

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ST. ANTHONY CITY COUNCIL MEETING – May 14, 2008
CITY OF ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO
420 NORTH BRIDGE, ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Beck, Councilmembers Garth Rose, Dee Rausch, Woody Andersen, Bryan Stoddard and Elva Powell. Bryan Fullmer was excused.

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Bill Forsberg, Supt. of Public Works Scott Butigan, Police Chief Jim Smith, City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard, Parks and Rec Committee Chair Melissa Hinckley, Paul Scorseby and Paul Snarr of Schiess & Associates, concerned citizens, and news media.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Bryan Stoddard led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT: Chair Melissa Hinckley reported on recent and upcoming activities of the City's Parks and Recreation Committee. The Committee will have a booth set up for Fisherman's Breakfast to sell raffle tickets for a quilt fundraiser. Hinckley reviewed the equipment and loose fill to be purchased with the CHC grant funds and Rotary Club donation. They also have plans for a summer parks party on June 28th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with games, door prizes and food. They will finish planning the party at their meeting on the 4th. They will be putting out donation buckets with pictures of the playground equipment structure they would like to raise money for.

She reported the Chamber of Commerce had discussed with her the possibility of having the Farmer's Market at Horsey Park where there would be some shade. There are issues with the grass and sprinklers, as well as the park being already scheduled on Saturdays for the summer. Other locations were suggested with the Council recommending the Chamber use the City Hall parking lot if possible.

Hinckley also discussed with the Council the possibility of passing a fee resolution that would create use fees and generate some revenue for the use of the city parks. She also mentioned the committee would like to start holding some summer activities and charging a registration fee. Mayor Beck said this could be placed on a future agenda for discussion how much the different fees should be.

TREE REMOVAL IN KEEFER PARK: Hinckley explained to the Council the City had applied last fall for funding from Idaho Department of Lands to remove nine black willow trees in Keefer Park that had been shown to have center rot. The trees are near the playground equipment and along with the safety issues presented because the trees are rotted, they are also too close to the playground equipment. There should be six feet of space around the equipment for safety. The grant proposed replacing the trees after they were removed with six larger trees of different varieties. The City did not receive the grant, but the Parks & Rec Committee recommends moving ahead with the project

and getting the trees removed. The City crew has offered to try and take one of the trees out to see if it is something that can be done by the crew without contracting out the removal work.

Mayor Beck feels the work needs to be done and discussed improper pruning in the past that has caused the trees to rot. Councilmember Andersen discussed having a plan and maybe not taking them out all at once. He had concerns with removing that many trees at once and what was the plan to replace them. Councilmember Stoddard also agreed he would like to see a plan before a decision was made. The issue will be placed on the agenda for a future meeting for further discussion.

SLIDE REMOVAL: Melissa Hinckley and Mayor Beck discussed with the Council the playground slides that have been determined to be unsafe and the need to remove them from the parks. They will be replaced with newer, safer slides that have been funded through a grant and Rotary Club donation. A motion to removed the slides and declare them as excess and to sell them at a future meeting was made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BRIDGE STREET WATER PROJECT: Mayor Beck reported on a recent meeting with ITD officials on coordinating replacement of water lines on Bridge Street with next year's Bridge Street pavement project that will be done by ITD. Because of difficulties in coordinating and funding the water project the City will look into possibly moving the project to 1st East. If the City still decides to keep the water lines and project in Bridge Street then the state would have to postpone the paving for another year. Beck explained Schiess & Associates will review the water model and report to the Mayor and then a decision can be made in how to proceed.

CITY STREET IMPROVEMENTS: Paul Scorseby of Schiess & Associates introduced Paul Snarr, an engineer their company just hired to do road and street engineer work. He has worked for Bonneville County, ITD, and the City of Idaho Falls. He hopes to be able to serve the City through his expertise. Mayor Beck explained that he had already been spending some time looking at the City streets.

The Mayor reported on recent contractors he and Supt. Butigan met with to consult about city streets, and the City now has Paul Snarr looking at them. The will have some recommendations for the council in the future. The Mayor discussed the \$100,000 grant money that has been received to do work on 12th West. He announced on the 29th of May at 8:00 a.m. the City will have demonstration of an asphalt zipper which will come in and mill up 1,400 feet of asphalt on 12th West. It suggested it may be a piece of equipment that the City may want to look at purchasing if it can help with the streets. Councilmember Rose suggested a possible joint venture with Fremont County.

PUBLIC COMMENT TIME: Shane Kunz discussed recent parking enforcement by the City. He has concerns with the enforcement of parking cars in yards and with safety of people with all the cars being parked on the City streets. He also suggested making

sure there was an officer at the end of West Main with all the traffic from summer ball games at the ball fields.

Mayor Beck explained the law is not a parking ordinance, but a zoning ordinance, and is directed toward home values and appearances. It would require a change in the ordinance should any changes be discussed. Kunz commented that it appears to be a priority for the police department. Chief Smith explained it is not a top priority, but is the most visible and what people see. He also agreed to have more police presence at the ball fields on West Main as well as at the Stake Center.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET PROCEDURES: City Clerk-Treasurer Stoddard asked the Council how they would like to conduct preliminary budget procedures this year. She explained that in the past department heads have met with overseeing councilmembers and then after review by herself and the Mayor a budget was presented to the finance committee. The finance committee reviewed the proposed budget for any changes, and then made recommendation to the whole council, who would adopt the budget based on the finance committee's recommendation. Stoddard discussed with the Council that the budget could be done by the whole council together and not use the finance committee. It was agreed that was way the Council wished to proceed and all budget procedures after the department meetings will be conducted by the council as a whole.

COUNCIL LIASON APPOINTMENTS: The following liaison appointments were made by Mayor Beck. Andersen and Powell will serve as liaisons to the utility departments. Rausch will be liaison to the police department, as well as the animal/ordinance, and fire department. Bryan Stoddard will serve as liaison to the parks and recreation, and Councilmember Rose and Fullmer will serve as the street department liaisons. Mayor Beck will be liaison over buildings and the airport.

As a side note Mayor Beck mentioned he had met with Bill Statham of ITD Aeronautics and suggested the City needs to look at the users of the airport paying more of their share of the costs. It needs to be looked at seriously, and Statham said he would get a fee schedule of airports the same size.

DOG POUND PLANS: City resident Peggy Munk presented councilmember with a plan of what her group would like to see for a new dog pound. Mayor Beck mentioned a memorandum of understanding was worked on for the City to contract for animal control services for the City of Teton four hours twice a month and on call. The Mayor also clarified that the current dog pound is on city property where there is a canal easement. Munk asked if dog were considered city property after 72 hours. City Attorney Forsberg explained that no, the City makes no claim to ownership. It is only policing laws; it does not mean the City owns the animals. Licensing and fees were also discussed along with the possible needs to look at the fees charged for impounding animals, dog tags and licensing, and kennel license fees. Munk stated they would look at the facility and come up with a cost estimate.

GRAVEL PIT PROPERTY AUCTION: The Mayor reported he had received two realtor opinions on the value of the gravel pit property on the south side of the city. One was from Realty Qwest and the other from the Kunz's. Realty Qwest estimates the value at \$2,500 per acre or \$60,975.00, with the Kunz estimate being close to the same. The Council discussed what to set the minimum bid at with various pros and cons debated about whether to make it higher or lower. Councilmember Rose made a motion to set the minimum bid at \$100,000, 2nd, Rose and Stoddard in favor, all others opposed, motion failed. Councilmember Rausch made a motion to set it at \$85,000, motion died for lack of a 2nd. Councilmember Andersen made a motion to sell the property for \$75,000, 2nd, Powell and Andersen in favor, all others opposed, motion failed. Councilmember Rose made a motion to set the price at \$90,000, 2nd; all voted in favor, motion carried. The auction will tentatively scheduled for the 1st council meeting in June.

