

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 14, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

PRESENT: Mayor Neils Thueson, Council Members Rod Willmore, Woody Andersen, Elva Powell, Bryant Biorn and Bryan Stoddard.

ABSENT: Council Member Suzanne Bagley.

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Thueson.

PUBLIC COMMENT Mayor Thueson commented to the members in the audience and said he would allow their comment in an informal manner throughout the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Recognition of Service, David Atkinson, Planning & Zoning Member – Mayor Thueson reported Atkinson has been on the Planning & Zoning Commission for at least six years. Thueson said he has done a fine job and the city appreciates everything he has done for the city. Thueson presented Atkinson with a certificate of appreciation.

Planning & Zoning Recommendation on Larry Johnson Special Use Permit (Hobbs, Forsberg) – Jim Hobbs, Planning & Zoning Commission Member, explained the request for a Special Use Permit from Larry Johnson on his meat processing business at 904 S Bridge. Five years ago a special use permit was authorized for him to continue his business in a designated R-1 zone (residential). This special use permit has since expired. The recommendation based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law, and after deliberation, the Planning & Zoning Commission recommends the City Council approve the request for a special use permit and that such renewal be for a period of ten (10) years. It is further the recommendation of the Commission the permit be subject to the same conditions as are in the original permit. Mayor Thueson expressed zoning ordinances were introduced for a very important purpose and that is to regulate and control what happens in a city. Currently a commercial business is being operated in a R-1 zone. A yes vote to one individual is a no vote to many others. If the zone needs to be changed then change the zone. Thueson continued by recommending an extension for one year with the purpose of having Planning & Zoning look at rezoning it to a commercial area. The city needs more commercial areas. This will also let citizens know zoning could change and they could come forth in proper public hearings to be heard. Thueson thought five years, five years ago, was generous then. Councilmember Andersen said he remembers going through this process before he was on city council. Five years ago there was a request for a zone change then and at that time it was an absolute no. So that was why they applied for the special use permit, knowing the business wouldn't be there forever. Andersen has the opinion to do an annual review, as 10 years is too long. Hobbs said the application needs to be considered

and not the applicant and it is so easy to get emotionally involved with our neighbors. Jim Hunter, Planning & Zoning Commission Member, said this is a unique situation and the one negative letter received ended with understanding it was a financial hardship to move the business. Hunter said anything less than 10 years would be dictating to Johnson when he should retire. Larry Johnson said he would be retiring soon. The people that spoke at the Planning & Zoning hearing, according to Hunter, wanted him to stay in his business and to not change the zoning. A motion to accept the recommendations as presented to council for a special use permit for a period of 10 years and to be subject to the same conditions as the original permit was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Powell. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

FEMA Meeting April 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. discussion of Discovery Process for the Lower Henry's Watershed – Clerk Parkinson reported this event will be held in the city hall council chambers and will include Fremont County and the cities within Fremont County. This will be an opportunity to find out how FEMA can assist the city in disaster situations and to review flood areas and other areas of concern. It will also give the city an opportunity to ask FEMA for any assistance. After reviewing the date it was found the date is actually Wednesday, April 27, 2011 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mayor Thueson encouraged attendance.

Fair Housing Proclamation – Mayor Thueson read the Fair Housing Proclamation in full. A motion to accept the proclamation as read was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Stoddard. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Set Public Hearing for 2011/12 Budget possible dates 08/11 or 08/25 (Parkinson) – A motion to set the public hearing for the 2011/12 budget for Thursday, August 25, 2011 at 7 p.m. was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Powell. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Clerk Parkinson was instructed to contact the County Clerk of the date set.

Proposed Sign Ordinance (Forsberg, Butigan) – City Attorney Forsberg said city staff has began discussing the benefits of adopting a sign ordinance. City staff has seen many requests from people wanting to erect signs, change signs, asking where signs should go, how big they should be and whether or not the city should be compensated for investigation of signs. Mayor Thueson asked Forsberg to draft this ordinance. The intent of the draft is to spark some discussion with council and the public on whether or not the city needs a sign ordinance and if so what kind of ordinance it should be. Forsberg advised it is needed as our current ordinance has adopted the Uniform Sign Code from 1961. The city has no such document anymore. People come and ask questions that can't be answered. This draft includes the most recent Uniform Sign Code from 1997. A discussion of the proposed ordinance was engaged in between council members, staff and some participation from the public in the audience. Chief Smith asked about grandfathering existing signs. Forsberg said they are grandfathered for two years per state code. Adrienne Keller of the old cougar corner has a business in town and asked a number of questions creating discussion amongst the council members. Council members were generally in favor of reviewing further. Thueson asked council to take this home and review and bring back to the next meeting with their ideas.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. After several

questions, which were satisfactorily answered by staff, a motion to pay the invoices and claims was made by Councilmember Powell and seconded by Councilmember Andersen. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES – Special and Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2011 were presented to Council. A motion to accept the Special and Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2011 was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

DEPARTMENT, COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

PWS Butigan reported the sewer project is underway and an update on the progress was given. The warranty for the street lights has been denied. Four new street lights have been ordered but in the future other options will be looked at for poles, as the current options are expensive. Cost for these lights are about \$2600 a piece, including the globe. Parks are getting cleaned up. Third Street is being worked on and a French drain is being put in. Spring clean up is scheduled for May 2 - 6. An additional driver is needed and will be hired. The clean up has been cut back to one week this year, compared to two weeks in years past. The city might keep doing the clean up for two weeks for items that are free to haul to the dump. A city employee, while reading water meters, will be hand delivering to each resident a letter regarding spring clean up. Councilmember Willmore asked about the fence at the airport. Butigan said crews have torn the old one down and a price is coming on the new one. Councilmember Biorn would like to know when the hole will be dug by the court house to check for a leak, so he can look. It was reported there was a 14,000 gallon per day leak there. Mayor Thueson said there are a lot of soft spots in the streets and wanted to know how they will be fixed. Butigan said they will dig out and put crush back in and cover. The ground is still really wet and so it needs to dry out before work can be done. Depending on the weather it could be three weeks to a month.

Police Chief Smith reported looking at parking enforcement and making sure sidewalks are not blocked. Smith reported the department is taking many dog call incidents. The Incident Summary is in council's packets and includes business checks. They are in the middle of the aggressive driving campaign. The department is also considering the purchase of a noise meter. The department is also looking at a COPS Grant to see what the city might be eligible for.

Attorney Forsberg had nothing to report.

Councilmember Powell wants the city building to look good and asked if the Chamber will be purchasing the flowers as they did last year. Mayor Thueson said he didn't know what the Chamber's plans are. If they don't purchase flowers, Thueson said he would still like the exterior of the building to look good and the city will purchase flowers for the immediate area next to the building and the small corner piece by the parking lot and next to the sign.

Clerk Parkinson provided council members with the 2nd Quarter Financial Report, answering any questions they had. This report will publish next week in the newspaper and will be included in the next city newsletter. Parkinson gave council the High Country RC&D report, two letters, one in favor of the smoking ban and a request to ban smoking in all parks and one against it, and the Chamber News. Arbor Day is scheduled for Friday, April 29, at 10:30 at Henry's Fork Elementary. Everyone is invited to attend. The Idaho Department of Parks

and Recreation Grant the city applied for won't be reviewed until May 11th. This doesn't give the city enough time to prepare to build the trail on Greenway Cleanup Day scheduled for May 14th. So, there will be minor clean up along the proposed trail and a later day will be scheduled for the work, until the city is notified of any possible grant award. Councilmember Stoddard asked for more suggestions for areas to clean up for the volunteers. Last year there was such a good turnout of volunteers they needed more projects to do. Mayor Thueson said the old flower beds need to be cleaned out and that could be something they might want to do. Chief Smith said the Rotary Club will be doing some work on the proposed trail on May 14th. Parkinson said it is important to keep track of the number of volunteers and the hours of work they do, as it is needed for grant applications and grant matching.

Councilmember Andersen reported attending the ICRMP meeting held on public meetings. Andersen said the information provided is always very good. They talked about public meetings and what can be done in and outside a public meeting to ensure everyone is doing the right thing. Andersen also reported on attending the last High Country RC&D meeting. They are still concerned about program funding being cut. If it doesn't get funded, the local RC&D will no longer have an administrator. A new office will need to be found and the county commissioners will then be in charge and they would have to fund for the part time people still left behind. They are still asking for support letters. Andersen also met with the Lions Club. Mayor Thueson asked Andersen to be a liaison. Andersen is now a member of the Lions Club. They are also looking for new members. Lions Club is a service organization. They do a number of projects including testing children's eyes at schools and providing glasses for hardship cases. They also provide the Free Annual Thanksgiving Dinner each year and Christmas for kids in need. They also give boxes of food for Scouting for Food. Andersen said if you want to join ask a member.

Councilmember Biorn had nothing to report.

Councilmember Stoddard reported the no smoking signs are up in the three designated parks and they look good.

Councilmember Willmore had nothing to report on the airport grant or development study. He said he would call and follow up.

Mayor Thueson reported on a health program that is being offered to the city. Thueson said he checked with the City of Ammon. It's something the city should look at and check into to see if it's something the city might be interested in. There is a meeting in May and if anyone wants to attend he would think this would be something the city should look at. It helps to stabilize the current health care premiums with a smaller increase per year instead of a larger increase, since it spreads the increases over a larger number of participants. It's being modeled after a program currently working in Montana.

Jim Hobbs, member of the Planning & Zoning Commission reported the work meetings for the commission with Joshua Chase are going well.

Executive session – A motion to enter into executive session pursuant to provisions of Idaho Code 67-2345, subsection 1 (f) was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Powell. A roll call vote followed with Council Members Powell, yes; Andersen, yes; Biorn, yes; Stoddard, yes and Willmore yes. Motion passed 5-0. Mayor

Thueson adjourned the meeting and the room was cleared except for the Council Members, the City Attorney and the City Clerk. A motion to exit the executive session was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Biorn. A role call vote followed with Council Members Powell, yes; Andersen, yes; Biorn, yes; Stoddard, yes and Willmore yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Thueson brought the meeting to order. A motion to add to the agenda a request to reconsider the council's authorization of the drag races at the airport was made by Councilmember Stoddard and seconded by Councilmember Biorn. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Reconsideration of council's authorization of a permit allowing drag races at the airport – Mayor Thueson said council members have received a copy of a letter requesting they reconsider the permit allowing drag races at the airport. Councilmember Biorn said the permit has already been approved. Council agreed they would decline to reconsider the permit. Thueson instructed Attorney Forsberg to respond to the letter that the city council members have declined to reconsider the approved permit to allow the Midnight Muscle Club to have 100 Foot Drag Races at the airport on May 7, 2011 and August 27, 2011.

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


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

