

CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Neils Thueson, Council Members Suzanne Bagley, Bryant Biorn, Tom Erickson, Rick Hill, Russ Rubert and Rod Willmore.

ALSO PRESENT: Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan, Police Chief Jim Smith, City Clerk-Treasurer Patty Parkinson and approximately 20 citizens.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thueson at 7:00 p.m. Thueson excused Attorney Forsberg and Paul Scoresby is ill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Daniel Shumway a Boy Scout in the audience.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Planning & Zoning Report and Recommendation on Rezoning Request from Matt's Custom Meats/Matt Froelich (City Staff) – Co-Chairman Jim Hobbs of the Planning and Zoning Committee provided a report and summary of the request made for rezoning the property of Matt's Custom Meats owned by Matt Froelich. Froelich's business is currently located in a R1 zone, Residential, and he is requesting it be rezoned to a C1, Commercial, so he may expand his business. Froehlich wants to add on to the back of the business. If the requested zoning change is done then he will meet all the setback requirements for a commercial business. He also wants to change where parking will be from off of Main Street to off of Seventh Street. Main Street will be rebuilt in the future and Froehlich is asking to not place in curb and gutter on Main Street, since it will be done by the city during the West Main Street Project. PWS Butigan said this property is in an R1 (Residential) zone and it will not meet the set backs for an R1 zone if the remodel is completed. If the property was zoned commercial the set backs wouldn't be an issue. Hobbs reported Froehlich said he will be changing the roof design to a shingle roof in order to manage snow melt and slide off from the roof as well as to better manage snow removal from the parking lot of the property. Hobbs presented to council the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve a rezoning for this property from an R-1 to a C-1, which would better fit the needs expressed for this lot and is, in fact, a good fit for the current Preferred Land Use Map recently adopted by the city and, in addition, the granting of such rezoning will not substantially affect the current comprehensive plan or zoning in the city. Following several questions from council a motion to approve the request for rezoning as set forth in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law provided to council by the Planning and Zoning Committee for Matt's Custom Meats owned by Matt Froelich was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

The following three items were tabled for the next meeting due to the illness of Paul Scoresby:

Schiess & Associates Report on West Main Project/Paul Scoresby

Schiess & Associates Report on Airport Study/Paul Scoresby

Schiess & Associates Water Proposal and Discussion/Paul Scoresby/Ted Hendricks (Thueson & Biorn)

Boy Scout Troupe/RJ Thueson Leader (Thueson) – Mayor Thueson asked for the Boy Scout troupe numbers to see which troupes were being represented. Troup 60 was being represented as well as 163 from Wilford and 62 from Chester. Thueson also requested the Boy Scouts to think up some really tough questions for the council. Mathew Siepert asked how much money the city spends in a year. Councilmember Biorn said about one and a half million dollars. This includes the police department, water, sewer, garbage and streets. Matt Stewarts asked how you become a member of the city council. Councilmember Erickson answered by saying you decide you want to and then file a petition with five registered voters with the county or instead of the petition with signatures you pay a fee of about \$40. Then people can vote for you to be a member of the council. Mayor Thueson said Erickson was appointed after Councilmember Andersen resigned early. Then all the members who were elected came on in January. Eric Bell asked how you get elected as Mayor. Mayor Thueson said it is an interesting story, since he won the election by two votes. He then spoke about how important it is to vote, since every vote counts. He said if there had been a tie, then the decision would have been made by a flip of a coin. Thueson said you run for the office of Mayor in the same way you run as a member of city council. Jake Thueson asked if Thueson likes being Mayor. Thueson said yes he does. He continued by saying he likes St. Anthony and has lived here for 40 some years. The people are great people and it's a good community. Gabe Kelly asked how long the term of the mayor office is. Thueson said four years. Trevor Elliot asked how much the Mayor earns. Thueson said \$800 per month. Elliot asked if he has thought about donating money to the Scouts. Thueson said every year he donates to the Scouts. Thueson said he wants to stress how important it is to serve the public and for them to consider at some time in their life to fill a seat or other public office. Thueson said you could be like Jim Hobbs and be a co-chair of Planning and Zoning. Thueson told the Boy Scouts not to stand back and let someone else do it for you. He continued by saying if you are involved you will take better care of your community.

Rocky Mountain Power's request to place pole to encourage birds to nest on city property/Glen Pond (Thueson) – Glen Pond, of Rocky Mountain Power, provided council with a picture of one of their facilities where they have placed a pole for a bird's nest next to a power pole. They would like to place one of these poles next to the power pole at the end of 12th Street in order to protect the pole from outages and causing problems with the electricity in the city. There is currently Osprey trying to nest on the power pole. One of the reasons they don't want to be in a lease agreement with the city is because there is a franchise agreement with the city and this should suffice for this type of request. Pond is requesting Rocky Mountain Power be allowed to place the pole. Mayor Thueson said the city is used to charging \$100 per year when a private person wants to lease a piece of city property. However, this is not just for private benefit. This is benefitting the entire city and this may be something the city should reconsider. Councilmember Rubert asked if they would place the pole at their expense and maintain at their expense. Pond said they would place and maintain at their expense. Pond said they do try to be good citizens and work with the city. A motion to approve the placement of the pole on city owned property at the end of 12th Street was made by Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members

were in favor. Motion passed 6-0. Pond thanked the council for their consideration.

