

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 26, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

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

ABSENT: Council Member Suzanne Bagley.

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Police Chief Terry Harris, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan and three others in the audience.

Mayor Thueson called the meeting to order.

PRAYER was offered by Councilmember Hill. (This is a non-denominational offering and anyone who would like to offer prayer may do so by request.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Boy Scout Tyler Murri.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Tyler Murri/Eagle Scout Project for the City – Boy Scout Tyler Murri said he is working on his Eagle Scout Project and would like to build some benches for the city. Murri said he would like to place the benches at Keefer Park for people to watch the river go by or watch their children. His proposal would be to build two six foot high back benches. He asked for what sort of details the city would like to see for the benches. Council and staff advised him on the details. Murri asked if the city would be willing to donate towards the cost of materials. He said it would cost about \$80 for each bench and he already has Ace Hardware donating some materials and supplies. Councilmember Hill advised Murri to try to get donations from the city and or city businesses and if not fully successful to come to the Parks and Recreation Committee to see if they could fund any remaining costs. Murri showed council a photo of one of the benches. A motion to allow Murri to build the two benches for the city and to proceed with his Eagle Scout Project was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Haeberle. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Report on West Main Street Project/Thueson – Mayor Thueson said he met with Paul Scoresby of Schiess and Associates regarding the completed design of the West Main Street Project. There are some items, considered a “punch list”, which require the city to make some decisions on. Thueson said LED lighting will be included for the street lights with no extra lighting such as Christmas lights. Thueson asked if this was okay with council. Everyone said it was. Item two was a note allowing the city to take all the old lights and posts. PWS Butigan wasn't sure if the light poles even belonged to the city. He thought they were all owned by Rocky Mountain Power. Thueson said if

they do belong to the city, the city should keep them and try to salvage what they can. Item three was whether or not the Assisted Living Housing is to keep their own HTSOP lights, this is a parking light. Councilmember Erickson said depending on where the light is positioned would determine if this is something the city needs to deal with or not. Thueson said he would follow up on all of these items with staff and Schiess and Associates. Another item is whether or not the city wants the old asphalt. Butigan said they are not roto-milling it and it cannot be crushed, so it is of no value to the city. Another item is the approach to the gas station. Thueson said he will recommend the approach be without curb, as it is now. This is what the gas station wants. Another item is the stamping of the sidewalk in front of St. Anthony Motors. Erickson said the city already visited with Owner Bob Bauer about it and Bauer is okay with having the city pay for the stamping and Bauer would do it himself. The city would also like to have the street fog-coated. Butigan said this would be best if they grind it like they did with East Main. If not, then it doesn't matter, it'll be just like 12th Street. There is nothing in the design for rock. Butigan said most of it has been bore sampled and we pretty much know what is there. The city might hit rock putting in the water lines. It is unlikely rock will be hit by the contractor. Thueson said he also told them as they repair the ground next to the new sidewalks, the landscaping will be done with what was there before, i.e. sod will be replaced with sod, dirt with dirt, rock with rock. The city will want waterous hydrants. Currently, the city has painted curbs and striping for parking. The city will want this to be completed with the project. There are also some owners who still need to be contacted regarding some of the curbing and removal of the old sidewalks. The document is supposed to be in Scott Ellsworth's hands of LHTAC ITD (Local Highway Technical Assistance Council/Idaho Transportation Department) no later than Monday next week.

Review of Properties Identified with High Grass/Weeds/Butigan - Clerk Parkinson reported sending out warning letters to a number of property owners regarding the tall grass and/or weeds on their property. Parkinson explained the process she went through and tonight will be showing to council those properties still not in compliance. Photos of twelve properties were displayed to council for their review. Mayor Thueson said two things can happen. First a citation can be issued and then have the properties cleaned, or the city can just go and clean up the property. Parkinson said many property owners did, in fact, mow down the tall weeds and grass. Those properties that didn't were mostly unoccupied properties or properties in a foreclosure or foreclosed status. Parkinson said the next step would be to send a certified letter to the property owner giving them a date to mow down the weeds after which the city would then decide if they want to abate the property and charge the water account or to issue a citation. After reviewing all the photos a motion to begin the process of sending a certified letter to the property owner as describe by city code to all the properties shown tonight was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

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 Erickson and

seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2014 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2014 was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Harris reported the department will be taking part in a DUI Grant starting Saturday. The majority of this work will be done after dark. The stripes are on the newest police vehicle.

PWS Butigan reported crews are working on the streets. Three are rota-milled and ready for chip seal. The streets are looking pretty good. Chip sealing will begin probably the third week of July. It will take about three days. Crews plan on doing the entire "Island", Linford Addition, Kit Circle, Juniper View and if anything is left they will start the "short" streets. Most the streets will be double coated, as they are getting pretty bad. The city won't be able to finish as many miles, but this can be made up next year with the grant awarded to the city from the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC). This should allow crews to finish the rest of the town. Mayor Thueson said to tell the crews they are doing a good job. The streets and parks look good.

Clerk/Treasurer Parkinson provided council with the Greenway clean up report from Kyle Babbitt. More than 100 volunteers came out to help with the Greenway and clean up the city parks, including a section of Highway 20. Parkinson said a presentation, which Mayor Thueson volunteered to do, will be presented at the next HUD Consortium meeting. Funds have recently become available with the City of Island Park backing out of requested funding for a study of the Island Park area. Parkinson has prepared a request for \$10,000 of those available funds for some technical assistance to find a way to connect the north and south sides of the Greenway. The Consortium will be meeting Tuesday, July 1. The funds, should they be received, will go towards a consultant who will meet with the necessary parties and provide a plan to cross the river and connect the Greenway to create a complete loop. Parkinson also reported on hearing back from III-A (Idaho Independent Intergovernmental Authority) on what the renewal rates will be for employee Health Care. An actuary has calculated an increase in the range of 16-22%. Parkinson said she will update the proposed budget by the maximum increase and hope it is less. III-A is also seeking the advice of a second actuary. A review of other cities and their increases show this increase is the norm. Hopefully, things should begin to settle as the Affordable Care Act settles in the next few years. Beginning October 1, 2014, III-A will be offering what they are calling Plan B-70. This plan can be used by cities to offer insurance to those employees who work part time, temporary or seasonal. This would also include elected officials. Should the city council choose, they could now offer this Plan B-70. It is something the city can offer and not pay for to

allow employees another option over the insurance market place. Currently, the plan costs \$527 per month. This might be something the city council can think about doing beginning with the upcoming fiscal year, October 1, 2014.

COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Councilmember Rubert reported attending the open house at the new transfer station, "Dinner at the Dump". Rubert said it was a very good tour and pretty impressive. The first load to the new transfer station will be hauled in next Tuesday as their test load. Rubert said Brandon Harris from Fremont County has a slide show and said he would be willing to come to council to show it to them. Mayor Thueson said it has been a while since the city council has visited with the county commission and it would be a good idea to invite one to a city council meeting. Thueson instructed Parkinson to invite a commissioner to an upcoming council meeting.

Councilmember Erickson had nothing to report.

Councilmember Haeberle had nothing to report.

Councilmember Hill reported the Upper Valley Youth Association (UVYA) had their baseball tournaments here. They really like our ball fields. They are in good shape. Additionally, Madison is having a tournament next week and they will also be using our fields. This is a complement to the city. Hill also reported Bonnie Moon called him and said the school board is still haggling over the tennis courts. Mayor Thueson said the school contacted the City of Rexburg to take over the school's responsibility for those tennis courts. Rexburg will identify an area in Rexburg for tennis courts and will take over the schools obligation. Thueson then said the school will then put that piece of property up for sale and sell it. Thueson said he spoke to the Rexburg Mayor at the Annual AIC (Association of Idaho Cities) meetings in Boise and asked why they wanted to do this, since it obligates them into perpetuity. The Mayor of Rexburg apologized. Thueson said it is just taking a tennis court away from the City of St. Anthony. Hill said after speaking with Bonnie Moon they both think the school and the city should have them and maintain them. Hill said he believes it's an asset to the city and the school. The school district owns the entire block, but the part designated as a park is the tennis courts and the basketball court. To repair the tennis courts would cost \$20,000. At one time the school was going to give the property to the city, along with the obligation to care for the tennis courts. Councilmember Erickson asked if they would be willing to help if the city would help with half of it. Thueson said he has already asked the school to do this and they declined. Currently, the property is zoned as a Public Service District. Should the school decide to sell it to anyone else they would then need to have it rezoned should it be something other than a Public Service District. Hill said maybe the city needs to go back to the school district and talk about taking the entire property and the obligation with no exchange of money. Thueson said this was once offered, however they have since learned there is some value to the property and he doesn't think they are willing to offer that again. The city could decide to make something else out of it like a dog park. Hill said another idea would be a rec center. He said he would

ask the Parks and Recreation Committee to take a look at whether or not this would be an option. Hill said this would be an ideal spot. Hill said he would visit with the school board.

Councilmember Willmore had nothing to report.

Mayor Thueson reported Nicky Chavez, Director of the Five County Detention & Youth Rehabilitation Center, contacted him asking if the city has any work projects for them on July 17th. Thueson said they could clean up the garbage along the river. Thueson said Chavez didn't think a project along the river was something he wanted to put his prisoners next to. Another project is painting some of the playground equipment in the parks. Thueson asked if council can think up other projects to let him know and he'll let Chavez know. PWS Butigan said there are a lot of weeds on the state right of way on East Yellowstone.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment. There being no other comment, Thueson closed the floor.

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:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