RECYCLING PROGRAM: Mayor Beck discussed the recycling program and bins the City tried a couple of years ago and discussed the benefits of the program. He reported he had talked with a couple of different entities about getting some bins. The City of Rexburg bought the bins and Barney's Towing and Recovery empties them for the cost of the recycled material. The Mayor doesn't know if the City is bound to go with the PSI, the current garbage contractor. There is money in the sanitation fund reserves to purchase the bins. The Mayor will get more information and bring a plan to the Council.

VFW POPPIES: Mayor Beck read a proclamation urging all citizens to purchase and wear a Buddy Poppy in gratitude of the men and women who have served in the country's military. The poppies will be distributed on at May 23rd at Fisherman's Breakfast.

MINUTES: Minutes from the April 9th Council meeting for Council approval. No changes were noted. Councilmember Rose made a motion to approve, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BILLS: Prior to approving the bills, the City Clerk added a bill for Jason Hunter for a sewer hook up that had been missed during the recent sewer project. It was the opinion of the Mayor and Supt. Butigan that the City pay half the cost because of the circumstances. Hunter feels half is fair. A motion to pay this bill along with the regular bills was made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. Another bill was presented by Mayor Beck for \$901.29 for some tin that was destroyed during snow removal at the airport. The City has typically not enforced clean up around the outside of the airport hangar even though it is City property. City Attorney Forsberg stated it was their trespass that caused the problem, and that the City shouldn't pay. Forsberg also stated the city could negotiate and explain their position, and meet half way. Councilmember Rose made a motion to deny the payment, 2nd, Rausch and Andersen opposed, all others in favor, motion carried.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS
DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

MAYOR BECK

Beck discussed with the Council whether they wanted to participate in the Pioneer Days parade with an entry. He will figure out what they could do for an entry and any that want to participate can.

The Mayor read an anonymous letter received from a resident down on the island and nuisance situations down there. He discussed the need to be more aggressive on the situation. Councilmember Rausch stressed that the City not discriminate and enforce the ordinances fairly upon everyone. City Attorney Forsberg discussed that the ordinance doesn't say clean property; it defines a nuisance as a danger to the health, morals and safety of the community. He stated that very specific things are violations, and that the City needs to be very specific when it says what the violations are. Councilmember Stoddard expressed concerns about where does it stop, and worries that the City may step over its bounds. Beck stated if the ordinance is on the books it needs to be enforced until it is changed.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSEN

Andersen reported the parking committee had met once to work on the parking ordinance. They are reviewing some material they have received. Due to work schedules of committee member they probably won't meet again until June.

COUNCILMEMBER RAUSCH

Rausch discussed a possible safety hazard at the old Riverside building. The Mayor will send the Chief over to look at it and see if a letter needs to be sent to the owner.

CITY ATTORNEY FORSBERG

Forsberg reported to the Council that the Planning and Zoning has a final draft of the comprehensive plan. A hearing on that has been scheduled for June 4th. The Council is allowed to come to the hearing, and he hopes to get some public comment. The Planning and Zoning Commission will then meet and decide if they will make any changes before recommending it to the City Council. The Council will then have to hold its own hearing.

A commercial subdivision plat just north of Springcreek Manor will come to the Council after review by the Planning and Zoning Commission. .

Forsberg reported in regards to the ongoing clean up effort that one of the most flagrant offenders has just gotten notice to clean up in next two weeks.

SUPT. BUTIGAN

Butigan reported he had talked with Scorseby and Snarr and will have some information on streets this week about possible chip seals and what are some things that could be

done this year, and see if that would be feasible. The Danco property legals are ready for the Mayor to review. The Mayor asked that be put on the agenda for next meeting.

CHIEF SMITH

Chief Smith reported they had a euthanasia inspection the 1st of May and have been issued a temporary certification, and Compliance Officer Rogers is signed up to take the class to get re-certified. Once they are operational then they will have something to inspect.

Smith also reported the house at 8th west & 4th North was burned down by the fire department and that the job went well.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Attest:

Willard D. Beck, Mayor

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk-Treasurer