

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Suzanne Bagley

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chief Smith.

Mayor Thueson excused Councilmember Bagley.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Idaho Art Lab Report and Presentation of Preliminary Drawings for Keefer Park Murals/Dan & Kara Hidalgo – Dan and Kara Hidalgo, of the Idaho Art Lab, explained the process of choosing the artists for the preliminary drawings for the retaining wall at Keefer Park. Kara handed out a Before Photo with a Concept Photo and explained how the wall will be completed. Kara's plan is to cluster them, starting in the middle of the wall for an 80 foot stretch. Dan introduced Tamra Neish one of the teen artists selected. Neish explained the interview process and how she was selected. The Hidalgos provided five preliminary drawings which were selected through the interview process, four and one alternate. The alternate will be completed if additional funding is received or funding can allow for completion. Councilmember Biorn said he served on the selection committee and reported the scoring process was excellent and these are some very fine samples of the work. Biorn said as these go up there will probably be more teens wanting to participate. All the council members approved of the four drawings and one preliminary drawing and told the Idaho Art Lab to begin their work.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Keith Nave, 1046 N. Bridge, reporting hearing some of his visitors say they have never been through a cleaner, prettier town. Nave, representative of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars (VFW), said the VFW has furnished the flags for the city currently on display for flag day. Nave wanted to know if the VFW could use the "flag wagon" (which they donated to the city for the purpose of storing their flags) for their supplies when taking them to a funeral. Nave said the VFW attends eight to 15 funerals a year and having the "flag wagon" available to them to cart their supplies from one funeral to the next would be extremely useful. Mayor Thueson said the city would allow for them to do that. Nave then requested a letter from the city. Mayor Thueson said he would get a letter sent to him. Council said all the flags really

look good today.

C&C Supply/Ralph Madsen/Request for electricity to sign at Maverick – Ralph Madsen, owner of C&C Supply, said he is renting the sign from Donna Clark located by the Maverick store. Clark currently has a \$100 per year lease with the city for the land the sign is sitting on. Madsen said a while ago a truck pulled the lines down which supplied electricity to the sign and now there is no power to the sign. Mayor Thueson said the light pole is a metered light pole where the city pays for the electricity. Madsen said an electrician told him it would cost seven to eight cents per hour to run the sign. The sign would maybe be lit up about 2.5 hours per day which would cost about \$73.00 per year. It is eight feet from the box to the sign post. Depending on how the box is built there may be some sidewalk section to take out and put back in or drill a hole and go under it. Madsen asked if he can continue to work on getting electricity to the box. He said he would pay an additional \$100 for the electricity to be added on to the \$100 lease for a total of \$200 per year and then the city would pay for the extra power. Councilmember Erickson asked about the cost of the line and who would pay for that. Madsen said he would pay for it. Attorney Forsberg said he doesn't know what the agreement is with the power company. PWS Butigan said the light belongs to the city and the city must maintain. Forsberg said then the city could agree to providing electricity if they wanted. Butigan said an electrician will have to get all the permits necessary for connecting the electricity, following all the state guidelines. A motion to approve the installation of the electricity from the city's power source to the sign pending review from PWS Butigan and any necessary required permits including a lease for \$100 per year for the land and \$100 per year for the electricity was made by Councilmember Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Fireworks Permits/Broulim's (inside) & TNT (outside) – Mayor Thueson asked council if they reviewed the requested Fireworks Permits from Kelly Hodges, doing business as TNT, and Broulim's. Councilmember Biorn asked if a letter could go out to remind the permit holders not to place signs in city right of way. Clerk Parkinson said she will prepare a letter. A motion to approve the permits for the sale of Fireworks for Kelly Hodges, doing business as TNT, and Broulim's was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion/Adoption of Resolution regarding the naming/renaming of city properties – Mayor Thueson requested comments on the drafted resolution regarding the naming or renaming of city properties. Councilmember Biorn said it looks like a good resolution. Councilmember Erickson wondered if it was too vague. Thueson said there are just too many good individuals and the city doesn't have enough parks or properties to name one after every good person. Attorney Forsberg said the value of this resolution is not to tell council what to name a property but to allow the city council to really evaluate the proposal through a thorough process. A motion to accept Resolution 2012-2, a Resolution of the City of St. Anthony Adopting a Policy for the Naming of City Property, was made by Biorn and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Planning & Zoning Report (Parkinson) – Clerk Parkinson turned her time over to Member Jim Hobbs of the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z). Hobbs said P&Z did a lot of research and discussed having an ordinance on the keeping of chickens. P&Z didn't want to