Discussion of people crossing street between blocks (Biorn) – Councilmember Biorn said at the last council meeting during department reports he addressed a concern he had about the foot traffic outside the cross walk areas on Bridge Street. Biorn would like council to try and find some ideas for getting people to cross at the crosswalks. Chief Smith said Boise has regulations and he read their code. Smith said this would be an example of an ordinance if the council wanted to create another law. Councilmember Bagley asked if the media could help by education through the media, educating pedestrians and drivers. Mayor Thueson said this can also be something placed in the city newsletter. Thueson reminded the Boy Scouts present to cross at the cross walks and to be a good example. Jim Hobbs, audience member, said there is a flashing sign in Rexburg to indicate speed along with the cost of jay-walking. Councilmember Bagley said another thing they are doing in Rexburg is police are stopping and warning pedestrians. Smith said he is already doing this. Thueson said we should try and educate first, rather than create another law. Biorn asked if businesses could post a sign or hand out coupons. Thueson asked if Councilmember Rubert could bring this up at the Chamber of Commerce meeting to gain involvement from the local businesses.

Discussion of city wide speed limit (Thueson/Smith) – Mayor Thueson asked Chief Smith what the city wide speed limit is. Smith said it's 30 mph unless otherwise posted in the city and in state law it is 35 mph unless otherwise posted. Thueson said he thinks this is too fast in a residential area and the council could change the law to 25 mph unless otherwise posted, leaving the main arterials to 30 mph, if they wanted. Another option would be to try and educate citizens. Councilmember Erickson asked if there is currently a problem with speeders in residential areas. Thueson said he did have two citizens request a slower speed limit, as they believe people are driving too fast. Thueson requested the radar trailer be used to allow people to gage their own speed, but to leave the speed limit sign off of the trailer. This will remind the individual just how fast they are going. If this can be done without passing another law, this would be better. Erickson agreed using the newsletter to educate people would be a good idea. Councilmember Biorn said anytime you can get cooperation from citizens without having to pass a new law is the best way to go.

Fair Housing Proclamation (Parkinson) – Clerk Parkinson said every year in the month of April the city declares April as Fair Housing Month in the City of St. Anthony. This is done for many reasons, one of which allows for the city to easier apply for federal grants. Parkinson read the proclamation in its entirety declaring April as Fair Housing Month in the city.

Set Public Hearing for 2012/13 Budget possible dates 08/09 or 08/23? – (Parkinson) – Clerk Parkinson said it is required for the city to publicly set the public hearing date for the 2012/13 budget. August 9, 2012 would be the best possible date and is an already scheduled council meeting. August 23, 2012 is the annual Street Festival and may not be a good date as the council has canceled the meeting in the past to attend the Street Festival. A motion to set the public hearing for the 2012/13 budget for Thursday, August 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0. Clerk Parkinson will notify the county clerk of the date.

City Awarded Arbor Day Grant (Parkinson) – Clerk Parkinson reported the city was drawn to receive the Arbor Day \$300 grant for 2012. Arbor Day is scheduled for Friday, April 27, 2012 at the Sandbar Park where three trees will be planted to go along with all the new landscaping. A fourth tree will be planted at the Skate Park to replace a broken tree. All of the first graders from Henry's Fork Elementary will be invited to help the city. The city will be giving each first grader a seedling and speeches will be made by the Mayor and an Arborist.

PUBLIC COMMENT Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

Jim Hobbs commented on the walking between blocks. He said it would make sense for the businesses on Bridget Street to encourage people to use the back parking lot. Also the presence of law enforcement always makes people drive slower. Hobbs said the Police Department is doing a superb job in our city.

Matt Stewart, a Boy Scout in the audience, said he was riding his bike and he pushed the walk button at the crosswalk and a person in a vehicle ran the light and almost ran him over. Mayor Thueson asked the Chief of Police to check those walk buttons and reminded everyone in the audience to always drive, bike and walk defensively.

There being no further public comment Mayor Thueson closed the floor to any further comment.

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 Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

MINUTES – Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2012 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2012, was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

DEPARTMENT, COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Police Chief Smith reported on working on the cameras for the first phase of the Homeland Security Grant. The State Wide Aggressive Driving Grant is underway and they will be watching for speed and seatbelts. The river level projection is to continue below flood stage. Mayor Thueson said the Skate Park is getting a lot of use. Smith said the cameras there are working well and being checked regularly.

PWS Butigan reported the roof is finished on the city shop. The front windows in the old show room are closed off, insulated and sheeted in. The garage doors are framed in and should be finished in about three weeks. The new crack sealing machine has been purchased and crews will start crack sealing, weather permitting next Tuesday. Oil will be purchased through Jefferson County for the Durapatcher. Patching can't be done when it's raining. The building at the Sandbar Park is gone and the landscaping is just about finished. The sprinkler system and sod will be going in, depending on weather. Parks are all fertilized and cleaned up. Water is being turned on in the parks. There will be a couple of city

workers working on parks this summer and three just working with the crack sealer. This first month it'll be hard to get the crew, as they will be very busy. There is only about a month to two months to complete crack sealing because it can't be too hot and it can't be wet. Crews will work on the sidewalk at the main city building as time permits. Butigan said he is checking into doing a heat cable under the sidewalk in about 15 to 20 feet each direction from the door. There are so many senior citizens using the building and it would be a good idea to try and keep the sidewalk as free of ice as possible. The city has used a lot of ice melt in the past and this is what has caused the sidewalk to crumble. Butigan didn't know how much it would cost, but agreed to getting some quotes.

Clerk Parkinson reported the city switched over from Fairpoint's Internet service to Cable One. The upload speed has increased 1,000 times and the download speed 500 times. It has really made a positive difference in getting our deposit done and into the bank in a timely fashion. It will cost an additional five dollars more per month but is already paying for itself in how much more time front office personnel have in completing tasks. The Planning and Zoning Commission continue to work on the draft zoning ordinance and as a draft is prepared it will be provided to council in their packets. Trees have been ordered for Arbor Day. Three trees have been purchased and North Fork Nursery will be donating one for a total of four trees. The trees will be planted at the Sandbar and Skate Park. A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. A Parks and Recreation meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Parkinson also provided council with the city's quarterly report and minutes from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Parkinson also provided council with news from the Chamber of Commerce, a thank you form Idaho Rural Water Association, an email from Stephen Loosli regarding sustainable onsite wastewater meetings, a letter from a citizen regarding the speed on her street and an updated list of Zoning and Fence Permits. Parkinson also reported on the last ECHO (Eastern Counties Highway Organization) meeting. Parkinson said Jim Zier came from LHTAC (Local Highway Technical Assistance Council) and talked to the group about how funds are disbursed to rural areas. He explained some of the rules have changed for the grants and because of this the city came right at the top of the grant list scoring quite high. They have changed the rules of the grant awards to try and get as much money out to as many rural roads as possible by implementing a one year hiatus for those who received a grant. The maximum number of times you can receive grant money will be once every other year. Since the city was awarded a grant for 2013 they will not be eligible for 2014, but can apply again in 2015. Parkinson reported for the first time ever, District Six was awarded 10 out of 38 awards. Mayor Thueson reported he learned a lot about what the city can apply for, including chip and seal.

Councilmember Rubert had nothing to report.

Councilmember Bagley had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson expressed how impressed he is with all the things happening in St. Anthony. The clean up of the Sandbar Park, the new roof on the shop building and the streets are swept nicely. Erickson said the city is looking good and it's neat to see things happening. Everything is ready to go on the West Main Project and the city is now waiting for Idaho Transportation Department to get the project on their list.

Councilmember Biorn had nothing to report.

Councilmember Hill reported Jared Hansen is representing the city on the HUD Sustainability Grant with Fremont County on the trails. Hill said he spoke to Hansen and Hansen has already attended some meetings. Hansen is also representing the Forest Service.

Councilmember Willmore said the corner of the airport fence is full of tumble weeds. PWS Butigan said he would see they are removed. Willmore said he met with the county commissioners on Monday requesting help for obtaining electricity for the hangars at the airport. He said he hasn't yet heard back from them. Willmore said he will be attending the Finance Committee meeting on Monday to describe a plan for how to pay for electricity.

Mayor Thueson reported on getting together with Paul Scoresby of Schiess and Associates about the city's water system and replacing our four inch lines with something more adequate. Many of our older lines are leaking. Scoresby was going to put a proposal together with some assistance from The Development Company to try and obtain a grant. Ted Hendricks said the state is encouraging municipalities to place at least six inch lines. Hendricks said he will be attending the city's next council meeting to discuss some of the options. Thueson also reported on receiving a call from the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) on his request for street lighting at the on and off ramps of Highway 20. ITD has informed him they are in the design stages of placing 16 street lamps there. Clerk Parkinson has placed the work order in to Rocky Mountain Power so design can start. The city is being told it will only have to pay for the electricity to those lights. The lights will all be LED, which are cheaper on electricity. Two lights are already there and the city is paying for them. The bridge on Bridge Street still needs paint and is on ITD's work schedule. Thueson said Bonnie Moon, who called asking for a letter for a grant for the After School Program, informed him they were awarded the grant. She had called to thank the city for their support. Councilmember Hill said the school board wants to discuss it at their next meeting and they may decline the grant as there are some who don't want it. Joyce Edlefsen, reporter, said Rachel Huber called her and Huber asked her to write a story for the paper about it, and in fact, they may be voting again on it at their meeting Thursday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m. The last vote was 3-2 with one of the members changing their vote. Edlefsen reported there are some on the school board not interested in accepting the grant. Thueson said Moon explained how useful the After School Program would be, providing math lessons and various other activities after school. Thueson said he may attend this meeting to show his support and asked others on the council to do the same. Thueson said the Greenway Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, May 19th. The city wide clean up is scheduled for May 7th through 11th. This information will be in the next newsletter.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m. by Mayor Thueson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:

P. Unruh Parkinson
Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

