

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 28, 2013, 7:00 p.m.*

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

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

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

Mayor Thueson called the meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE** was led by Mayor Thueson.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Idaho Transportation Department Report on the Del Rio Bridge/David Alvarez District 6** – Project Development Engineer David Alvarez of the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) introduced himself and Design Engineer Drew Meppen and Environmental Specialist Mike Jones. Alvarez said they are here tonight to talk to council about the upcoming Del Rio Bridge Replacement Project. Alvarez said ITD has coordinated with the city to hold a public open house April 9, 2013 from 5-7 p.m. here in city hall. It will be an open format where people can come and go at their leisure. Comment forms will be provided should anyone wish to make written comments. The bridge is a historic byway and fisherman access. There will be a few adjustments relative to the bridge. One is the ownership of the property where the pull out area is located is on private land and so that spot will no longer be available as a pullout. There will be access up stream for fishermen. There is also an osprey nest and an agreement has been signed with a private land owner to place a pole with a nest to encourage the osprey to continue to nest in the area. The old bridge will be dismantled and marketed should someone desire to purchase it. ITD will be meeting with the Historic Byway Group to discuss the bridge. The design will be finished by October this year and go out to bid the following spring. Drivers will have to be rerouted while the bridge is being constructed. The new bridge will be a concrete girder bridge 272 feet long and 42 feet wide. The existing bridge is 24 feet wide. It'll be quite an improvement. Meppen passed around the design plans and some aerial views showing the detour traffic will need to make during the construction. Alvarez said this is just one project on highway 29 and there will be quite a bit of work on highway 20 from Island Park all the way to Idaho Falls over the next few years. Alvarez said they will be painting the bridge on Bridge Street in town and putting in lights on the ramps. Alvarez said the staff in St. Anthony is excellent to work with. He asked if council had any questions. Councilmember Rubert wanted to know if there will be protective walkways on the bridge. Alvarez said there will be an extra wide shoulder to accommodate walkers and bikers. However, nothing designated, unless the city or county designates a walking or biking path on the road prior to the bridge. Currently there isn't a

designated bike path.

**Curb on Business Loop 20 – Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Project**  
Development Engineer David Alvarez said the business loop past Fong's Café and WD Laundry has been permitted to have three accesses on to the highway. When the permit process was done curb and gutter was not required. The question ITD has is where will the water run off to from any curb and gutter. The option proposed by the city engineer was to put the run off on the existing properties. For ITD this is too much of a liability and ITD wants to move the runoff to ITD property where there is plenty of area for it. ITD would like to place in curb and gutter all at once done by ITD at some future date. Alvarez didn't know when that future date would be and this item would be placed on a future needs list. The key things for this roadway are bike paths and sidewalks and trails. As long as trails and bike paths have been identified then they will be placed into the new construction when the roadway is done. They are also looking at a permissive left hand turn lane. Curb and gutter would be placed on both sides of the road from Bridge Street to the city limits. Alvarez said he could meet with the Mayor and city engineers to determine the needs associated with having curb and gutter and to determine when it could be scheduled based on needs. Mayor Thueson said council will take this up and discuss it, giving it some thought and will get back to ITD. City Engineer Paul Scoresby said ITD is encouraging the city not to push having curb and gutter and to allow ITD to develop the road themselves.

**Report from Idaho Art Lab/Kara Hidalgo – Dan and Kara Hidalgo of the Idaho Art Lab** reported on the things that are going on at the Art Lab. Dan provided council with some handouts to council showing all the fun things going on. The Stories of the Upper Snake is an ongoing program provided by an Arts and Education Grant. This is a class free for kids to come and learn a little bit about history, visual arts and literacy. The lab will be using local Snake River clay. The high school class encourages adults to also attend. The Art Supply of Pocatello will be closing their doors and wants to partner with the Idaho Art Lab to retail art supplies. Arts supplies will be available for purchase and a grand opening for the retail section of their store will be on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The Teen Mural Project has begun and calls are being made to start interviews. April 4<sup>th</sup> is the interview day and Councilmember Haeberle will be participating in picking the teen artists. Hidalgo's also provided a calendar of events. Dan said arts and culture are a very important part of a community. Art greatly reflects what a community is. When you support art you are supporting the quality of life in a community making St. Anthony such a great place to live. Dan then thanked council for their support. Dan said about two months ago they realized their lease will be up. They want to be in St. Anthony however, they talked about doing an RFP (Request for Proposals) to find out if there were communities interested in providing an inexpensive place for the Art Lab. It was rumored they would be leaving and some people were upset. They have decided, after talking with the board, they will be staying in St. Anthony and will find a way to make it work. Hidalgo's did request, next time there is a budget committee meeting, if council could try to find some way to help them stay in this community. Dan also provided an "At A Glance" calendar of all the events and programs going on at the Idaho Art Lab. Dan asked council for questions. Councilmember Bagley asked what sort of dollar