create an ordinance that was so ambiguous or too hard to create. The chicken situation has been going on a long time and if there is any issue it is handled through the police department using the current nuisance ordinance. P&Z couldn't come up with a recommendation for a good ordinance encompassing all the different types of outside pets. P&Z felt city staff did a tremendous amount of research on a proposed ordinance, but felt the city had sufficient laws in place to deal with chickens. Councilmember Erickson asked if P&Z received any public comment. Hobbs said there were a couple of citizens who came in favor of allowing chickens and/or fowl. Hobbs felt chickens are currently a fad and eventually people will no longer care to own them. The problem they had was were to start, there are so many other outdoor animals and coming up with one ordinance just for chickens didn't make sense. Attorney Forsberg said without an ordinance the zoning in St. Anthony would continue to disallow the raising of chickens. There is no animal ordinance regulating chickens. The city does have a general nuisance ordinance for noise and odor. Loose chickens can be handled by the Police Department. The Police Department can tell the party to abate the nuisance. Chicken owners can also come in to P&Z to request a variance, paying all the necessary fees associated with a variance. Forsberg said P&Z is looking at certain zones and may be changing it for those zones, much like the current R-1A zone for horses. Councilmember Hill said he agrees an ordinance is not needed. All council members agreed. Thueson thanked the P&Z for their work on this request. Hobbs also reported on the current work ongoing with the draft of the zoning ordinance. Hobbs said Planner Chase is a real good investment and P&Z is really working on developing a good working zoning ordinance. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2012.

Discussion of Water/Sewer Bond Refinance (Thueson/Parkinson) – Clerk Parkinson reported on meeting with a financial advisor from Zion's Bank, Cameron Arial, on the possibility of refinancing the city's sewer and water bonds. Currently the water bond interest rate the city is paying is 4.875% with a principal of \$855,000. The sewer bonds total \$3,885,000 and the city is paying an average of 3.25%. Parkinson provided council with an analysis of the water and the sewer bonds and what the proposed refinance will save for the city. Zion's Bank is working with cities around the state with similar bonds. The bonds will be combined through the Idaho Bond Bank and sold in the market as one large bond. The city will pay back their bonds to the Idaho Bond Bank. The estimated savings or "Net Present Value Benefit" to the city on the remaining life of the water bond is \$150,002.90 and for the sewer bond, \$474,409.91. Each year the savings varies depending on the payment schedule. Parkinson said Arial told her these are conservative estimates of the savings and if these savings couldn't be achieved they wouldn't do the transaction. The expected time frame for this is late August or early September. The average savings per year on both bonds is around \$21,500. This does not increase the amount of dept or lengthen the term of the city's debt. Mayor Thueson and Clerk Parkinson signed the necessary documents, after review of the city attorney, to begin this refinance. Parkinson will invite Arial to a future council meeting once the bonds are refinanced for a complete report. Parkinson said council may want to reconsider the proposed increase on water rates next fiscal year and utilize some of these interest savings instead. This led Councilmember Biorn into the next topic on the agenda.

Discussion of 2012/2013 Water Rate Increase (Biorn) – Councilmember Biorn said when council was discussing the preliminary 2012/2013 budget there was a proposed increase in the water rates of 9% to fulfill the goal of securing approximately \$33,000 per year to set

aside for the purpose of using the money for a grant match to fix the city's water system. The savings, with the refinance of the water bonds, will meet part of the goal. It would make sense then to have a smaller increase in the water rates. Biorn said to keep in mind the reserves being set aside for water and sewer have to remain separate and can not be combined. Water reserves can not be spent on sewer expenses and vice versa. However, the city won't find out if the bonds will actually be refinanced until around the first part of September, which is past the public hearing for the final budget. Biorn suggested council leave the public hearing scheduled and keep the water increase currently in the proposed budget. The city can always reduce the increase, but if the financing for the bonds doesn't happen, it can't increase the budgeted amount. Councilmember Rubert said doing it this way makes sense to him. Mayor Thueson said this increase is to be able to attract a good grant to be able to do a large water project. It is difficult to get water grants and having a match will attract a water grant. Biorn said when getting a water grant, the match, unlike a sewer grant match, which is about 20%, would be much higher and usually around 50%. Clerk Parkinson said the city currently has a reserve more than what is required and some of this could be used to apply towards a grant. Most of the city's reserves are located in the Sewer Fund. However, council could decide to borrow from the Sewer Fund to apply for a water grant and then pay back at a better rate of interest than what the city may be currently earning or at no interest at all. In addition when paying off these water and sewer bonds to DEQ and the USDA it actually will free up funds for them to allow for other funding to water and sewer projects around the state. Thueson said our water system needs some help and trying to obtain grants would really be good for the city.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. 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 5-0.

MINUTES – Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2012 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2012 was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

DEPARTMENT, COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Police Chief Smith reported the DVR crashed at the Skate Park and when setting it back up it will be tied into the new Homeland Security System. A proposal is being looked at for this. The Skate Park is still being monitored through the cameras. Any money for this will come out of the police budget. Smith provided council with the Police Incident Summary. Summer School has started and there is a crossing guard at the elementary school. The Police Department along with contributions from businesses and residents will be putting on a BMX Bike Rally June 23rd at the Skate Park. There is also a Fun Run on June 16th.

PWS Butigan reported the budget has enough money for three miles of chip and seal and another \$20,000 could do four miles. The General Fund may have available funding to provide this increase to the street fund. Crews are pretty close to having four miles prepared. Butigan said all of 1st is prepped, all of 2nd, all of 3rd, West 4th North and that's about 3.5 miles. More could be prepped if council wants. Thueson asked if the county was good with four miles. Butigan said they are good with what ever the city decides to do. Council members agreed to have crews try and do as much as they could up to the four miles.

Attorney Forsberg had nothing to report.

Clerk Parkinson reported the City of Ashton was Capitol for a Day today. There is also an invitation from Stephen Loosli on some training through Idaho Rural Partnership and Fremont County for a free training session on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Program. A listing of Zoning and Fence Permits was also provided for council's review.

Councilmember Rubert had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson wanted to know if the city is on the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council's (LHTAC) schedule for construction for West Main. Mayor Thueson said he stays in contact with Paul Scoresby of Schiess & Associates and was told the city should be hearing back this month or next month and to not be concerned. Engineering is going as scheduled and everything is being done on time, if not before the required schedule. Scoresby is on the council's next agenda for a full report. They are working on parking and drainage and will be showing this to the city.

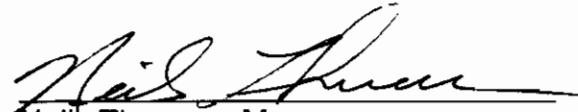
Councilmember Biorn reported on water usage for the last month. A chart was provided showing the amount pumped versus the amount being accounted for by the city's meters. However, three of the city's biggest parks are not metered; Jaycee, Boyd Yancey and Clyde Keefer. Meters are being installed. In addition, some of the cities owned property's meters have not been read in the past because the city doesn't charge for the water. However, this policy has been changed and all meters are now being read. City staff will continue to work on this and Biorn said he believed the water loss isn't as bad as it was first thought. Biorn said he would continue to monitor and provide council with updates.

Councilmember Hill asked if there has ever been a lifeguard on duty at the Sand Bar Park. Staff reported there never has been a lifeguard. The city did, a few years ago, have a Park Monitor, but no lifeguard. Hill also asked what the hook-up fees are for water and sewer connections. PWS Butigan explained for water they are \$1,870 plus materials for water and \$1,600 plus materials for sewer. It all depends on the size of the line and how far the line needs to go. Butigan said he would provide Hill with the water study to show how the hook-up fees impact the city's services.

Councilmember Willmore asked about scheduling the slurry seal at the airport. PWS Butigan said it will get scheduled after the commercial customers are done spraying, so the city doesn't impact their business. Willmore also asked when the electricity will be installed. Butigan said he will contact Rocky Mountain Power and try to schedule this as soon as he can. Willmore said Wanda Adams, Grant Administrator for the airport grant, asked if anything was ready for submission on the grant. Willmore said we could submit all the crack sealing the city has done. Clerk Parkinson said she would contact Adams. Willmore said he received an airport study showing the needed items out at the airport. The study is being held by Butigan. Willmore asked if Attorney Forsberg is working on the easement on Summit Truss. Forsberg said the bank, which is holding the property, hasn't come back with a response. The bank is looking at a potential sale of the property and they didn't want to impact the sale in any way. Willmore asked Forsberg to try and follow up.

Mayor Thueson talked about the Sand Bar Park and asked if the signage can be placed back up. Council discussed having a large sign with rules about what can't be done, such as no alcohol or smoking and swimming at your own risk. Buoys will be placed out after the water level goes down a bit more.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m. by Mayor Thueson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

