

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – January 13, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

PRESENT: Mayor Garth Rose, Mayor Neils Thueson, Councilmembers Bryant Biorn, Elva Powell, Woody Andersen, Suzanne Bagley, Bryan Stoddard and Rod Willmore.

ABSENT: Councilmember Bryan Fullmer.

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Bill Forsberg, Police Chief Jim Smith, City Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan and approximately 60 interested citizens.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rose at 7:00 p.m.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Kay Biorn.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Mayor and Council. After several questions which were satisfactorily answered by staff, a motion to pay the invoices and claims was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Powell. All council members were in favor. Motion passed.

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2009, Special Council Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2009, Special Council County Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2009 and Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2009 were presented to Mayor and Council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2009, Special Council Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2009, Special Council County Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2009 and Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2009 was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Andersen. All council members were in favor. Motion passed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Swearing-In of newly elected officials - Clerk Parkinson completed the swearing in of the newly elected officials, Neils Thueson as Mayor, Suzanne Bagley, Bryant Biorn and Rod Willmore as Council Members. Outgoing Mayor Rose thanked the members of council and city staff for all their support and work during his term.

Presentation of Certificates – Clerk Parkinson presented each newly elected member with a certificate of election. Parkinson also presented Mayor Thueson with a gavel.

Presentation of Awards – Clerk Parkinson presented the outgoing members, Mayor Rose and Councilmember Bryan Fullmer with a service award.

Elect President of the Council – Mayor Thueson’s first order of business was to request nominations for Council President. Councilmember Andersen nominated Councilmember Biorn. Councilmember Stoddard seconded that nomination. Councilmember Willmore

nominated Councilmember Andersen. Councilmember Bagley seconded that nomination. A motion to cease the nominations was made by Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Powell. Mayor Thueson asked for the members voting for Biorn. There were three votes in favor of Biorn; made by Andersen, Powell and Stoddard. Mayor Thueson asked for the members voting for Andersen. There were three votes in favor of Anderson; made by Bagley, Biorn and Willmore. The vote was tied 3-3. Mayor Thueson broke the tie by voting for Andersen. Councilmember Andersen became the elected President of the Council, 4-3.

State of the City Address Mayor Thueson – Thueson began by saying what a great town the City of St. Anthony is. Thueson said he has lived here for over 40 years and wouldn't want to live anywhere else. He said he would like to recognize Mayor Rose and Councilmember Bryan Fullmer for serving the city well. They need to be commended for doing a good job. Thueson said he feels like he has some big shoes to fill. He also wanted to recognize the city employees. It's a tough job and the employees need to recognize who we work for and to always remember that we work for the citizens of the city of St. Anthony. Thueson said it is important to remember that we are spending the citizens' money and to spend it wisely. Thueson said that he will do his very best to represent the citizens. Thueson then challenged the city residents, hoping that they are all as proud of the city of St. Anthony as he is. He continued by saying that we need to relay that message to other people, by inviting people to come and visit the city. We have a small town atmosphere and hope that we can keep it that way. Thueson challenged the citizens to volunteer for something, to the many boards or other ways to serve. Thueson recognized those that serve, as they serve without pay.

Thueson reported on several projects the city is currently undertaking. The South Side Wastewater Collection System is underway. This is the third stage of the sewer system and this will complete the sewer project. This will serve the city for many, many years. There is the East Main Street Project. This is from President Obama's stimulus money. This project is funded through that money and is currently underway and in its preliminary stages. The West Main Project is a grant for Main Street on the other side of Bridge Street. It will go forward in the next two years. The city has also made application for the bridge on 12th Street at the end of West Main. The bridge needs to be widened and the approaches will be slightly changed. It will complement the West Main Street Project when finished. Thueson said he would like to see an ongoing program of streets being reconditioned. He said he would like to start this year by chip and sealing some streets. The county has volunteered to assist the city with this project. This is all contingent on revenue. Currently the city's revenue is about the same this year, in this quarter, as it was last year. It's in the second quarter that we really will be able to tell where we are going. We really need to watch the revenue to make sure we can fund the proposed budgets.

Thueson said the city also has a real good web site and invites the public to use that web site as much as possible and make suggestions. Thueson said his phone number is open to any body to call anytime. Thueson reported that Councilmember Biorn has volunteered to work that web site.

10 minute Break – Mayor Thueson adjourned the meeting for a 10 minute break.

Council Assignments and Committee Member Rosters – Mayor Thueson gave council a list of assignments. Councilmember Andersen: Finance Committee, Road and Street Budget and Liaison, Water Budget and Liaison, Lions Club Liaison. Councilmember Bagley: Police Budget and Liaison, Police Grants, Animal Budget and Liaison and Chamber of Commerce Liaison. Councilmember Biorn: Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Fire Budget and Liaison and St. Anthony Web Site. Councilmember Powell: Personnel Committee, Building & Property Budget and Sanitation Budget and Liaison. Councilmember Stoddard: Finance Committee, Parks & Rec. Budget and Liaison, Playground Equipment Budget and Planning & Zoning Liaison. Councilmember Willmore: Personnel Committee, Sewer Budget and Liaison, Airport Budget and Liaison. Mayor Thueson also reported on all the members of the different boards and Committees. Planning and Zoning Members: Evan Tibbets (Chair), Bill Butterfield (Vice Chair), Ray Voss, Angie Fadness, Cyril Burt, Jim Hobbs, David Atkinson, George Wieg and Wendel Greenhaigh. Representing the city are Attorney Forsberg and Councilmember Stoddard. Airport Board: Joe Thueson (Chair), Neil Shupe, Dee Young, Jim Willmore and Bryan Bartschi. Representing the city and county are Jerry Cain (Airport Manager), Councilmember Willmore, Public Works Superintendent Butigan and County Commissioner Paul Romrell. Parks and Recreation Committee: Melissa Hinckley (Chair), Jim Hunter and Toni Crapo. Representing the city are Councilmember Stoddard, PWS Butigan and Ken Biorn (Parks Department).

Appointment of new Parks & Recreation Member (Phillip Damon) – Mayor Thueson appointed Philip Damon of 130 South 12th West to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Council confirmed the Mayor’s appointment by all approving. Damon said it is an honor to serve.

Appointment of new Planning & Zoning Member (Reid Ellis) – Mayor Thueson appointed Reid Ellis of 249 Georgetown Drive, Rexburg to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Ellis will be the one member of the board that is a non-resident member. Ellis owns and operates a business called the Wooden Nickel on Main Street of St. Anthony. Council confirmed the Mayor’s appointment by all approving.

Chamber of Commerce / Flower Discussion (Sherrie Jackson) – Jackson introduced herself as outgoing Chamber of Commerce President and introduced Cathy Koon as incoming Chamber of Commerce President. Jackson reported the community is concerned about the cut of the flower budget, and as Chamber President they set up an account at the Bank of Idaho for donations to see how many people were willing to support the flowers. They currently have over \$3500 in the account. They have enough money for the flowers and will be working with North Fork Nursery to order the flower seed this month. Karen Valenta (past city employee) has worked closely with the Chamber to come up with the costs of the project, projecting a \$13,000 budget. Jackson said they would like to continue to see Valenta work with the Chamber on the flower project. Jackson said in their project budget they think that could happen. Jackson provided a breakdown of the project costs. The Chamber is asking the county for their support and is also requesting \$4000 from the city, asking them to think about it, with no decision at this time. This will be an ongoing, every year progression with looking towards grants and other fund raising activities through the Chamber. Koon said that the Chamber Board met

last week with Mayor Thueson and talked about the creation of a volunteer organization and or other groups that would be willing to assist planting, watering and weeding. Koon spoke in favor of the importance of the flowers to the community of St. Anthony.