amount they are requesting. Dan said they don't really know yet, but their intent is to stay in St. Anthony. Maybe by the next board meeting they might have a number. Kara said 90% of the people coming in are using the free services. If they had to charge then they wouldn't be there. Councilmember Erickson asked in a typical month what are they falling behind in. Kara said the rent is \$500 per month and they fall behind in that. Side projects Kara and Dan do are providing some revenue. Hidalgo's are also contacting the county to see what they can do. They do accept donations as they are a 501(c) organization. Mayor Thueson thanked them for the update saying they are really doing a lot of good things for St. Anthony.

**100 Foot Drag Races/Don Powell** – Don Powell said the car club asked him to come and thank the city for their support in the past and to request permission to have the drag races again at the airport this year. The drag races are scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> and August 24<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup>. The August date is still pending. This will be the fifth or sixth year they have done this. Chief Smith said the community response has been pretty quiet. Powell said they have had up to 100 racers and about 200 to 300 spectators. Councilmember Willmore said the races have gone pretty well. Willmore cautioned Powell to be careful around the airplanes and hangars. Mayor Thueson said the airplanes have the right of way and they would have to police themselves. Willmore was concerned about parked airplanes and ensuring they do not have any contact with the planes. Thueson said there needs to be some sort of barrier. Powell said they do their best to police themselves and even ask people to leave if they do not behave. Thueson said it is an activity which brings people and business into town. No one on council objected to having the drag races in May and August. Mayor Thueson told Powell to go ahead with the races.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

**Tom Howell, member of the St. Anthony Rotary**, said he has been here before to talk about developing the corner property next to the city. Last time they were considering focusing on veterans. Since then, they have visited with representatives from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Foreign Legion. In addition, Howell said he has visited the Veteran's Memorial in Rexburg and discovered it is a five county memorial with Fremont County veterans recognized and represented. Based on all the information and lukewarm reception from local veterans of putting up another memorial, Rotary has decided to move away from identifying veterans individually. They are still excited about developing the area and putting up a flag. However, the theme is now changing to possibly a patriot's park, a liberty park or a pioneer park. Howell is working with South Fremont High School with trying to stress something very specific to the area historically or something to develop patriotism. Bronze statues have also been discussed. Rotary is very excited about doing a project and would request to be on the next council meeting to provide a formal proposal. Phase One would be to raise the flag starting with the Fisherman's Breakfast and ending at the time of the rodeo. This will be about a \$10,000 project. Then over the summer and into the fall Rotary would

like to encourage public comment to find a theme for the park. Howell said he is already working with the Idaho Transportation Department for the permit required. Mayor Thueson said he would place them on the agenda for April 11th.

**Paul Scoresby, Schiess & Associates**, wanted to report the environmental on the West Main Street Project is three to four weeks out. Timeline for construction will be in 2017. Mayor Thueson said the city needs to start thinking about water lines under the road and will be bringing those discussions to council in budgeting.

There being no other comments from the audience Mayor Thueson closed the floor.

**World Autism Day, Tuesday, April 2, 2013** – Mayor Thueson said April 2, 2013 is a day for everyone to be aware of. It is World Autism Day and should be a concern to all of us as 1 in 88 people have a form of autism. This equates to 42 people in our city alone who are living with autism. Thueson said a way to help in this awareness is to go ahead and wear a blue shirt on April 2nd or turn on a blue light to show your support.

**Fair Housing Proclamation** – The month of April is being proclaimed as Fair Housing Month in the City of St. Anthony. Mayor Thueson provided the proclamation saying the month of April marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly known as the federal Fair Housing Act.

