

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2016, 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, Rodnie Nichols and Rod Willmore.

ABSENT: Council Member Russ Rubert.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Attorney Bill Forsberg, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan, Chief of Police Terry Harris and 18 others in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

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

Mayor Thueson excused Councilmember Rubert.

PRAYER was offered by Councilmember Erickson. (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 Parkinson.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Review and approve State/Local Agreement for West Main Project and payment of Local Match – Resolution No. 2016-01 – Mayor Thueson said this is the construction part of the State and Local Agreement for the West Main Street Project. It also includes a resolution which authorizes the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City. The agreement will allow for PWS Butigan to be the point person for any change orders. The total share of this project, which the city must pay, is \$220,926. The total project is estimated to cost a little over \$3,000,000. Councilmember Willmore read Resolution No. 2016-01, approving the Agreement for Federal Aid Highway Project A011 (682). A motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-01, as read by Willmore, was made by Councilmember Nichols and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Discuss Pedestrian Flashing Beacons on Bridge Street – Mayor Thueson said at the last meeting there were some concerned citizens who wanted to know if council could put some flashing beacons at the intersection of 4th Street and Bridge to make it safer to cross Bridge Street. This is the same place where three students, last year, were hit by a car while crossing the street. One student was hospitalized and the other two, luckily, were not. There have been too many close calls. Thueson said he received a quote from Western Systems, Inc. for a flashing beacon like what the City of Rexburg is using on their street. The bid came back at \$7,094.76. Signs were also quoted and

the city can purchase the signs directly for a significant savings and we already have a number of the needed signs. Councilmember Bagley said the safety of our children must be first and foremost and this is a good way to go. Thueson said they are solar powered and are activated by the pedestrian. Councilmember Erickson said it is a really good idea and wanted to know if they are being seen from both directions and both sides of the street. They are flashing on both sides and in both directions. Councilmember Nichols asked if this includes the cost of installation. PWS Butigan said city crews will install them. Councilmember Hill said they are very visible. Hill wanted to know if the city would just try one or get more than one. Thueson said he thought the city should just purchase one and see what it looks like. Ordering one now and another later will not cost any more or less. Once we see how it works, we can order more and look at installing one at the intersection of Bridge and 1st or on 4th North, by the elementary. Councilmember Willmore said it is a “no-brainer” and it should be done. A motion to authorize the Mayor to order the necessary items to install a flashing beacon for one pedestrian crossing on Bridge Street at 4th North was made by Willmore and seconded by Hill. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Thueson said he received information from Ben Burke of District 6 Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) where a study was done which indicates vehicles yielding to pedestrians increase from 2% to 84% with a flashing beacon. Burke also provided information on changing Bridge Street to three lanes versus four. Thueson said it costs about \$1.60 per foot to obliterate the lines there. However, if we wait for them to reseal the street then ITD will pay for it all.

Arbor Day Proclamation for April 29th, 2016 – Clerk Parkinson said each year the city celebrates Arbor Day. Part of applying for the grant for the trees is having an Arbor Day Proclamation. Each year the city celebrates by inviting the First Graders from Henry’s Fork Elementary to help the city plant trees. Each child receives a seedling of their own to plant and we have speakers and members of the community come together to assist. This year Arbor Day is scheduled for Friday, April 29th. The Parks and Recreation Board have picked Cedar View Park as the place where the trees will be planted. Councilmember Nichols read the Proclamation. A motion to accept the Arbor Day Proclamation for April 29, 2016 was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Report on meeting with County Commissioners in regards to Technical Assistance used for FLAP Grant – Mayor Thueson reported meeting with the Fremont County Commissioners regarding funding received by the county to assist the city in applying for a FLAP (Federal Lands Access Program) Grant. Commissioner Miller was present in the audience and Thueson invited Miller to make a comment. Miller said the city applied for this FLAP Grant and it was approved and the county made payment of \$11,768. Since then, HUD (Housing and Urban Development) came back to the county and said they wouldn’t accept the grant as written. Miller said he doesn’t know what happened, but as administrators of the HUD Grant this had to be paid. After the fact, is when they found out it wasn’t an approved project. Miller is asking if there is something the City can do to help the County, rather than to have the County absorb the entire