Councilmember Biorn said that the Finance Committee made this cut from the budget and it was very difficult, hoping that the community would step up and take on the project. Biorn said it appears as though that is happening and he supports their efforts and leadership. Koon asked that the city continue to be involved by watering or fertilizing or anything that the city can do. The county has \$7000 set aside for economic development and they would like to ask the county for their help or ask the city to ask the county for their help. Koon said they would like to set up Memorial Beds for anyone that might be interested in sponsoring a flower bed. Biorn asked if council members Andersen and Stoddard would want to add this item to the Finance Committee Agenda. Biorn asked Clerk Parkinson to add it to the next Finance Committee agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment. Mrs. Damon said that when her husband retired she said that the flowers were instrumental in their decision to settle in St. Anthony.

Herb Hayworth, 1005 South 1st East, said that the last couple of years the snow hasn't been getting plowed down 10th south. Hayworth said he went through a "couple of channels" and has ended up here. PWS Butigan said this is the first he has heard of it. Butigan said he would speak to his crews and get back to Hayworth.

Audit Review / Scott Bond of Rudd & Company – Scott Bond, of Rudd & Company, provided a copy of the audit to each council member. Rudd & Company is issuing an unqualified opinion or a clean opinion. Bond said that is as good as you are going to get. Bond pointed out that the city has improved its financial position from the previous year from a deficit of \$21,900 to a gain of \$36,800. Bond also reviewed the utility funds. All of those funds are in the black. Bond appreciated having the full Finance Committee at the preliminary meeting. A motion to accept the audit was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Powell. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

Change council meeting dates – Ordinance – Clerk Parkinson read the ordinance. Mayor Thueson said that moving the meeting eliminates many conflicts with other meetings within the city. A motion to suspend the rules of reading the ordinance to change council meeting dates on three separate days and to read by title only was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Stoddard. A role call vote followed with Councilmembers Bagley, yes; Powell, yes; Andersen, yes; Biorn, yes; Stoddard, yes and Willmore, yes. Motion passed 6-0. Parkinson read by title only. A motion to adopt Ordinance 2010-1 to change council meeting dates was made by Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. Mayor Thueson asked for discussion. Councilmember Stoddard commented on the estimated costs and appreciated that the costs and purpose was attached. A role call vote followed with Councilmembers Bagley, yes; Powell, yes; Andersen, yes; Biorn, yes; Stoddard, yes and Willmore, yes. Motion carried 6-0. Clerk Parkinson will publish as soon as possible. It should be published within the next week, allowing for the next meeting to take place on a Thursday.

Review High Country Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Plan –

Councilmember Andersen said this plan was presented at the last RC&D meeting. They needed long range goals and consistency in what they are doing and to draw support of the public. This has since been done. Councilmember Biorn said he has not received any public comment and no other council member said that they had received any public comment. Andersen requested that the city council adopt and support this plan. Councilmember Stoddard said the obligation to the city is none. Andersen confirmed there is no monetary obligation. Biorn reported this is the organization that the city committed to for cloud seeding. Andersen said they do a lot of grant writing to obtain funds for different projects for cities in our area. Mayor Thueson said that he spoke to County Commissioner Romrell and said that Romrell is on the board of the RC&D and they write grants and can help the city write grants. They do charge for the grant writing, but usually include that in the grant they write. Attorney Forsberg said he has read the plan and recommends the city adopt a resolution in support of the adoption of the plan. A motion to adopt a resolution in support of the adoption of the plan was made by Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. A roll call vote followed with Councilmembers Bagley, yes; Powell, yes; Andersen, yes; Biorn, yes; Stoddard, yes and Willmore, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Prior Payment Approval list – Clerk Parkinson provided council with a list of regular bills paid by the city, i.e. payroll, insurances, utilities, phones, employee per diems and etcetera for review. These bills are regular purchases authorized and within the budget set and approved by the city council. A motion to approve the regular bill list was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

Revised Annual Road and Street Financial Report – Clerk Parkinson explained the last Road and Street Report approved by the council has since had a correction in relation to the annual audit. Parkinson requested council to review the revised report and approve. A motion to accept the revised annual road and street financial report was made by Councilmember Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