**Discuss Possible Open House regarding 12<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction** – Paul Scoresby of Schiess and Associates was present to report on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Project. The road will be 32 feet wide, making it a much safer road. There will be a proposed walkway on one side. There is one area where the city needs to fill in some land on a person's private property. The road isn't on the private property but to make the road the best solution would be to put in some fill. Otherwise it would be a four to five foot drop. The city will be filling over flowers and asparagus, which is important to the home owner, making it important to the city. The homeowner is currently on vacation and as soon as the homeowner and the city can agree on what should be done, then this project can go out to bid. The homeowner did request a walk way on the east side of the bridge. Mayor Thueson said he has made some requests for bids on a walkway. A walkway would make it much safer. The rating on the bridge actually went up this year, making the bridge something which will not be replaced any time soon. Scoresby said they are in a bit of a hold mode until the issue with the land owner is resolved. If it can't be resolved a retaining wall could be done. Thueson is proposing the city should have an open house and invite the people on 12<sup>th</sup> street to show them what the street will look like and what will be happening in front of their homes. The open house will be right before the next council meeting, Thursday, April 11, 2013 from 6 to 7. Flyers will be created to hand out to the residents and information will be placed on the marquee.

**INVOICES & CLAIMS** - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. A motion to pay the invoices and claims was made by Councilmember Bagley and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

**MINUTES** – Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2013 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2013 was made by Councilmember Bagley and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Police Chief Smith** reported he attended the Ashton Dam Table Top Exercise. If the dam were to break at the high water mark there would be some damage, but it would be minimal to the City of St. Anthony. This would be the worst case scenario. The Island Park Reservoir Dam would have a more serious impact, should it fail. The department is working on an Aggressive Driving Mobilization through April 14<sup>th</sup>. Smith also reported teaming up with the Sheriff's Office and making a recent arrest of some drug dealers in town. Mayor Thueson said the police officers did a fine job. Smith said follow up continues.

**PWS Butigan** reported talking to Ryan Harris about the lights in the building. The lights are expected to be changed out the first or second week of April. May 1<sup>st</sup> there will be crews from the work camp going through and cleaning alley-ways for two weeks. Anything hanging over the alley will be trimmed. They will make it a point to not encroach on private property but will trim to the property line. Crews may not get through the entire town but will do what they can. Crews were out today filling pot holes. Loose rock on the chip and seal is being swept up as crews can.

**Attorney Forsberg** had nothing to report.

**Clerk Parkinson** reported having returned from the Mountain West Institute for Clerks and Treasurers and thanked council for allowing her to attend. One of the topics at the Institute was recent legislation and the personal property tax legislation just passed by the house and senate. It is now waiting to be signed by the governor. Parkinson reminded council how important this recent bill was, introduced by AIC (Association of Idaho Cities), as the bill prior to this one would have had a detrimental impact on many cities. The first bill had been introduced by the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry (IACI). Parkinson handed out a sheet indicating the eight most influential groups to the legislature. AIC is number two on the list and IACI is number five on the list. This is important because we are members of the AIC and can attend the Annual Conference in June to speak to our legislatures and receive training and review legislation which may affect our city. Mayor Thueson is currently on their board and he said it is a good thing to attend and very worthwhile. Parkinson asked council if they were interested in attending she would make arrangements for them to go by getting them registered. Parkinson also provided council with the February Month End Fund Summary. Parkinson responded to a few questions regarding the Fund Summary.

## **COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS**

**Councilmember Rubert** reported the Chamber of Commerce Banquet is this Saturday,

March 30, at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Citizens.

**Councilmember Bagley** had nothing to report.

**Councilmember Erickson** had nothing to report.

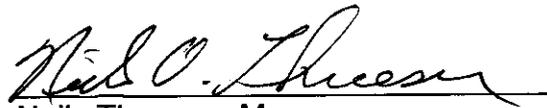
**Councilmember Haeberle** had nothing to report.

**Councilmember Hill** wanted to know how things were going with the library wanting to use the Chamber's storage room. Councilmember Rubert said he is working with the Chamber and the Library to see if they can come to an agreement. It may need to wait until Chamber's next meeting.

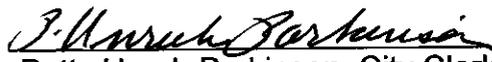
**Councilmember Willmore** asked PWS Butigan if he has had a chance to talk to Rocky Mountain Power about moving the pole at the airport. Butigan said he hasn't.

**Mayor Thueson** had nothing to report.

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

