

CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 18, 2008 – 5:00 P.M.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Councilmembers Woody Andersen, Bryan Fullmer, Garth Rose, Dee Rausch, Bryan Stoddard and Elva Powell.

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Bill Forsberg, Police Chief Jim Smith, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan, City Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, and approximately 22 Interested Citizens.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Garth Rose at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by April Baler, citizen and city employee.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion on Mayor Appointment – Council President Garth Rose introduced this topic and requested everyone interested in speaking about why they wanted to be appointed Mayor to draw a number to see who would speak in what order. Don Oram drew the number one and was the first to speak. Oram spoke saying it was a privilege to speak to the council. He said he would do the best job he could and work with the Council Members and Chief of Police and all the other organizations within the city. He said he had a couple of interests, those being the parking ordinance and the budget. He said that the budget was very important. He thought that cutting the budget was a good start. He was also interested in the curfew being enforced a little more. He thanked the Council Members saying they are doing a good job.

After Mr. Oram was finished the council members decided they would continue with all the candidates without asking any questions of any of them.

Garth Rose was next. Rose thanked the city attorney. He said he's been on the council for 11 years and has been a part of a lot of changes within the city. Some of those included the closure of the south gravel pit, the building of the skate park, moving the police department, dealing with the Department of Corrections, the current building the City now occupies, the sewer, as well as being involved with all the department heads and working with each and everyone one. He said he's involved with the Senior Center, Visitor's Center, Medical offices and the Library. He said he would involve the current council more in the future and would try to heal the division going on in the city with the ongoing parking problems and ticket problems. He thought it was something he could deal with. He's raised his family here and has lived here his whole life and would like to make this town a place where people could be proud to live in.

Will Rhea was next. Rhea spoke about some of his involvements as former Chamber of Commerce President and working many community projects. He said he supports Garth Rose as Mayor. He said he is a "uniter" not a divider and agrees with the council that the

council members legislate and that the Mayor administrates. He said that he could do better as the mayor.

Woody Andersen was next. Andersen said his term as a council member will go another three years. He moved here in 1972 and has worked for the city since 1977, retiring in 2007. In the 30 years he's worked for the city he's worked in the maintenance department and eventually became Superintendent of Public Works. He's been involved in the budgeting process for all departments except for the Police and Administration budget. He said he's been involved in a lot of projects. He explained the reason he ran for council was he felt that he should provide his services from his 30 years of experience being employed by the city. He said he would be honored to serve as Mayor, if chosen.

L. Scott Kamachi was next. Kamachi was not personally available as he had a prior catering engagement to attend to and so had a person read a statement that he had prepared. In his statement he said that no one informed him that there was a meeting tonight that he was to speak at. He said he wants to be selected as mayor only because so many citizens have requested him to. His resume was read. He was and is a member of many different boards, committees and organizations. He says he is painfully blunt and explained that in the last election that all the incumbents were replaced because people do not agree to what is going on. His statement went on to say that people expect change. He said the council needs to do the job they were elected to do. He said each council member should be assigned a department and be responsible for it and that department's budget. He said there needed to be the reestablishment of a dedicated fund structure to better manage funds. He said there should be the formation of committees that would include people that are affected, so that they would play a bigger part. He said that the largest portions of complaints are about the Police Department. He said that the council needs to look at why and make some changes.

Richard Brotzman was last. He said the reason he wants to be Mayor is because everyone already knows he has a thankless job and so it would be easy to be Mayor. He would like to change things and give kids something to do. He said he commends all the council members for what they do. He said there is a parking problem and that he's ready to stick his neck out to help the city. He agrees with Woody Andersen and Garth Rose and says he doesn't have an axe to grind. He said the Chief is an all right guy that had a bad start. He then thanked the council.

Council President Rose then said that they would go into executive session but wanted to wait until after hearing from Neils Thueson about the Airport Board.

Airport Board recommendation – A list was provided to the council members on suggestions for additional members to the Airport Board. Council President Rose thought it would be a good idea to have a council member on the board but would wait until a new Mayor was appointed. Rose asked for Thueson's opinion on who should be added. There is no maximum or minimum number specified that has to be on the board. City Attorney Bill Forsberg said all four suggested, Rod Willmore, Jim Willmore, Jerry Cain and Scott Butigan, could be appointed. Thueson said that he has spoken to all of them and

they are all willing to serve. A motion to appoint all, Rod Willmore, Jim Willmore, Jerry Cain and Scott Butigan, to serve on the Airport Board was made by Councilmember Andersen. Councilmember Fullmer seconded. All councilmembers approved. Rose asked Thueson to contact all Board Members and let them know they have been appointed. Thueson said he would.

At 5:24 p.m. Councilmember Stoddard made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to provisions of Idaho Code 67-2345, subsection 1(b). Councilmember Anderson seconded with a roll call vote as follows: Councilmembers Powell, yes; Rausch, yes; Andersen, yes; Rose, yes; Fullmer, no; Stoddard, yes. Motion passed by majority, 5-1. Fullmer said he voted no since he didn't know the reason for going into executive session.

At 5:46 the council members returned from executive session.

Council President Rose reported that although they went into executive session they did not discuss a single person being considered for appointment to Mayor. He then requested the council to begin discussion of a Mayor appointment. Rose asked for Councilmember Rausch's opinion of the candidates. Rausch said that Andersen has 30 years with the city and has done an excellent job. She said that Rose has led us through tough times and done a good job at that. She said that Kamachi had a lot of positive credentials and she liked his resume.

Councilmember Powell agreed with Rausch. Powell said Andersen has done a good job and so has Rose. Kamachi also has some experience as a council member.

Councilmember Stoddard said this was a tough decision and heard from qualified candidates that would all do a good job. He said, for him, it came down to what the founding fathers talked about in succession to their jobs. The council originally voted on a Council President to fill in if ever there was a need, should the Mayor be unable to do his duty. He thought that each council member seriously considered how they first came to decide on a council president and that he would be looking at things that way.

Councilmember Fullmer then requested to open the table for nominations.

Councilmember Andersen said that he appreciates the input they had from the public in choosing a mayor to appoint and those that volunteered to take on that responsibility. He continued by saying that many times the job is thankless and those that volunteer only want to make the city better and that the only way to do that is through the willingness of those wanting to serve.

Council President Rose thanked all those that spoke and felt any one of them could handle the job. He continued by saying that the Mayor is only as good as the six council members that are serving with you. He stated that the Mayor administrates and the council legislates. He commented on the good jobs that David Loomis and Richard Brotzman have done. He said the same about Don Oram and Will Rhea. He said that

Kamachi was a good council person and served the city well during his term. He also said that he has known Woody Andersen for a lot of years and that he does a good job as well. He also said that he felt that he's done a good job as well. Rose then went on to thank the City Clerk and City Attorney.

Councilmember Rausch then spoke saying that since she is the senior council person she would make a motion to nominate Garth Rose to be appointed as the Mayor of St. Anthony. Councilmember Andersen seconded with a roll call vote as follows; Fullmer, no; Powell, no; Stoddard, yes; Rausch, yes; Andersen, yes; Rose, abstained. Motion passed 3-2 with one abstaining. Rose was appointed Mayor.

Council President Rose requested a five minute break at 5:57 p.m.

Council President Rose brought the council back into session at 6:10 p.m.

Budget Review – Council President Rose indicated that there are many state budget cuts being made. The Clerk then went over some numbers regarding insurance increases and some state revenues being cut to about six or seven percent. Councilmembers discussed the new temporary employee for the Police Department, which is already short staffed at only five police officers, down from eight a few years ago. As a full time temporary police officer the City would be saving on benefits. Council feels it's important to have enough police officers to maintain safety within the City. Chief Smith says one officer is going to POST for training for 12 weeks, leaving them with only four police officers. The newest temporary employee is willing to work full time and wants to be considered for full time employment if possible. Currently the Chief of Police is covering for any sick police officers. Councilmember Fullmer thinks that each department head should come up with a plan on how they can hold back on their budget. Rose said that he will be making immediate appointments with council members to determine which council member will be a liaison to each department head to look at the budget and expenditures.

Council President Rose wants to appoint a finance committee of three people as well as three to a personnel committee.

Councilmember Powell would like to place changing the regular meetings to another date on the next council agenda.