Alleyway between the County Annex building and the Sahl apartments / closure – Attorney Forsberg presented a copy of an email from Joette Lookabaugh regarding the alley that runs behind the county's annex building between 1st and 2nd North. It is a very narrow alleyway. Hunter's Drug uses that alley as well as many others. A vehicle bumped the power box in the alley and the county wants to know if the city will close the alley. PWS Butigan said that the alley was deeded to the city around 1920. If this alley was closed then trucks making deliveries would have to block Main Street to load or unload. The Sahl Apartments is along this alley and snow from the building roof will slide down into the alley, causing it to be slick with snow and ice. In the summer there doesn't seem to be a problem. Mayor Thueson didn't know if we should close the alley because of one truck driver's accident. Councilmember Biorn asked a question about the power. Butigan said that the power or junction box is permanent there and they could place a steel post in front of it as protection to the box. Biorn asked about placing signage that there is a narrow alley with a steep incline. Butigan said this could be a problem in any alley. The

city runs the loader down that street, but when snow comes off the roof there is a build up of ice that can happen. There are electrical overhead and sewer lines run down under that alley. Andersen suggested that there are just certain times of the year that this happens that maybe between the county and the city they watch the ice and then just barricade it during the time it's unsafe. Biorn said that council discussed the Sandbar Park and how people that use it bear a certain amount of responsibility and that this would be no different, where drivers have a certain amount of responsibility when driving. Jim Hobbs, citizen, said that a responsible truck driver should make the judgment and the city shouldn't be moving barricades in and out of alleys. Mayor Thueson said that it should be up to the driver. The driver usually isn't a stranger to the alley and may have to load or unload on Main Street if it's not possible to park in the alleyway. A motion to not close the alleyway and to give Attorney Forsberg permission to contact the county regarding their request as denied was made Councilmember Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0. Forsberg will follow up with the county.

Employee Insurance Discussion – Clerk Parkinson reported that the medical insurance for the city employees has come up for renewal. Parkinson sent a letter to the local insurance agencies in the city requesting a quote. One insurance agent responded and said that he was unable to do any better than our current agent, Ballard Insurance. At this time it is not feasible, under the current budget, to provide the employees with a plan that resembled what the county is offering their employees. Insurance rates did go up 12% per employee from last year. Regence Blue Shield of Idaho is our current medical insurance and the city pays fully for the employee only. Councilmember Stoddard said that the Finance Committee seriously looked long and hard at getting together with the county and it's just not plausible at this time. It also has to do with the limited number of employees that the city has, making it impossible to provide a program similar to the county's. Stoddard said the Finance Committee stressed the importance of putting the bid out to local businesses and only received one bid back and that company was unable to compete.

MAYOR, COUNCIL & DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Smith reported on the number of calls the police department has handled from the first of the year to today. Mayor Thueson asked the chief for this report as there are residents that wonder what the police department does. Councilmember Biorn said he appreciates the report and he would like it available in summary form to post on the web site. Smith said he would provide it. Smith said there have been two officers out sick, but one is back. Smith said that the air card (used on the computers to obtain access to computer programs on the laptops) has been tested and it works everywhere in the city. Smith is still studying the air card to see how it works. Councilmember Stoddard said the Police Department wanted four air cards and it was a recommendation from the Finance Committee to get one to see if it works before making the larger purchase. Mayor Thueson asked if the bar fights Smith reported on earlier are coming from the same bar. Smith said all but one was the same bar and there is a provision through Idaho Alcohol Beverage Control to report on these types of matters.

PWS Butigan reported that another light pole has been damaged during a hit and run crash. The person was found and they do have insurance, but it will probably be spring

before it can be repaired. Butigan reported the city shop has been insulated. The billing last year at this time for gas to heat the shop was \$3027. Since insulating, this month the bill was \$1600. It cost \$2400 to insulate. The windows were also insulated in the front. Butigan said the East Main Project has been bid and the city should be getting notification from the state. The bid came in at around \$453,000. The city was awarded a \$360,000 grant. So the bid came in over the expected costs and grant award. The city can look at reducing the scope of the project down in order to make it within the grant amount. The city needs to contact the state before moving forward and make a request for a change order after we are notified. Schiess & Associates are finished with the project and from here on out it goes to the state for their review.

Attorney Forsberg said with new incoming council members he would like to present a special session to review a number of issues relating to open meetings, law enforcement issues, public record information, etc. February is a good month for doing something like this and Forsberg will check with the Clerk to make arrangements for a special meeting.

Clerk Parkinson reported on an invitation to the council members for a Horticulture Expo and City Forester's Meeting scheduled for January 20-22 in Boise. There is also an Association of Idaho Cities City Officials Day at the Capitol on Thursday, January 28, 2010. Parkinson included in the council's packet a thank you letter from Lora Liegel, a Social Science Graduate Student from Humboldt State University, for the city's cooperation in her graduate study of water use issues. Also, included in the council's packet was the 2009 Annual Report from the Idaho Association of Area Agencies on Aging. Parkinson also reported on a company soliciting the city for payment processing solutions. The city hasn't had many requests for these services, but may want to review again if there are additional requests. A request was placed in water bills a little over a year ago to see if the community had any interest in this type of service. The city received about six positive responses.

Sherrie Jackson (past Chair of the Chamber of Commerce) said the Chamber will be having their annual banquet on February 13, 2010. Councilmember Stoddard asked the clerk to put information about the banquet on the marquee.

Councilmember Willmore reported on the Airport Board meeting and that a new chair was elected, Joe Thueson. They are trying to find one non user of the airport to be on the board. County Commissioner Paul Romrell was there and there was a discussion of how the county can help us. One thought was to give the airport over to the county. This may be something the Airport Board recommends to the council in a future meeting. The airport is in need of the ability to provide to hangar owners utilities. Services are very limited. Some would like sewers so they can have restrooms in their hangars. Jerry Cain, Airport Manager, believes that he may have sold the VASI (Visual Approach Slope Indicator) lights. He may need assistance tomorrow to load. Butigan said he would assist with the loading. Councilmember Stoddard wanted to know how the county is distributing the tax money on the hangars. Willmore said that hasn't been pursued and he said he would follow up on that. Willmore said that the hangar owners are being taxed by the county as personal property tax, where some of the money is given to the city and some is held by the county. Willmore said that the Airport Board needs to look at that during budget time next year and review how funds are being distributed once received from the county.

Councilmember Stoddard said that in the past week the Police Department has two officers that have been out sick. Stoddard recommends a reserve program. Chief Smith said that a reserve officer still needs to have an officer on duty to patrol with them. Stoddard recommends that the new police liaison look at working with the county when the department is down officers for coverage. Smith said that the city could obtain a deputy at \$15 per hour, depending on county availability. Mayor Thueson asked Smith to look into it to make sure the city has coverage. Stoddard asked about the water testing problem reported. Butigan reported that the city had a hit on the water and when this happens the water sampling should have had five samples instead of four. Stoddard requested that when this happens that council be notified if it should ever occur again.

Councilmember Powell thanked Garth Rose for serving as the Mayor for the last two years. She said she thought he was a really good Mayor.

Councilmember Andersen said he met with the Chamber of Commerce and they talked about the flowers and Arbor Day memberships. The banquet tickets are about \$50 per couple. Anything over the cost of the dinner will go towards the Chamber. Andersen enjoyed working with the chamber. Mayor Thueson said he would like to see some seal coating to the streets and after talking to County Commissioner Romrell, now is the time to buy oil. Mayor Thueson asked that Andersen check into that to see what that might cost.

Councilmember Biorn reported on the Fire District. A bill was submitted to the city to pay the volunteers for their time in the city. There wasn't a lot of detail on the bill and the bill was returned to the district for additional detail. Biorn will be meeting with the board of directors to begin budget negotiations with the fire district. Biorn also reported the city web site links to a secure council only web page and with the changing of the council members there will be a new password which will go out by email next week.

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

Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:

Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer