

CITY OF ST. ANTHONY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 9, 2015, 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, Rick Hill, Russ Rubert and Rod Willmore.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Lisa Haeberle.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Attorney Bill Forsberg, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan, Chief of Police Terry Harris and 31 others in the audience.

Mayor Thueson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRAYER** was offered by Attorney Forsberg. (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 Clerk/Treasurer Parkinson.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Presentation of Winners Drug Free Essay Contest/Nicole Powell & Emilie Luna/Officer Packer** – Mayor Thueson said the police department, specifically Officer Packer, has been working with the Junior High grades teaching them about what it means to be drug free. Packer explained how he challenged the students to write an essay on why they are drug free. Thueson said because this is so important he is requesting the winners of the essay to read their essays out loud. Both Powell and Luna read their essays. Packer explained to those in attendance how drugs affect a community and a person and how he went to the school to work and speak with the kids. Packer then explained how the city received the essays and through a selection process made up of a few staff members (not members of the police department) and the Mayor selected the winners of the essay contest. Thueson said he commends the police department for the work they did educating the city's youth. Packer and Thueson then awarded Powell, a sixth grader, with the first place award of \$100 and Luna, a eighth grader, with the second place award of \$50.

**Midnight Muscle Car Club/100 Foot Drag Races/Request to use area at Industrial Park/Adam Trappa** – Adam Trappa, President of the Midnight Muscle Car Club, said he was elected last fall as the new president. Trappa said the club has been coming to St. Anthony to do their 100 Food Drag Races event for the last six years. Trappa said, most importantly, he wanted to thank the city for allowing the club to utilize the airport for their event over the years. He said it is difficult to find a location where it is safe for them. He said he also would like to apologize because of the conflict last year. However, they are now under new management. Trappa said this will be the last year

they plan on doing this event in St. Anthony because next year a local drag strip facility will be moving into Idaho Falls. A couple of weeks ago they met with the Mayor and looked at another place to hold the event. However, the road suggested is too narrow and unfortunately would be unsafe. Another club member spoke to Neil Shupe (an aerial applicator) and reported Shupe wouldn't have a problem with them using the airport. Trappa said they understand the airport is getting busier and they do not want to get into anyone's way. The club has also contacted the high school to see if they could use any area there in their parking lot and no one has returned their call. Trappa said they are asking for the city to allow them one or two more events for this year and then there wouldn't be any more after that. Councilmember Willmore said Airport Board Chair Travis Eva provided council with a letter regarding the drag races. Eva addressed all the concerns they had and met last fall providing council with a recommendation to not allow the drag races at the airport. Willmore said there was a problem last year and even though it was worked out, it did open their eyes about some of the issues. At times, there are very expensive airplanes being parked at the airport and any damage to these planes could cost upwards to a million dollars. In addition, the city has received grants and have spent money on putting up a fence, seal coating and painting the airport runways and taxi ways, including the area where the club raced. The airport board doesn't want to tear up the work done. Willmore said they have enjoyed the races and have supported them as they happened. However, it has come to a time for the city to say no and this is the recommendation from the Airport Board. Mayor Thueson said even though the club has liability insurance the city would certainly be named in any liability suit. Attorney Forsberg said as the owner of the land, the city has an underlying liability should something occur. Should there be damage to property or injury to persons the city could be liable. Willmore said six years ago there was one crop duster and very few other planes flying. Now there are three crop dusters and he is aware of three individuals taking flying lessons coming in and out of the airport. Things have changed. Councilmember Erickson said the people on the Airport Board are going to be the people he will be listening to. Erickson then thanked Trappa and his club for bringing in good people over the past years and supporting the community for everything they have done. Erickson said they have done a good job in the past and he appreciates them. Thueson said he would entertain a motion if the city should or should not extend this request. A motion to deny the Midnight Muscle Car Club access to the airport for their event, based on the recommendation of the Airport Board, was made by Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. Council members Willmore, Rubert and Erickson approved. Council members Bagley and Hill opposed. Motion passed 3-2. Thueson said access to the airport has been denied. He apologized to the club members and thanked them for attending.

**Request for Ordinance for Backyard Burials/Amil Quayle** – Amil Quayle, a resident of the city, said he wants to be buried in his own yard. He said there is no state statute against it and he is asking the city for permission to allow it. Mayor Thueson asked Attorney Forsberg to advise council and Quayle what it would take for the city to consider this request. Forsberg said the city has a zoning law. This law is exclusionary, meaning if it is not listed as a permitted use it is not permitted. This is a use not listed, thus not permitted. However, should the city consider adding the law for human burials

it would require an ordinance to allow for it. The county has addressed this issue and they allow for it. The terms for it is a survey of the burial site and a recordation of the burial site and then notice to any future property owner of the burial site. These are the basic terms of such an ordinance for allowing human burial on private property. The process, like any land use law, would start with Planning & Zoning (P&Z). P&Z would hold a public hearing and provide a recommendation to council. Council could then act on that recommendation. Quayle then said that is too complicated and he withdraws his request.

**Keith Nave/VFW American Flags** – Keith Nave, representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), asked council if he could, as in years past, put out the American flags during holidays. Mayor Thueson said absolutely. All council members agreed. Nave then said he would like a sign to be placed identifying the Veteran's Memorial Park. All council members agreed a sign would be okay. Thueson told Nave to go to Parks & Recreation to have them recommend a sign. Nave said currently at the Veterans Memorial there are some 12 x 12 logs laying there he'd like to have them removed and replaced with something like a vinyl fence with a walk way between to decorate the front of the memorial. Thueson said that sounded like a good idea. Nave said he has to bring this up to the VFW. Nave then said he would really like to see an electronic sign to replace the current city marquee. He said there are so many messages to come before the public which never get noticed. Nave suggested there is enough clubs in town, including the VFW, which could probably give the city a hand, financially, in procuring one. Thueson said the current marquee seems to serve the city well. Nave said it is not sufficient. Councilmember Hill asked Nave to meet with the VFW Board and have them come back and meet with the City's Park & Recreation Board and have them provide council with a recommendation of the things they would like. Nave said he could do this. Nave then said he commends the police department for everything they do. Councilmember Erickson thanked Nave for doing all the work on the flags. Nave said he also has all the American Flags on hand and available for purchase for the city, including the largest size. Nave said you are authorized to take those big flags down, like the one in the Rotary Park, and take off a foot on the end for repair. PWS Butigan said this is what they are currently doing now.

**Permit for Parking Lot Green House Ace Hardware/Parkinson** – Clerk Parkinson reported Dan's Ace Hardware, like last year, has come to the city again this year requesting the use of part of the city parking lot for a tent for spring and summer nursery plant sales. A motion to provide a use permit to Dan's Ace Hardware for the erection and use of a tent for spring and summer nursery plants sales for a \$100.00 fee was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Hill. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**Requests for Proposal for Garbage Services/Review/Discuss/Decision** – Mayor Thueson said a request for proposal for Solid Waste Collection was sent out and the city received three proposals. Thueson said we have started on this proposal in plenty of time as the city has until the last day of September before the current contract runs out with the current provider. Thueson said he would like to appoint three members of

the council to review in depth each of these proposals, by working with Clerk Parkinson, and if they wanted to meet with the individuals who have provided proposals. After review they can come back to city council with their review and recommendation. Thueson said if council wanted to work on it tonight, that would be okay, too. However, there really is no reason to begin tonight, since there is some time. Councilmember Hill said he has some questions he'd like to ask the proposers. Thueson appointed council members Willmore, Hill and Erickson to be on the committee. A date was picked to meet on Wednesday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m.

**TRPTA (Targhee Regional Public Transit Authority) Contribution** – Mayor Thueson said TRPTA has sent the city an invoice for \$1,000. This amount from the city would be match money for their grant requests. Amanda Ely, General Operations Manager, said the city agreed to this request a year and a half ago. Thueson said Ely provided the city with some statistics regarding the number of rides they provide in St. Anthony. Thueson said they do a lot of “demand” rides. These are rides where the rider calls to have them picked up at a certain time and place. TRPTA dispatched 501 trips in total for St. Anthony. TRPTA is used in our area. Thueson said he has spoken to the bus driver. He entered the bus, which stops here in front of the city building the other day, and asked the bus driver just how many people he's picked up here. The driver told him no one. People however are riding by demand and not by the scheduled bus stop times. In order for TRPTA to function and operate, they need to have some government money. The \$1,000 we provide will turn into \$2,000 as it will be used as a match. Councilmember Bagley asked what the fee for the individual to ride is. Thueson said for the senior citizen it is free for others it's from \$3 to \$6. Clerk Parkinson reported Ely will be attending the next city council meeting. The invoice from TRPTA is included in the bills to be approved by council tonight.

**Fair Housing Month Proclamation** – Mayor Thueson said this is something he does every year. Thueson said he is proclaiming April to be Fair Housing Month in the City of St. Anthony. The proclamation will be posted for anyone interested in reading it in its entirety.

**Personnel Policy Recommended Changes/Personnel Committee/Parkinson** – Clerk Parkinson reported the Personnel Committee met January 14<sup>th</sup> in regards to some changes to the Personnel Policy. The first proposed and recommended change is the need to better define the Accrual Schedule for Full Time Employees and the Maximum Time Accumulated in earning Paid Time Off (PTO) hours. Parkinson explained it didn't make sense a person hired on the last day of the year should be able to move to the next step in one day when someone hired on the first day of the year had to wait an entire year. It is recommended by the committee to remove the first step in each schedule and to require steps be earned on the anniversary of the hire date. The other recommended changed was proposed by Chief Harris. Harris would like to add to the current personnel policy to section II Employment Startup, subsection D, Introductory Period, a change for newly employed Police Officers. He would like them to be subject to an additional probationary standard. He would like a non-certified officer to have a six (6) month probationary period that starts on the day this agency is notified the officer

has successfully completed the Idaho POST academy. Officers with current Idaho certification will begin the six (6) month probation commencing on the date of hire. Finally, Parkinson reported, in order to be compliant with the rules regarding the Affordable Care Act, a change in the definition of a Full-Time Regular Employee needed to be made. The old definition was an employee whose typical work week consists of at least 40 hours. This will need to be changed to 30 or more hours. A Part-Time Regular Employee is one described as a person whose typical work week consists of less than 30 hours. Councilmember Erickson asked if there were any employees working more than 30 and less than 40. Parkinson said there is not. There are employees working less than 30 and all the others work 40. A motion to make the changes as recommended by the Personnel Committee and described by Parkinson was made by Councilmember Rubert and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**Change date of Public Hearing for 2015/2016 Budget to Thursday August 13, 2015 7 p.m./Parkinson**

– Clerk Parkinson reported County Clerk Abbie Mace contacted her and explained our public hearing for next year's budget must occur before Labor Day weekend so the county commissioners have time to review things at their meeting in September. So a change in the date is required and Parkinson needs to get it back to the county quickly. A motion to add a change of date for the 2015/16 Budget Hearing was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Clerk Parkinson suggested Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 7 p.m. be the Public Hearing for the 2015/2016 Budget. August 27<sup>th</sup> is the night of Summer Fest. A motion to accept Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 7 p.m. as the Public Hearing date for the 2015/2016 Budget was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Parkinson reminded council there is a scheduled Finance Committee meeting for Monday April 27, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

Jim Hobbs, citizen, said he has some concerns about tipping fees out at the landfill and how that may affect garbage rates. He said he is frustrated as he has always recycled and now when he goes out there they tell him to just dump it in the pit. They are no longer recycling. He said it doesn't make sense. He said the county commissioners met and have agreed to increase the landfill tax fee by double. He wanted to know if this has anything to do with the residential garbage rates in the city. Clerk Parkinson said each proposal has a clause in their proposal about the possibility of renegotiating should the tipping fees increase significantly. Thueson said he understands citizens in the city also pay county taxes. All of this will be taken in to consideration and his point is well taken and everyone is concerned about it.

There being no other comments Thueson 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 Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

**MINUTES** - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2015 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2015 with one correction of adding the name of the citizen, who made a comment, Samuel Merrick, was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Chief Harris** provided council with a small packet of information regarding the police department and duty assignments. His report showed a little bit about what is going on in the city. It is a comparison of some of the calls the officers attended at this time this year versus last year. This is just for the first quarter of each year. In 2014 the city had six felony arrests and in 2015 there were 15. In 2014 there were 51 misdemeanor charges and in 2015 there have been 66. The last report is total incidents (anything an officer has to write a report on). In 2014 there were 295 incidents reported and in 2015 there have been 352. This represents about a 20% increase in the work load. The last report is the number of incidents reported by the public and is an increase in the work an officer has to do. This is something the officer is not able to manage himself. These are calls coming from the public, where dispatch sends the officer to the call and they must write a report. Mayor Thueson said this is good information and the kind of information he likes to see. Officer Neff is currently attending a narcotics training. The training is free and paid for by the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) and the city just has to pay for the officer to stay in Boise for the training. Thueson said, unfortunately, this is the kind of training the department needs.

**PWS Butigan** reported the city shop work on the stuccoing should be done tomorrow, weather permitting. The water tank overflowed for about an hour this morning. Apparently, the telemetry on the radios is too slow. The SCADA Technician says there is a two hour lag time between the water tank telling the well to turn off. This is causing the well to overflow. The technician will be providing some estimates on fixing this issue. A rough guess is around \$5,000. Butigan thought the current radios were purchased around 2004. In order for it to properly work, the city needs to look at upgrading the radios. The sprinkler system at Boyd Yancey Memorial Park has been upgraded. This should cut the watering time down from an hour and half for each zone to 30 to 40 minutes.

**Attorney Forsberg** had nothing to report.

**Clerk Parkinson** reminded council Arbor Day is Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at 10:00 a.m. in Boyd Yancey Memorial Park and everyone is invited to attend. Four trees

will be planted and the first graders from Henry's Fork Elementary will be in attendance helping the city plant. Each first grader will receive a seedling to plant at home in addition to cookies and punch. The city was awarded \$300 from the Arbor Day Foundation. The Association of Idaho Cities Annual Conference is being held in Boise June 10-12. Please let Parkinson know if anyone from council would like to attend. Parkinson also reported the BYU-Idaho Intern Sid Smith will graduate tomorrow and today was his last day working for the city in the city offices. Mayor Thueson thanked him and wished him good luck in his future career.

## **COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS**

**Councilmember Rubert** reported he attended the last Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber said they have some money left in their Flower Fund and wished to have some guidance or direction from the city about what should be done with this money, since donations were matched by the city. The total is \$2,436.58. The Chamber proposes flower beds or beatification above and beyond what North Fork Nursery has been contracted to do. Chief Harris suggested the possibility of contacting the Rotary about placing some flowers by the flag in the newly formed Rotary Park. Rubert said he will talk to the Chamber and the Rotary about this, as it may be a good option. Mayor Thueson said there are many parks in town and they could do any flower beds or beatification they would like to do. North Fork Nursery is contracted only for the beds on Bridge Street and those in front of the city buildings and the flower beds in the city parking lot behind Dan's Ace Hardware. Rubert said he would report this back to the Chamber. The Fisherman's Breakfast Committee is requesting some young "up-and-coming" business people try and get involved in the Free Fisherman's Breakfast. They are soliciting the aid of city council in recruiting some new individuals. Rubert also suggested the Mayor's Youth Council could make up some sort of sub-committee. The Fisherman's Breakfast Committee would also like to erect by the bridge in Keefer Park some sort of sculptor or piece of art depicting a fishing rod with an emblem of a fish on it to welcome patrons to the Fisherman's Breakfast. This would be a permanent piece. This year they would have a temporary piece to obtain public comment. They want to come up with some sort of representation of the City of St. Anthony and felt fishing is a good representation. Thueson said this would be a good promotion of the city, since we have a river running right through town. Rubert said he also wants to reiterate some of the things said about our police department tonight. There are five police officers and one technician who have over 40 different responsibilities and Rubert wants to commend the police department. They are a very cohesive team and have the safety and service of the citizens of the City of St. Anthony at heart. Two of our officers are full members of the regional SWAT (Special Weapons And Tactics) Team. The city is recognized in the region for the quality of our police department and its leadership. Thueson said he agrees.

**Councilmember Bagley** said she would like to be excused for next council meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. She will be in training at her other job.

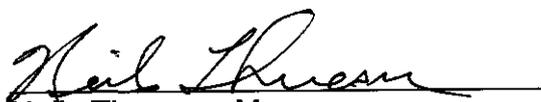
**Councilmember Erickson** had nothing to report.

**Councilmember Hill** had nothing to report.

**Councilmember Willmore** said there is some money left over on the grant for the seal and painting work at the airport. Willmore wanted to know if PWS Butigan had some ideas. Butigan said there is some work which needs to be completed on the taxi way in front of Jaren Ball's and Willmore's hangar. There is some fill work needing completion.

**Mayor Thueson** had nothing to report.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m. by Mayor Thueson.

  
Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:

  
Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

