

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 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 and Rod Willmore.

ABSENT: Council Member Lisa Haeberle (resigned) and Russ Rubert.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Attorney Bill Forsberg, Water Superintendent Kirk Nelson, Police Chief Terry Harris and 11 others in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

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

PRAYER was offered by Mayor Thueson. (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 Councilmember Erickson.

Mayor Thueson said he wanted to start the meeting with first honoring a police officer who has done some outstanding service for the City of St. Anthony. Thueson invited Officer Distelhorst to the front of the room. An official Letter of Accommodation was presented to Distelhorst for his attention to duty, whereby he apprehended an individual committing a grand theft auto on July 29, 2015. Distelhorst recognized suspicious behavior of an individual in the Maverik parking lot. An investigation uncovered the vehicle was recently stolen from Simplot Soil. The recovery of the vehicle may have saved the business thousands of dollars. On behalf of the city and the police department, Thueson thanked Distelhorst for his service. Thueson then continued the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

2014/2015 Budget Amendments – Mayor Thueson opened the floor for the public hearing requesting Clerk Parkinson to explain the proposed amendments. Parkinson said the city has four funds where additional revenue was received which was not expected. Those funds are the Road and Street, Airport Fund, Police Grants Fund and the South 2nd West Bridge Fund. Road and Street sold a sweeper providing \$62,000 in additional revenue. There was also other revenue received which brought the proposed total to \$81,100. Airport Fund has some reserves being used to finish the asphalt. The city received about \$21,000 in revenue for grants to the police department and \$10,100 will be sent to the Idaho Department of Transportation for the deposit for the bridge on South 2nd West. This totals \$144,200. Thueson asked if anyone wished to speak regarding the proposed amendments. No one wished to speak. There were no written comments received. There being no other comments Thueson closed the public

hearing.

GENERAL BUSINESS

TRPTA Funding Discussion / Erickson / Evan Tibbitts – Councilmember Erickson said there has been some discussion about not paying the \$1,000 the city normally pays to assist TRPTA (Targhee Regional Public Transportation Authority). Erickson invited citizen Evan Tibbitts to come to tonight's meeting to discuss how his special needs daughter uses this service. Tibbitts came forward and addressed council. He said when you have a special needs daughter and they reach the age of being an adult you have no idea what you will be doing with that child after the school system. Tibbitts said the school system provided her with a great experience, but beyond those years is their adult years. There is a facility in Rexburg where she has a job and TRPTA provides the needed transportation for her to get to her job four days a week. That's 200 days a year she rides that bus. Tibbitts said this is a convenience for him. If he had to take her, with gas being \$3.00, not only is it inconvenient for him with his job and his volunteering with the ambulance, it would cost him \$12,000 a year just to get her there. He said he understands the grants received by TRPTA and the tax dollars being spent, but they are a "true blessing to us." He said at one time cell phones were considered a luxury and a convenience and who now would go without one? TRPTA is not making a whole lot of money to come to St. Anthony. They need some help. Tibbitts said he is here tonight to plead with council to continue to provide the \$1,000 to TRPTA so his daughter has a way to get to work four days a week. He said they take good care of her, they bring her to work and back safely and they are on time. Mayor Thueson said Amanda Ely from TRPTA contacted him and provided him with a listing of trips to and from St. Anthony. The total pickups and drop-offs were 664 from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015 with total revenue of \$593. The \$1,000 the city gives to TRPTA is match money for a grant, which turns into a whole lot more. Erickson asked if there were other people that go to Rexburg for the same sort of program Tibbitts' daughter goes to. Tibbitts said he knows of one other person, but there are two other facilities in Rexburg which TRPTA transports people to. Councilmember Willmore said this is a government thing we are paying for out of tax payer's money and is it being used for the best. He said he drives to Driggs each day and passes that bus twice a day and there is never anyone on it. Tibbitts said it is sometimes hard to see into the windows and he knows there are two people that come from Driggs that work where his daughter works. Tibbitts said he would appreciate it if council would help TRPTA. His daughter has been riding for 17 years. Erickson said he thinks the city should keep helping out TRPTA as it is a valuable contribution to the community. Councilmember Bagley said she has two nieces in Rexburg and her only concern was TRPTA didn't come before council and make a request for this money so she may help in answering the questions citizens might have about how money is being utilized. Bagley said it is a wonderful thing, but she would like to see TRPTA here. Thueson said Amanda Ely was scheduled to come before council and then had to cancel because something came up. He said she hasn't rescheduled and she should have. Thueson said he would follow up on that. Councilmember Hill said maybe it is only a handful of people utilizing their services, but it is well worth our money. That is why as a member of the Finance Committee the

money was placed in the budget and he supports it. Willmore said he is not against TRPTA he just thinks they could be more efficient with their money. He said he is happy the Tibbitts are able to utilize their service, but why do they have big busses when smaller buses make more sense. They should make fewer trips and they need to be more efficient. Residents expect us to be efficient with the money we spend and they should do the same. Thueson said he is on the TRPTA Board and the first few years the budget was in the red. Now they are in the black and they are operating a little more efficient. They've changed the routing schedule and eliminated a few things. Citizen Jim Hobbs was recognized by the Mayor to speak. Hobbs said several years ago TRPTA transported their grandson to school every day. They were very punctual and it was a tremendous service for them. Hobbs said he would support council providing support to TRPTA. There are so many people who utilize their service. Thueson said the city will continue to support TRPTA this year by sending them a check. Thueson thanked Tibbitts for coming to tonight's meeting.

2015-07 2014/2015 Budget Amendment Ordinance – A motion to suspend the rules of reading the ordinance on three different days and to read it one time by title only was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. A roll call vote followed with Councilmember Bagley, yes; Erickson, yes; Hill, yes and Willmore yes. Motion passed 4-0. Willmore read Ordinance 2015-07, the appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year 2014/2015 appropriating additional monies. A motion to accept Ordinance 2015-07 the appropriation ordinance for the fiscal year 2014/2015 appropriating additional monies was made by Erickson and seconded by Bagley. A roll call vote followed with Councilmember Bagley, yes; Erickson, yes; Hill, yes and Willmore yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Discuss property at 121 E 2nd N to declare as a Dangerous Building and abate – Mayor Thueson invited Benjamin and Olivia Burkett to address the council regarding their property located at 121 East 2nd North. The building was damaged by a gas explosion and the Burketts have since purchased the damaged property to rebuild it. Benjamin introduced himself and his wife to council saying they just recently arrived into town and are beginning to work on the property. Benjamin said they will work on the basement first and then work their way up. He said the structure is sound and they plan on living in the property when it is finished. He said they are from Pennsylvania and he and his wife are attending BYU-Idaho for the next few years. Councilmember Hill asked what they foresee as a time frame for their work. Benjamin said it depends on a couple of things, school schedule and money. He thought a year to a year and a half for the upstairs and outside to be done. There is a pretty big mess outside due to all the cleaning up of the inside. They will be cleaning that up right away. Benjamin said this isn't the first project he's done. He's done them in the past in Pennsylvania and has a couple rentals there. Thueson wished them well and appreciated them coming to council.

Application for Minor Subdivision / Sadorus / 848 W Main / recommendation / Parkinson – Clerk Parkinson reported an application for a minor subdivision at 848 W Main was submitted to her in August and reviewed. Since the submission the entire

property has been sold. Parkinson did send a denial letter to the applicant because the newly proposed parcel didn't meet the current zoning requirement for an 80 foot wide parcel. Mayor Thueson addressed Realtor Judy Hobbs in the audience, saying he knows she would like to speak about this. Hobbs said she acknowledges the work Planning and Zoning did in creating the new ordinance. She said she wants her comments to be constructive. However, she is finding it to be problematic in some areas. She has had three incidents in a few weeks where the new ordinance has created problems or difficulty for her clients. This particular lot owned by Estle Sadorus, has always been kept neat and tidy and has been sold to someone who is planning on using it as a rental property. The empty portion of the lot could not be divided and can then serve no purpose. There is no real value in making improvements on the original home as it is about 100 years old. Had the lot been able to be split then maybe a manufactured home or doublewide could have been placed on the lot or some use of the property which isn't going to happen now. On the east side of town on South 3rd East there was another larger lot with a house and the lot could not be split off from the house because of the zoning. The request did fit within the neighborhood and in keeping with the current neighborhood, but not with the current zoning. The third one is the current listing of Gene Clarke's shop on 230 South 8th West. This was being run as a masonry business and now the family no longer needs it. It can continue to be a masonry shop, however anything else will require it to be rezoned or a special use permit issued because it was rezoned as High Density Residential. Hobbs said there might be some "tweaking" that needs to be done to the ordinance to better fit these types of situations. Hobbs continued saying, knowing some of the neighbors by the Clarke Shop, if someone wanted to use the property as light industrial there could be some problems with the neighbors. She said she doesn't know the solutions. Hobbs said she thought the Clarkes may be back to council to help find a solution. Councilmember Hill said he has looked at property and any time you look at the old layouts of the lots which required 25 foot widths and now with 80 foot widths, nothing works. Hill wondered if Planning and Zoning can come up with a solution to deal with these situations on old existing lots. Attorney Forsberg said the old ordinance had that problem and Planning and Zoning fixed it. The mechanism was to fit the structure on the lots to meet the setbacks or the setbacks of other existing buildings. The problem that Hobbs is having is these aren't existing lots. Under the new code, we no longer have lot splits. We have a minor subdivision or short plat. It might be well to have a mechanism for doing something like what we called a lot split. The Planning and Zoning Commission had a fair bit of division on whether or not it should occur. Hobbs asked if norms could be looked at for the area to fit within the neighborhood. Thueson thanked Hobbs for coming and bringing this to council's attention. Thueson instructed Parkinson to place this on Planning and Zoning's Agenda. Thueson said it is pretty hard to come up with a perfect ordinance and so this is sometimes expected.

Confirm Design of Welcome to St. Anthony Rocks – Mayor Thueson said one rock is low and wide and one is taller. The proposed designs were shown and everyone agreed they looked fine and to proceed with the project. Thueson asked Councilmember Bagley if the Boy Scout was ready. Bagley said when her first son did his Eagle Scout Project it was two pages and now it is five parts. His major role will be

in fund raising and keeping track of the hours spent by the city with the work Clerk Parkinson is doing and the engineers are doing. Any funds raised will be reimbursed to the city. Thueson said the rocks have been chosen and now the rocks will be etched with this newly approved design. Water Superintendent Nelson said the locates have been called on both places where the rocks will be placed and the bases will be poured in the next few weeks. Parkinson said the permit with ITD (Idaho Transportation Department) is only good for a certain number of days from start to finish and so she is waiting until the rocks are ready to place before "starting the clock" on the permit.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM

A motion to add to the agenda the confirmation of Sam Winn and Lyle Galloway to the Airport Board was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

CONFIRM LYLE GALLOWAY AND SAM WYNN TO THE AIRPORT BOARD – Mayor Thueson said he has appointed Lyle Galloway and Sam Wynn to the city's airport board. Both have accepted the positions to serve. A motion to confirm Thueson's appointments of Lyle Galloway and Sam Wynn to the city's airport board was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

There being comments Mayor Thueson closed the public comment period.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. Following some questions which were satisfactorily answered by staff, a motion to pay the invoices and claims was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Hill. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2015 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2015 was made by Councilmember Bagley and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 4-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Harris said he wanted to explain why the recognition of Officer Distelhorst is so significant. It points out the natural evolution an officer goes through from the time you hire him until he comes into his own. Distelhorst is approaching his third year with the city and typically what you see with an officer is the only thing they feel comfortable doing, at first, is writing tickets because that is what they know. Slowly, as they become better at the job, they start looking beyond the traffic stop and seeing other things and

being able to identify suspicious behavior. Distelhorst, over the last six months, has changed. No longer is he just a ticket writer. This makes him a much more valuable asset to the community. Harris said he appreciates city council's support they have given him and the police department over the last two years. Harris reported when patrol officers drive around town they are able to find things that otherwise might go unnoticed. Last night there was a fire at Sassy Floral which Officer Neff noticed while on routine patrol. This was probably started by a cigarette which was right by their gas meter. If it had gone unnoticed there is no knowing what could have happened. Routine patrol does save the city and is significant, as patrol is always watching for all sorts of things. Mayor Thueson asked about cats. Harris said the department has loaned out live traps which people can use. One other incident, which happened in August, an officer was called to a suicidal subject and ended up outside the city transporting the individual to Idaho Falls, taking up three and a half hours on just one call. Officers spend a lot of time on all kinds of things. Harris said he is looking for some recommendations from citizens regarding the speed limits in town. He would like to build a committee to review and make suggestions to city council. Harris said he thinks some of the interior streets in the city should be slower than 30 miles per hour. Thueson asked Harris to have someone address the hedges on West 4th North. Harris said an officer has addressed this issue.

Water Superintendent Nelson reported the cost of the asphalt at the airport is \$20,000. There is a new fire hydrant on order for East 4th North. The cement out front will be completed by the Rumsey's in the next few weeks. Mayor Thueson said the rain gutter needs to also be fixed in the front of the building. The extra trees growing up through the rocks need to be cleaned out and new rocks placed. Nelson said the Greenway is getting some weeds cleaned up and out of the pathway. Eventually, the pathway will be sprayed. Councilmember Erickson asked if there were any bids on the loaders. Clerk Parkinson reported there were none and the next step will be to get them on the auction site. Parkinson will wait for Butigan to address this when he returns.

Clerk Parkinson provided council with the last few approved minutes from the Planning and Zoning Commission as well as the Fund Summary report ending July 31, 2015. The BYU-Idaho Intern is back to work and everything is working our pretty well in the front office. Parkinson said she and Kathy Lehmann will be attending the ICCTFOA (Idaho City Clerks Treasurers and Financial Officers Association) Annual Conference in Boise next week, leaving on Tuesday and returning back to work on Monday.

COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Councilmember Bagley had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson had nothing to report

Councilmember Hill reported PSI brought three extra dumpsters out for the rodeo during Pioneer Days at no additional cost. Hill also wanted to know where things were at with the electronic sign. Mayor Thueson said he has received some drawings back

from Lytle Signs. Council all agreed they prefer the one post instead of posts on either end of the sign. Thueson said Parkinson sent them what we prefer and they will take a look at it and give us another bid with just the one post. Thueson said he also invited Yesco Signs to offer a proposal and he hasn't heard back from them. Thueson asked Parkinson to continue to follow up. It will just take some time.

Councilmember Willmore reported the Airport Board met last night and asked Attorney Forsberg if there is any problem with parking recreational vehicles at the airport next to a hangar. Forsberg said he is reviewing the code and believes any recreational vehicle hookup is not a permitted use at the airport. However, he is still reviewing. Willmore said there are currently two hook ups out there which Sam Buckley put in when he owned the hangar. Forsberg said the hookups may be a problem and he would need additional information to find out exactly what the proposal is from the new owner.

Mayor Thueson said 14 miles of city streets have been chipped and sealed meaning this is the most work done on streets in at least 15 years. Every road has had some work done on them except for West Main which is scheduled for 2016. Thueson also said a bill for \$37,453 to Parker's Sand and Gravel was also paid which is money going to a local business for all the crushed chips used on the streets. Thueson said Clerk Parkinson and he met with representatives of P.S.I. and the sanitation contract was agreed to and signed. The lowest costs were used in all instances for all garbage types. Thueson said he requested PSI to assist with helping with the costs of the rocks and they were agreeable. He said the Eagle Scout would need to make the request and they would be willing to help out. Thueson also reported Councilmember Haeberle provided council with a letter of resignation. Her notice is in council's packet. Thueson said he will be looking for someone to replace Haeberle and asked council to provide him with some recommendations prior to the next meeting for consideration. This appointment would be just for the rest of her term, ending January 2018.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m. by Mayor Thueson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