Councilmember Rausch would like to request that the Chief of Police clear all financial decisions with the mayor. Council discussed freezing the budget. Councilmember Andersen proposed having the department heads cut spending seven to eight percent before making any decisions about freezing the budget. Andersen also talked about holding the budget back until June by not spending on any major purchases, like they used to do years ago, when the county tax funds would then be in. Rausch wondered if employees' hours need to be cut back, and who would be making those kinds of decisions. Rose said that the Mayor would do that sort of thing, but in the future he wouldn't do that without council's approval first. Council members discussed the possibility of first cutting services versus employees. Councilmember Fullmer thought that

a good example was plowing the sidewalks in the downtown area. There was some discussion on what things could be eliminated. A motion to freeze all purchases of capital expenditures was made by Fullmer. Councilmember Powell seconded. All councilmembers were in favor. Chief said that there are some obligated funds, like the police car. PWS asked about the grader with the bad transmission. Council members discussed a past policy that the councilmember liaison of the department would review what was spent over \$500 before it could be spent. Fullmer said the city needs to be really careful about knowing what revenues will be coming in. A motion to authorize the PWS to spend up to \$7000 to repair the road grader using the current budget was made by Fullmer. Councilmember Stoddard seconded. All council members approved except for Powell. Motion passed 4-1.

Chief wanted to know the definition of a capital expenditure. Councilmember Fullmer said guns, weapons, and vests. Councilmember Rausch would like a roster sheet of what councilmember would be in charge of what department.

Councilmember Andersen would like the department heads to work on a percentage to look at to cut and the council needs to set a percentage. Andersen thinks eight percent is a good place to start. A motion to have the department heads cut 10 percent of the budget was made by Andersen. Councilmember Fullmer seconded. All council members were favor. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to amend the previous motion regarding capital expenditures to be a \$500 limit was made by Councilmember Stoddard. Councilmember Powell seconded. Councilmembers discussed. A motion to amend the previous motion was made by Councilmember Stoddard that would require a form signed by the council member liaison and Mayor on any expenditure over \$500. Powell seconded. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

PWS asked who was what department liaison. Council President Rose said until the liaisons are assigned the department heads are to go to the Mayor for approvals.

Councilmember Rausch made a request to be relieved from the board of ECIPDA, as she's been on it for three years.

Councilmember Fullmer requested clarification if the council is to handle the budget and make the decisions. Council President Rose said he would be making the decisions until the department liaisons are assigned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS -

The City Clerk asked about placing snow removal information on the web site to try and inform people of how and when snow removal takes place. The Clerk provided a letter from a citizen with ideas on informing citizens of snow removal. The current snow

removal policy is to wait until there are three or more inches of snow and to begin after 9 p.m.

The PWS asked about making a capitol expenditure for the problems at the lift station. The City is still waiting to see if insurance will cover the costs, currently estimated at \$12,000.

The Chief of Police reported receiving \$5000 for the crashed Impala and that the department is using a really old car with 132,000 miles on. The full time employee hire will be deferred until a later time. No interviews have been done. The Chief also asked about the K-9 situation with the City of Teton and providing dog patrol. Teton has not paid for these services. Council President said that we should do away with the program.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS –

Councilmember Powell wanted to know about the piles of snow in the center of the streets and if they would be removed anytime soon. She was concerned about the safety of vehicles traveling down the streets. Council President Rose wanted to know if she had any suggestions. She suggested trying and getting on the good side of the county commissioners to see if they could help us out. The PWS was open to any other suggestions for putting the snow anywhere else.

Councilmember Anderson would like to place on the agenda the consideration for replacement of Councilmember Rose. Council President Rose would like to have nominations the first meeting and appoint on the second meeting of January any possible new council members.

Council President Rose said that he thinks he can work better with the county commissioners and wanted council's approval to meet with the County Commissioners. Rose would then report back at the next council meeting.

Councilmember Fullmer suggested using the two new patrol cars, one for day shift and one for night shift, and to use the older patrol cars for the officers to take home. Councilmember Stoddard then asked if it was necessary for the police vehicles to be taken home to officers' residences outside of the city. Stoddard requested this topic to be on the next agenda.

At 7:24 p.m. Councilmember Stoddard made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to provisions of Idaho Code 67-2345, subsection 1(b). Councilmember Fullmer seconded with a roll call vote as follows: Councilmembers Powell, yes; Rausch, yes; Andersen, yes; Rose, yes; Fullmer, yes; Stoddard, yes. Motion passed by majority, 6-0.

At 7:52 p.m. Council President Garth Rose called the regular meeting back into session.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. by Council President Garth Rose.

Attest:

Garth Rose, Council President

Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer