CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 27, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

ABSENT: Council Members Suzanne Bagley and Lisa Haeberle.

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Bill Forsberg, City Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Police Chief Terry Harris and 28 others in the audience.

Mayor Neils Thueson called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE was led by Boy Scout Tanner Batton of Troop No. 60.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor's Youth Council/Bagley – Brady Robertson and Larae Ashcraft introduced themselves as seniors at South Fremont High School. Both serve on the Mayor's Youth Council for the city. Robertson said they take the community service projects handed to them by the council and work on them. Ashcraft said one project was the Annual Free Thanksgiving Dinner. They assisted with getting the pies needed for the dinner, as well as serving. Ashcraft said they have worked with Councilmember Bagley, who has taught them a lot of leadership qualities. Their next project is an awareness project on May 10th for Special Olympics. This will be a community wide event and all the money will go to Special Olympics. They will be meeting with the underclassmen to pass on the leadership of the Mayor's Youth Council to them. Councilmember Hill said in their last Parks and Recreation meeting they were discussing the replacement of signs in the city's parks. Hill wanted to know if they would be interested in working on this project with Parks and Recreation. Robertson and Ashcraft said they would be interested. Councilmember Erickson asked how many members were in the Mayor's Youth Council. Robertson said they team up with student council and there is about 20 involved. However, you don't need to be a student council member to participate. Anyone interested in participating may. Mayor Thueson said he appreciates their help and everything they do for their community.

Scout Troop #117 Communications Merit Badge & Scout Troop #61 Merit Badge – Mayor Thueson asked all the boy scouts present to say their name, their Troop number and why they are attending tonight's meeting. Each Boy Scout introduced himself. There were members from Troop 60, 61, 155, 117 and 7557. Thueson said he appreciates them and asked them to work hard on their Citizenship and Communication Badges as those badges will help them out in all their future endeavors.

Gwen Hoffman, Chair of Public Relations Committee for the Local LDS Stake,

request for service oriented projects – Gwen Hoffman, of Wilford, said she is the Chair of the Public Relations Committee for the local LDS Stake in St. Anthony. Hoffman said her committee is available for projects in the upcoming year. Mayor Thueson says he welcomes community involvement. Thueson asked her for her phone number. Hoffman said there are also boy scouts in her area interested in Eagle Scout projects. Thueson said one project would be to clean up all the tumble weeds along the fence at the airport. It would be a great help to the city and the city would provide the bags and would come along later to pick them up. Thueson said to also stay in contact with the Chair of our Parks and Recreation Committee, Donna Forsberg, for any additional projects, including our Greenway Clean Up scheduled for Saturday, May 17.

Recognition on Earning the 2013 Tree City USA/Parkinson – Parkinson said on behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation the city was notified as being recognized for earning their 2013 Tree City USA certification. This is the 11th year in a row the city has earned this recognition. Arbor Day will be celebrated Friday, April 25, in Jaycee Park at 10:00 a.m. where the city will plant trees, give the invited first graders a seedling and hear from an Arborist and the Mayor.

Set 2014/15 Budget Hearing Date/August 14, 2014/Parkinson – Parkinson said council needs to set a date for the annual Public Hearing for the 2014-2015 Budget. Following a short discussion for the best date, a motion to set the annual Public Hearing for the 2014-2015 Budget for Thursday, August 14, 2014 at 7 p.m. was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Hill asked Parkinson when the Finance Committee will begin meeting. Parkinson suggested April and would be sending out an email to the committee members and staff.

Phil Winters request to be on agenda regarding leadership of city council – Phil Winters was not in attendance. This item was tabled until Winters contacts the city again.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. Following some questions by council 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 4-0.

MINUTES – Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2014 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2014 was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Hill. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment. Mayor thanked everyone for coming.

Beth Pearson of Kit Circle would like council to discuss dropping the speed limit in Kit Circle or to place signs saying "Children at Play". Seeing this was an item council wanted to discuss and not hold over to another agenda a motion to add to the agenda a discussion of the speed limit at Kit Circle was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

Discussion of Speed Limit in the Kit Circle Mobil Home Park – Beth Pearson of Kit Circle said the current speed limit is 20 mph. Pearson said this is too fast with children in the area. There are children riding their bikes and playing. Pearson said she knows they shouldn't play in the middle of the road, but sometimes it is really hard. She said she has lived there for eight years and every year they go through this and wishes something could be done before someone really gets hurt. Chief Harris said this is a problem and Pearson is not the first or only person to complain. The police department has received several complaints and they try to spend time there. The issue is this is a very narrow street and shaped like a U and not very long. Harris said he thinks 20 mph is fast for this street. It appears people are driving faster than 20, but it's the shape of the street. There is a high residential density in the area, compounding the problem. Attorney Forsberg asked if there are speed bumps in there. Forsberg said speed bumps would slow down the traffic. Councilmember Willmore said the City of Rexburg has removable speed bumps, so during the winter the city could remove them and continue to plow the streets, replacing them in the spring and summer. Thueson said he drives through there quite a bit and agreed 20 mph is fast. Councilmember Rubert said the city should lower the speed limit. Councilmember Hill said they should place in speed bumps. Forsberg said the Chief of Police has to make a recommendation to council and an ordinance needs to be drafted to reduce the speed limit. However, a "Children at Play" sign can be done by public works at the direction of the Mayor. Thueson requested Harris to make a recommendation and a draft ordinance be created. In addition, a work order will be completed to place "Children at Play" signs up. Thueson asked for this item to be on the next city council agenda.

There being no other comment, Mayor closed the floor.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Harris reported on crime reports in the state from last year. The most significant changes in the city were crimes against society such as DUIs and drug offenses doubling last year. Harris didn't know if officers are doing a better job or there is more of it out there or a combination of both. Drug and narcotic offenses were the largest jump. The shooting range is going forward and some things are changing. The first meeting is scheduled for April 11th at 7 pm. Anyone with a serious interest should come as they will be putting the foundation of the club together. Councilmember Rubert said he thought he might become involved. Harris said there will be a 50 yard range for officers and one for the public along with a rifle range and a shot gun range.

Attorney Forsberg reported attending the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting and deferred to Chair Donna Forsberg. Mayor Thueson thought it important to hear from Chair Forsberg and requested she be added to the agenda. A motion to add Chair Forsberg of the Parks and Recreation Committee to the agenda to hear a report was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present approved. Motion passed 4-0.

Parks and Recreation Committee Report/Donna Forsberg – Chair Forsberg reported on what the Parks and Recreation Committee is recommending for some of the city parks. Forsberg provided council with some photos of the equipment the committee would like to see. They would like a double see-saw in Horsey Park (Boyd Yancey Memorial Park). An arch swing for the east side of the Ball Diamonds and one for the west side of the Ball Diamonds. Prices are $2,043 for the see-saw and $1,547 for each swing. Currently these items are on sale and the sale ends March or April. This is why a decision needs to be made now in order to get them ordered and placed in parks this year. Councilmember Hill said the Playground Equipment Fund has $3,500 available and in the past years has always had this amount which has never been used. Hill said he feels confident between the Parks Fund and the Playground Equipment Fund there would be sufficient funding to purchase the requested items. Hill said there are many needs. Forsberg said she is excited to be able to get started on doing some more for our city's parks and looks forward to doing more each year. Forsberg said she is working with Clerk Parkinson and Web Designer Greg Lemon on using the City of St. Anthony's web page to direct service groups to projects within the city. Council thought this was a good idea and gave her the "go-ahead" on this project.

Clerk/Treasurer Parkinson reported the city was awarded $100,000 for the 2015 LRHIP (Local Rural Highway Investment Program) Grant. This grant was written by Parkinson and submitted last fall for the purchase of materials for continued chip and seal of roads in the City of St. Anthony. The city will match the grant with $100,000. A total of 16 LRHIP grants were awarded out of 54. Our district received four of the construction grants and five other LRHIP grants were awarded for signs, transportation plans and federal aid matches. This project may begin October 1, 2015, but probably wouldn't start until August of that year. Parkinson also reported she has successfully completed all the training required to become a Certified Municipal Clerk for the State of Idaho and has recently received this designation. She thanked council for their support in this training and is pleased to be using it for the benefit of the city and its citizens. Mayor Thueson said our city is among one of the rare cities to have a clerk with these qualities. Most cities do not have certified Clerks and congratulated Parkinson. Parkinson also provided council with the monthly Fund Summary ending February 28, 2014. A list of Zoning & Fence Permits was also provided for council's review. Parkinson also reminded everyone to "Go Green" by signing up for e-bills or paperless billing. Thueson said going green means you will still get your city newsletter. It will come to as an email, in color.

COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Councilmember Rubert had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson had nothing to report.

Councilmember Hill congratulated Clerk Parkinson saying she is a great asset to our city and has saved us a lot of money. Hill said we need to let people know what is going on. Mayor Thueson agreed. Hill said it is good to have Donna Forsberg as the Chair of the city's Park and Recreation Committee. Hill said she has breathed life into that committee and is getting things done.

Councilmember Willmore reported former Mayor Beck's Wife passed away Monday. The funeral will be Saturday. Mayor Thueson requested staff to send flowers. Thueson said Beck served the city for a long time and did a good job while he was here.

Mayor Thueson reported on attending the South Fremont School Board meeting regarding the tennis courts and the St. Anthony Mini Park. The School Board is going to look into options. School Board Chair James Neubauer made the suggestion to have the school district convey the property over to the city and the additional property of the entire block. Thueson said this is something council may consider. However, it will not be considered should the tennis courts remain in their current condition. Thueson said the original contract with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation shows the school is responsible for the upkeep of the tennis courts. Thueson said the city shouldn't take on something which hasn't had any maintenance done to them in a number of years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE 67-2345, subsection 1 (b) – There was no motion to go into executive session.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Thueson

Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:

Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer