*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY*
*REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES*
*February 12, 2015, 7:00 p.m.*
*420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

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

**ABSENT:** Mayor Neils Thueson and Council Member Suzanne Bagley.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Deputy Treasurer Kathy Lehmann, Police Chief Terry Harris, Attorney Bill Forsberg and two others in the audience.

Council President Willmore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE** was led by Planning and Zoning Member and Citizen Jim Hobbs.

Council President Willmore excused the Mayor and Councilmember Bagley's absence.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Jim Hobbs/Discussion of Sidewalks** – Jim Hobbs, of St. Anthony, said it is difficult to walk on the sidewalks because of the snow accumulated on them. He said he walked six blocks on one direction and had to walk into the street because the snow wasn't removed from the sidewalks. He is concerned someone is going to get run over. Hobbs said there are provisions in the city's code which allow for snow removal from sidewalks. Hobbs referred to Ordinance number 2009-3 regarding sidewalk access and safe passage of all persons traveling upon public sidewalks. Hobbs also referred to section 8.32.010 regarding the removal of snow and/or ice from sidewalks at all times. Hobbs said this never happens. In addition, the city code also discusses the failure to remove and the costs and assessments should a person fail, neglect or refuse to remove the snow and/or ice. The city can impose a tax assessment. Hobbs said there is a means to get it off the sidewalk and a reason to get it off the sidewalk. Hobbs said cities in Montana, Bozeman, Helena and Missoula have ordinances and they tell the public they have to remove their snow. Hobbs said this is in the city code and it is a concern. He said he is here tonight to express his concerns, but doesn't expect anything to be done about it this year. He suggested next year the public should become aware of the problem by placing something on the marquee. Council President Willmore asked Hobbs where he is talking about. Hobbs said all public sidewalks, commercial and residential. Hobbs said this is a community wide problem and needs to be addressed by the community. Maybe boy scouts could help the elderly. Additionally, the work camp used to shovel as a community service. Hobbs is

requesting more public awareness of the city code. Councilmember Haeberle said this is something the city can put into the monthly newsletter and on the marquee. Attorney Forsberg said the ordinance (8.32.010) does say adjoining sidewalks in the business district. 8.32.020 does talk about failure to remove by any person in front of his premises. Forsberg said he is uncomfortable saying if it is all residents or just commercial. Hobbs referred to section 12.14.030 – Rubbish or debris unlawful, saying it shall be unlawful to permit rubbish or debris to be on the sidewalks for any person or persons, firm or corporation owning or occupying premises within the corporate limits of the city. This includes everyone for anything on the sidewalks. Forsberg said it is unclear. Chief Harris said from a law enforcement standpoint, trying to enforce this would create a lot of hatred towards the police department. Willmore said it would certainly create a lot of mad people. Willmore said there are many people that do not have the means to remove snow. Harris said Hobbs has a good idea trying to get back to the public to have pride in their property. The first thing the city can do to address it would be completing sidewalks throughout the city. Councilmember Rubert thought an awareness campaign first would be good. Council members present agreed.

**Consideration of approving the recommended proposed Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, revised text of Chapter 6-12 Stock and Fowl, to Chapter 2.44 and changes to Chapter 15.20 Sign Code by the Planning and Zoning Commission/2nd reading** – Council President Willmore said this is the second reading of the proposed Zoning Ordinances and would entertain a motion to suspend the rules and read them by title only. A motion to suspend the rules and read each ordinance by title only was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Ordinance No. 2015-01, an ordinance repealing title 17 and adopting a new title 17, Zoning, was read by Councilmember Rubert by title only. Ordinance No. 2015-02, an ordinance repealing Title 16, Subdivisions and adopting a new Title 16, Subdivisions was read by Councilmember Erickson by title only. Ordinance No. 2015-03, an ordinance repealing Chapter 15.20, Sign Code, enacting a new Chapter 15.30, Sign Code, was read by Councilmember Haeberle by title only. Ordinance No. 2015-04, an ordinance repealing Chapter 6.12 of Title 6, Stock and Fowl, and adopting a New Chapter 6.12 of Title 6, Stock and Fowl was read by Councilmember Hill by title only. Ordinance No. 2015-05, an ordinance repealing sections 2.44.010, Appointment, 2.44.030, Term of Office, 2.44.050, Duties, 2.44.060, Other Duties, and Chapter 2.66, Public Hearings, of Title 2, Administration and Personnel and adopting new sections 2.44.010, Appointment, 2.44.030, Term of Office, 2.44.050, Duties, 2.44.060, Other Duties and Chapter 2.66, Public Hearings, of Title 2, Administration and Personnel was read by Council President Willmore by title only. These ordinances will be on the next city council's agenda for a third and final reading.

**Discussion of applying for a FLAP Grant to cross river on the Greenway** – Councilmember Hill said Clerk Parkinson requested he present this request tonight. FLAP stands for Federal Lands Access Program. The city would like to partner with the Upper Snake Field Office of the BLM and Field Manger Jeremy Casterson to submit a FLAP grant application to obtain access to the BLM Islands between the Greenway's

North and South pathways. In order to evaluate the bridge crossing further upstream it will be necessary to evaluate some trail alignment options around the islands and to connect to the existing trial on both sides of the river. Mike Arneson of JUB will perform the conceptual trail alignment design in conjunction with the bridge concept design work. This work will be performed under the current HUD Technical Assistance Grant already awarded to us. Parkinson has asked for an extension on this grant in order to get the application completed no later than April 3. We would be submitting a grant for the entire project, which would be a rather large capital improvement to the city. This could cost anywhere from $500,000 to $2,000,000 of which the city would need to match 7.34% of the total proposed request. This could include "soft matches" or "in-kind matches", such as cable for suspension bridges or other donated property, possibly the Fun Farm Bridge, or other donated materials or services. Parkinson will also be asking for Fremont County to participate in this, thus reducing our possible match to half of the 7.34%. The Mayor and Parkinson will be meeting next week, February 18th, with all the stakeholders to see if applying is possible. Parkinson and the Mayor are requesting the support of city council in pursuing this grant and the support of city council to provide a match should the city be awarded. This grant could also be paired down to phases should the city feel the need to financially support it in phases. A motion to support the application for a FLAP Grant and a 7.324% match was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Council President Willmore opened the floor for public comment.

There being no comments Willmore moved on to the next agenda item.

**INVOICES & CLAIMS** - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. Following some questions which were satisfactory answered by staff, a motion to pay the invoices and claims was made by Councilmember Haeberle and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**MINUTES** - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2015 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2015 was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Haeberle. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Police Chief Harris** said he has been doing some research on doing a public survey regarding the police department. The university wanted $3,500 to complete the survey, which he thought was a little steep. He looked around and after speaking with employee Mike Sawyer he found someone from the Hispanic population who would be willing to complete the work for $1,000 or less depending on the amount of time it takes. The city will need at least 250 responses. This would be a door to door survey and not

mail. When doing a mailed survey he learned the only people responding are either those who really like the police department and those who really dislike the police department. The ones the city really needs to poll are those in the middle, as they give the department the most useful information to work with. Harris is requesting council's approval to begin the surveying and the money would be coming out of the police department's budget. Councilmember Rubert said he has spoken to Harris about this and supports this request. All councilmembers were in support. Harris also provided council with some information regarding the effects of legalizing marijuana in Colorado. One was a list of crimes, disorderly conduct, drugs, narcotics, all other offenses and simple assaults, showing a spike in 2012. 2012 was not when it became legal for recreational use of marijuana, but when they decriminalized small amounts of marijuana. Anything less than two ounces became an infraction rather than a misdemeanor. This chart shows the significant impact it had on those crimes. One would think a drug and narcotic offenses would go down, when in fact, they significantly increased from almost meniscal to 3,000 offenses in 2012. Following that are disorderly conduct and assault, all are spiking. The two studies show Denver only and state wide mimics the Denver statistics. The increase is ten times what it was prior. Another study showed the drugs which are being seized in other states when coming out of Colorado have increased by 300% from 2009 to 2012. Another report showed calls to hospitals directly related to marijuana use went form 2,500 calls to over 8,000. Harris said it is important council understand how this can affect a community. Council members need this information when discussing it with legislatures and the public. Council President Willmore said his wife attended an ambulance call which was assisted by Officer Neff. Willmore's wife came home that evening and expressed how much she appreciated Officer Neff. Willmore said thank you.

**PWS Butigan** reported they are working on the outside of the building and working on the equipment for spring. Council President Willmore said there are about a dozen lights at the airport which have been run over and smashed. Chief Harris said there are many people commenting on how well the road crew has removed the snow from the roads this year. Councilmember Erickson asked about the status on the sewer line at 45 W 5th S. Butigan said a lift station will be necessary. Butigan has been working with DEQ and hopefully approval will be quick. There has been some discussions on funding and whether or not the St. Anthony Hydro Plant will be paying or if a grant will be applied for by the city. Right now, as far as we know, the Hydro Plant will be taking care of the lift station financially. Councilmember Rubert said at one time there was discussion of just moving the line laterally down the street for a gravity flow. Butigan said they did find out a gravity flow won't work there. Butigan said he did get an engineer's report on the bridge and if there is six inches of water flowing against the bridge it cannot handle the sideways movement and will fail.

**Attorney Forsberg** had nothing to report.

**Deputy Treasurer Lehmann** reported the city hired a part time front office employee to replace an employee leaving in April. Her name is Melissa Asher.

## COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

**Councilmember Rubert** reported the Chamber of Commerce Banquet is this Friday, the 13th at the Presbyterian Church at 7:00 p.m. Judy Hobbs has put this banquet together and we appreciate her. The Chamber also announced last night at their meeting they understand the city will be taking care of the flowers throughout the city by utilizing Northfork Nursery. The Fisherman's Breakfast Committee has had a meeting and it seems like the individuals who have done this in years past will continue to meet in the foreseeable future. They still would like input from the city council in promoting "new blood" and coming around and helping or to phase in a new leadership. There are a lot of donations coming through and the financial end of the breakfast is pretty secure at this time. They are still seeking volunteers and people who are willing to step up and allow the "seasoned veterans" to step back.

**Councilmember Erickson** had nothing to report.

**Councilmember Hill** reported our Parks and Recreation Committee is going to be ordering a merry-go-round in Keefer Park. This will be replacing the one already there.

**Council President Willmore** had nothing to report.

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

Nels Thueson, Mayor

Attest:

Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer