

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGUALR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.*

420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Woody Andersen.

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

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

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Councilmember Powell.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Knife River Construction (Steve Kirkman) noise ordinance during Bridge Street Repair – Jason Steward, a representative from Knife River Construction, wanted to know if the city had a noise ordinance. Steward said they would like to be able to grind at night in order to speed up the process of the work needed on Bridge Street. Attorney Forsberg said there are a couple of ordinances which may apply. The first is a nuisance ordinance encompassing activity which would disturb the peaceful enjoyment of people's property. There is also disturbing the peace, which really isn't intended for something like this. Mayor Thueson said the city wants them to complete the work as quickly as possible. Councilmember Biorn said there is a code saying there is a limit on noise from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. Forsberg wasn't aware of that code. Steward would like to have the ability to work non-stop throughout the day in order to get the job done quickly. Steward believes they can get Bridge Street done in about a week if they can work non-stop. Mayor Thueson said he is in favor of allowing them work up until such a time a citizen may complain. Steward said if complaints are received then they'll look at doing something different. Councilmember Willmore thought the council could try to let the citizens know in advance, either in the news media or by the city newsletter, so they are prepared for the construction work. Steward said they would even put out flyers in advance to forewarn of the noise and any parking issues. Wade Allen, of Idaho Transportation Department, asked what criteria will be used for shutting down the work. Attorney Forsberg said it will be something Mayor Thueson will make a decision on. Mayor Thueson said he will visit with any person complaining. Chief Smith said often times those complaints will come through the police department and they will personally visit each complainant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Hobbs, 625 Park Street, came to discuss the Skate Park. Hobbs reminded council the Skate Park was created in 1983 for the community. However, there is an ongoing problem with a certain group of individuals, using foul language, bullying, vulgar music, graffiti, trash they leave behind, and spinning of their wheels leaving gravel on the skating

area. Hobbs said he tried to leave a message with Melissa Hinckley, Chair of Parks and Recreation Committee, and received no response. He said the police department has been very helpful and responsive to his complaints. Hobbs has spent between 50 to 60 hours there. Hobbs would like to see a letter in the water bill to encourage people with children to enjoy the park and to participate in keeping the Skate Park a nice place for everyone to enjoy. Hobbs asked if a reserve type policing program could be started. He said the park is a very important part of the community. He thanked the council for listening. Councilmember Stoddard said he would be bringing this item up at the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. Chief Smith said there are more than local kids using the park. Chief said a park monitor would be useful, but is something not budgeted for. Hobbs asked about placing cameras in the park. Stoddard asked if the youth government at the schools might want to become involved. They could assist in distributing the message to other youths. Mayor Thueson asked Stoddard to write something up for the newsletter. Councilmember Powell said other communities have a program called Citizens on Patrol and when they see something they just call the police department for assistance. Councilmember Bagley asked about a Neighborhood Watch program. Mayor Thueson thought all of these things are good ideas. Hobbs wanted to know if some of the millings from Bridge Street can be used at the park's edge so kids can't spin their wheels through the gravel. PWS Butigan said he would try to measure the area and include it in the total and see what can be done. Hobbs also mentioned "cyber" bullying and asked council to be aware of what is going on with our children and their computer activity.

GENERAL BUSINESS continued

Richard Reboiro appointment to Parks & Recreation – Mayor Thueson appointed Richard Reboiro to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Councilmember Stoddard said he will be a welcome addition to the committee.

Arbor Day Proclamation – Clerk Parkinson reported on applying for the annual Arbor Day Grant, explaining Arbor Day will be celebrated Friday, April, 30, 2010. Trees will be purchased and planted in one of the city's parks and 100 blue spruce seedlings have been ordered and will be given away to the first graders of Henry's Fork Elementary School. A combined celebration with the school will take place on April 30th. Mayor Thueson will be a guest speaker. Mayor Thueson signed the Arbor Day Proclamation.

Fire Department report (Biorn & Forsberg) – Councilmember Biorn reported it was discovered the volunteers were incorporated, leaving them exposed, to some degree, to potential liability. The volunteers have since dissolved their corporation and they can now proceed to fight fires in the city, having the appropriate liability insurance. The volunteers are now under the direction of the South Fremont Fire District. The Fire District Commissioners meeting was held last night. Biorn reported Fire District Chair Bob Fisher outline some of his concerns of annexing the city into the fire district. Those concerns were response time to fires as they fall outside of the city limits due to the need for the trucks brakes to air up and they feel having a manned station is of great benefit to those outside the city limits. Biorn reported speaking to people who know about these things and said he thought devices could be purchased to keep the air in the trucks. The people working there are more than dispatchers, they also maintain the equipment, keep air in the trucks, clean up after a fire and put the equipment away. There seems to be a need, in

part, for an employee to do these chores. Another area of concern was unemployment benefits, should the dispatchers be laid off. The five dispatchers are currently city employees and so they would be eligible for unemployment benefits. Biorn suggested if they feel the need to employ someone, they could do like the Clerk's office did hiring two part time people, thereby saving the city costs of benefits. Biorn thought if the city is annexed into the district the city should then allow the district to run their fire department the way they want. All the city is asking for is for their citizens to be treated the same as other members of the district. Biorn is still optimistic the district will proceed with the annexation and any ideas to help encourage them would be appreciated. Biorn said it appears the city's fire truck needs some repair and the foam regulator system somehow froze and a window in the display unit is broke. This may cost from \$300 to \$3500 to repair. They did replace the batteries for the trucks this last week. Biorn said he would like to pay the last billing from the volunteers and then the next billing be itemized and presented with invoices showing payment. Councilmember Willmore would like to see one full time employee, as one person will be better acquainted with the vehicles. Willmore said keeping the air up shouldn't be a problem as long as it's maintained and it is not necessary to start the vehicles up every day. The ambulance shed plugs in their vehicles, which maintains the batteries and all the necessary systems, without a person having to be there. Mayor Thueson said he is not opposed to having someone down there for maintenance, but he is opposed to having dispatchers when the county already has dispatchers. Beginning October 1, the city will no longer pay the salaries of the dispatchers as the sheriff has indicated they can do the dispatching. Thueson said the city should be part of the fire district. City taxes would be lowered by the same amount as the tax fire district tax levy. Biorn said he could only assume the reason the city has never been annexed is it appears at some point the fire department had some unidentified issue with the city and the issue just carried forward to now. Attorney Forsberg said the obvious reason is money. Forsberg reported hearing the chair of the board say if they agree to annex the city they immediately lose \$70,000. Mayor Thueson said if they start dispatching from the county they will gain back \$70,000. Biorn said it would actually give back more. The amount would be \$115,000. Biorn said the biggest problem is five people will lose their jobs. Stoddard said the job loss isn't in the district's control, that's the city and the city is going to eliminate those jobs in October. Forsberg said they have discussed keeping one full time and one part time person and they see it as losing three and a half men. Mayor Thueson said one is going to retire. Mayor Thueson said he is ready to do everything he can to make this work. The city will begin dispatching from the Sheriff's Office beginning October 1, 2010. Biorn said he has been speaking on the council's behalf and volunteered the city to run the payroll if necessary for them. He also told them the city wouldn't have a problem transferring what equipment we have to the district. Biorn said he is really committed to seeing this through. Mayor Thueson agrees the last billing should be paid as it was in the past. However, future payments from the city must include invoice copies of any expense. It's tax payer dollars and council is responsible for those dollars and how they are spent. Forsberg said in regards to the bills for the Volunteer Fire Department, those bills should be coming from the South Fremont Fire taxing district to the city. The city only has an agreement with the taxing district and not anyone else. All were in favor, 5-0, of paying the bill in this fashion. Stoddard asked if this resolves the issue with our ordinances. Forsberg said the city needs to wait to see if the district will annex the city. If this happens, then the city could repeal their ordinance. If they don't agree to annexation, the city will then need to decide what to do at that point. This decision will have to happen by May in order to be certified by the county in June for tax records. There was no further discussion.

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 Bagley. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2010 were presented to Mayor and Council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2010, was made by Councilmember Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

MAYOR, COUNCIL & DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Smith reported the 700 series radios have been mounted into the cars, which will enable them to hear the activities of the county. The animal pound is currently empty, but there's been three dogs there recently with the warmer weather. There is a work order to build doors between the kennels to accommodate cleaning.

PWS Butigan reported the bids are back on the East Main Sewer project. The low bid was \$13,690. Reed Hill of 3H Construction will be doing the job. The Bridge Street project will be starting April 5, 2010. Butigan suggested checking if Knife River will chip seal the last block, since they are already there. Maybe the city can get a good price. Council thought this was a good idea and to have Butigan check on it. The shop bill was again reduced by \$1000 this month for heat costs. Schiess and Associates will be reviewing the Wastewater Phase III project with Butigan, JD Henry, Councilmember Willmore and Mayor Thueson to begin work on the final design. The doors are just about done for the dog pounds. Butigan would like to get a cyclone rake for raking leaves in the parks. Right now it takes a week to two weeks to rake up all the leaves in the parks, using two to three people. Purchasing the cyclone rake could reduce raking time to about two days. It would cost about \$2200 and Butigan would like to use some of the money earned from the sale of the mowers to help purchase the rake. After talking with the Mayor they will be replacing Bob Bauer with a part time employee. Having the cyclone rake will help in the reduced man hours. Councilmember Stoddard recommends the cyclone rake be purchased. All councilmembers agreed, 5-0. Butigan said he spoke with county employee Marla Vik and the Mayor about the first roads to chip seal. He recommends West 4th North, 4th East up to 3rd and possibly the school road out to the new asphalt and possibly 3rd as they are highly traveled roads and are roads that would benefit from chip sealing. Vik will look at the roads and determine if they are in the right condition for chip sealing. Stoddard asked if there was a plan for chipping the streets or possibly some public relations. Butigan said the city can go with the recommendations Schiess and Associates gave us a few years ago. However, some roads are too far gone to chip seal. Butigan said we need to save the ones we can and the others we'll need to grind up and start over. Some streets will require more funding than the city can provide in one year. They will start crack sealing in about two weeks. Next week the crews will be in training.

William Forsberg had nothing to report.

Clerk Parkinson provided council with the Annual Eastern Idaho Residential Water and Sewer User Rates and Connection Fees Survey provided to the city by Schiess & Associates. Parkinson also reported on the Census Tour stopping at Fremont High

School on Monday. The 2010 census forms will in the mail to residents starting Monday, March 15, 2010.

Mayor Thueson reported on a friendly bet between the Mayors of the City of Ashton and Sugar City to challenge them during the census. Our city will provide more census returns than either city. The losers will buy dinner for the winner. Mayor Thueson reminded every one to complete their census forms.

Councilmember Bagley reported the police department is working on a couple of grants, a DUI Grant and an E-Ticketing Grant. Bagley will go on a ride-along in Bonneville County to see how they like it and if it is something our police department would be interested in. Bagley attended a meeting for the 700 radios and they are working out the bugs. Bagley said they are coming closer on resolving the dog issue and will report back to council. Bagley said they are looking at an Intern for the summer and is checking with Attorney Forsberg to make sure it will work out for the city. The Intern would provide administrative support for the department, up to 25 to 30 hours per week at no cost to the city.

Councilmember Powell reported there was a roof leak repaired under warranty. Powell also reported on submitting a letter of intent to Rocky Mountain Power to review some of the city building's electrical services.

Councilmember Biorn reported the Fisherman's Breakfast will soon be approaching. The Lyon's Club and Search and Rescue are in charge of the breakfast and if anyone is interested in volunteering he has their phone numbers. He volunteered last year and really had a good time.

Councilmember Stoddard reported on an excellent meeting with the Parks and Recreation Committee. Tony Crapo will be resigning and requests a certificate be prepared for her and recognition at the next meeting. Stoddard asked for council review on the tree ordinance, as Melissa Hinckley is interested in changing it. Stoddard gave back the topic of parks fees to the committee to look at it and address the issues council had last time it was brought before council. This should be an agenda item on the 1st meeting in April. They are also looking at the existing ordinance for Parks and Recreation appointments for review.

Councilmember Willmore asked if PWS Butigan can look into crack sealing at the airport. Since they are working on the streets, maybe the airport can get some work done to it as well. Butigan said he will check on it and look at the budget. As soon as the snow is gone work can be started on the lights at the airport. Willmore said he would like to see those two lights on the one little taxi way moved back a little further, since there isn't enough room to plow between them. The city will be monitoring sewer amounts coming from JCC (Juvenile Correction Center). Butigan said there is a lot of infiltration from them in the summer. This is clear water being pumped from basements into the sewer. This infiltration must be treated the same as any other sewage, thus increasing costs. This is something the city needs to discuss with JCC. A letter needs to be sent. Mayor Thueson asked Councilmember Willmore work with staff to prepare a letter.

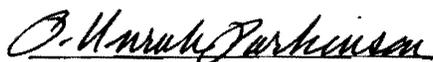
Mayor Thueson thanked council for their hard work. Thueson reported hiring Don Rogers as a part time city worker into the Parks Department, starting June or late May. Employee Ken Biorn will move from Parks into Streets. Rogers has experience on heavy equipment,

which will be useful in the winter for part time help if needed when the city plows snow. Mayor Thueson reported on a meeting with Clerk Parkinson, and representatives from Teton Regional Land Trust, BLM (Bureau of Land Management), Rotary, the Parks and Recreation Committee and Kyle Babbitt regarding Henry's Fork Greenway. Before more can be done on the south side of the Greenway there is an agreement between one owner, Carter, and Teton Regional Land Trust and the BLM which needs to be worked on before the city will move forward. On a separate issue, the statue grant request may have included some buildings and BLM thought the buildings portion of the grant wasn't a good idea and would probably throw the grant out. Mayor Thueson said he told them to scratch the buildings from the request rather than lose the request. Mayor Thueson said spring is about here and the city crews need to prepare parks. The Greenway clean up is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010. Mayor Thueson asked Councilmember Powell to look at our city buildings to see if there are any improvements needed to make them more attractive. Mayor Thueson said over the last couple of months he's been here, he's observed the employees and he is very pleased with what the employees are doing. They are working really hard to do their very best. The city is shorthanded and every one of them has stepped up to the plate and are doing a lot of good things.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Mayor Thueson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

