilmember Blanchard made a motion to have Councilmember Merrill conduct the meeting in the absence of Mayor Beck and Council President Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Loomis asked that Police Department issues be added to the agenda for discussion.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT: Committee Chair Melissa Hinkley reported to the Council on parks issues, fundraisers and events for the Committee. Councilmember Blanchard took some time and told the Council about the proposed improvements at the ball diamonds and the work Upper Valley Youth will be doing such as fencing, backstop work, concrete work. He also discussed a possible all-star tournament that could bring in several thousand people. The name of Southside Park was discussed and it's affiliation with gangs that use the same name, and problems with vandalism of the park sign because of that. Parks and Rec proposes the name be changed, and they will bring a proposal for a new name to the Council. Plans for the Arbor Day Celebration at Southside Park April 27th at 10:30 a.m. were discussed. The local 1st graders will be helping to plant the trees. Hinkley discussed ideas for possible fundraisers and will come back to the council when plans are finalized. Hinkley also outlined a list of needs and things that need to be done for various improvements at the parks. She presented a list to the Council of some items that need to be declared surplus and they will auction the items off as a fundraiser, such as the horse swing from Horsey Park. She also asked for the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign a work agreement for the work camp to do some work in the parks as a project.

Councilmember Loomis stated he didn't think we should change the name of the park, and to not let the gangs dictate what the city should do. He suggested not changing it. Councilmember Merrill stated that the need a recommendation on the name change from Parks and Rec and it would need to be on a council agenda for approval.

A motion to remove surplus items from the park and declare them surplus at the time of removal made by Blanchard, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. A motion for the Mayor to sign the work plan agreement with the Work Camp made by Blanchard, all in favor, motion carried. A motion to allow the removal of the old fence at the ball fields made by Fransen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. A motion to approve a skatepark sign to be made out of ¼ inch steel and cut out letters with any changes the Parks and Rec committee deems necessary made by Blanchard, all in favor, motion carried.

ATVS: Cathy Koon addressed the Council about a possible ATV route that would get people in town from the dunes, and into the parking lot behind the Roxy. She presented three maps with different routes outlined. She is not proposing all streets be opened to ATVs, only a way to get them into town on a designated route. Some ATVs are street legal upon meeting certain requirements. She recommends that the routes be for daylight hours only. She is unsure at this time of resident's reactions, and hasn't talked with any residents along the possible routes. Related to the ATV issues are signing concerns, and Koon stated she had a proposal ready for the Fremont County Commissioners and ITD on signage. She presented a list of signs for the City to be turned over to the Mayor. She reported on the success of recent town meetings, and feels there is starting to be some enthusiasm. Koon also asked that the Council look at continuing to fund the \$3,000 that goes towards helping with the Fremont County economic development program, and maybe consider during increasing that as the Council looks at budgets this year and over the next few years. The program needs to be fully funded at the end of three years.

RV PARKING – MIKE PARKER: City Resident Mike Parker addresses the Council regarding RV parking in the City. He expresses concerns about fairness of enforcement, and proposed that RV's be allowed to park on City streets seasonally with some stipulations that the street be wide enough and no parking on corners be allowed. He feels the hour allowed by the ordinance for loading or unloading is not sufficient time. Councilmember discussed changing the ordinance to allow more time. The issue will be put on the next agenda for further discussion.

PTS TRANSPORTATION PRESENTATION: Owners of PTS Transportation introduced themselves to the City Council. They are currently doing some public transportation in Ashton, and are seeing what other cities needs are for transportation. They are currently known at PTS Transportation, but are making some changes and applying for to be an LLC and trying to get non-profit status. They would like to know if the City is interested in giving some support. The City of Ashton is will to put up some match money for a bus to get a route started from Ashton to Idaho Falls. Councilmember Merrill indicated she would pass the information along to the Mayor.

SURPLUS ITEMS: The City Council reviewed a list of surplus items. A motion to declare the items surplus and to be sold at public auction made by Fransen, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ISSUES: Councilmember Loomis asked if the Police Chief would discuss with the Council hiring of Fremont County officers for some shifts in February. Councilmember Merrill informed Loomis those issues needed to be talked about in executive session.

MINUTES: Minutes were presented from the March 14th Council meeting. No corrections were noted, and a motion to approve was made by Blanchard, 2nd, all in favor.

BILLS: Council discussed the bill presented, and questions were answered. A motion to approve was made by Blanchard, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER FRANSEN

Fransen reported the Sports complex has designated two areas to prepare for soccer fields.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL

Merrill discussed the Sanitation budget. The process of looking at what the rate increase would have to be on commercial has begun. Fransen stated he would like to not put the increase back onto the residents. Loomis suggested looking at having the contractor pick up all garbage including the City’s building and parks, as well as some of the County buildings the City still picks up.

COUNCILMEMBER BLANCHARD

Blanchard reported he had attended the recent parks meeting. He would like the City to look at assisting with funds for the improvements Upper Valley Youth is doing at the ball fields. The City Clerk suggested having the Public Works Committee look at where funds could come out of the budget.

COUNCILMEMBER LOOMIS

Loomis asked that the City crews look at replacing the fire hydrants that need repaired as soon as possible as this can affect resident’s homeowner’s insurance rates.

SUPT. ANDERSEN

Andersen stated the City crew is trying to get things ready for activities coming up with the warmer weather.

POLICE CHIEF SMITH

Smith commented that there had been some scheduling and weather problems with getting the new decals on the police vehicles, but that it would be done as weather permits. He reported the Work Camp and done work to restore the firing range. He will be meeting with the Fremont County Sheriff to discuss future radio needs. The towers for the wireless system have been purchased for the department and for the sewer department, and he is looking at a company to come and look at the best places to put the towers.

He reported that graffiti in town seems to have increased. Councilmember Loomis suggested talking with the court and having offenders do community service. He has been discussed with the Sheriff the possibility of rejuvenating the drug task force.

He also gave a report on nuisance enforcement.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Attest:

Willard D. Beck, Mayor

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk-Treasurer