amount. Miller said there were four organizations included in that and the County doesn't feel like they are responsible for the entire amount. Miller said he hasn't spoken to Tom Cluff, who oversaw the HUD Grant, to see why the funding was turned down. Miller said they had another one which was turned down, after they were told to go ahead and it got approved. Thueson said it is very unfortunate and it's a bad deal. Miller asked Clerk Parkinson if this wasn't approved or not. Parkinson said, yes it was all approved. Miller said the City did everything in good faith and so did the County. Councilmember Hill said he can see both sides of this and no one was really at fault and it looks like HUD just backed out of it. We can't do much about this. Hill said there has been such a good relationship with the County. They have helped out the City with chip and sealing and the airport. They have really done a lot for the City and it is really appreciated. Hill doesn't want something like this to create hard feelings and have an impact on the currently good relationship the City has with the County. Hill thought helping out is worth the good relationship and won't hurt the City all that much. Miller said no matter what the decision is, it would never sever the good relationship the County has with the City. Councilmember Willmore asked Attorney Forsberg if there was any way legally the City could approach HUD. Forsberg said he knows nothing about this grant and grant writing is fairly technical. Sometimes misplacing a comma or failure to fill in a blank; it can get looked over on some level of review. Whether it's possible if it can be looked at again would be something needing to be discussed with Tom Cluff. The decision to share or not share, should it be reversed, then the City would also get their money back. Willmore said he isn't opposed to giving a little bit back to the County. Councilmember Bagley said it really is an unfortunate thing and we should try to pursue HUD in some way, but in the meantime, we should share in some way to help relieve the County of this burden. Councilmember Erickson said he remembers being in a meeting when this HUD money became available. They were encouraging us to go for this money and get this grant because it was available and this was local. So, the City put in a grant and they did what they asked us to do and now they come back on us. HUD needs to have some responsibility and it just doesn't seem right. Clerk Parkinson explained how it came about to use some of this money. The City used it for technical assistance to apply for the FLAP grant. Parkinson said it's not a complete loss, even though the City wasn't awarded the grant, as there will be another application upcoming in December for a 2017 FLAP grant and the City will apply using the same technical assistance. Additionally, Parkinson said she has a signed document from the County promising to provide funds for 50% of the match, should the grant be awarded. Willmore suggested since there were four entities involved then the City should give back 25% of the \$11,768. A motion to give to the County 25% of the \$11,768 to the County, or \$2,942, as good faith was made by Willmore and seconded by Hill. All councilmembers were in favor. Motion passed 5-0. Thueson instructed Parkinson to make payment to the County of \$2,942. Thueson thanked Miller for attending the meeting.

Mayor Thueson said he received something from the Meridian Mayor's Youth Council where they presented to the legislation making it mandatory for those 17 years of age and under to wear a seat belt. Law enforcement could then pull a vehicle over for no seat belts. Thueson asked Councilmember Bagley if our Mayor's Youth Council would

like to look it over. Bagley said she would take it to them for them to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

Jerry Cain said he is a member of the Senior Center Board. Cain said he would like to have some signage in front of the building, like the Library's, saying Senior Center. The main thing they are here for is the flooring in the Senior Center. It is carpet and it is old and unsightly. The Senior Center would like the city's permission to replace the carpet. They want to replace it with some carpet in the "living area" and some hard, cleanable surface in the "eating area". They plan on writing a grant to receive the funds to replace the flooring. **Karolyn Hodge** said new flooring would be easier to clean and believes the carpet has been there since 2003. Council all agreed they could make the changes they'd like to see. Hodge said it may be 6 months to a year before this happens and wanted to know if the city could assist in pulling up the old carpet. PWS Butigan said he could probably make arrangements with the Work Camp to get some help. Commissioner Miller said the County has the ability to make signs and he can take this back to the County Commission to see if they'll approve making a sign for the Senior Center. Butigan said Bridge Street is a state road and permission will need to come from ITD. Thueson said they would look into signs. Hodge said the Senior Center is really going. From 2014 to 2015 meals increased by 3,500. Home deliveries have tripled. Hodge said she is so thankful for the County and the City and everything they do for them.

Myrna Cain said she is assigned the duties for the Annual Fly-In at the City's Airport. Cain said she spoke to Travis Eva, Airport Board Chair, and they still want to do the Annual Fly-In. It will be the third weekend in September, the 17th. It will be advertised more this year. This will be the 7th year of doing the Fly-In. They would like the city to assist, like they did before, with \$500. Councilmember Willmore said the Airport Budget allows for this and they will help them out. Lunch and water is served free of charge.

Harry and Vickie Halkar, owners of Halkar Economy Printing, said the reason they are here is to talk about getting a pedestrian flashing beacon at the intersection of 1st and Bridge to cross Bridge Street. Harry and Vicki shared several stories about crossing the street and the number of close calls and the difficulty crossing. Harry said he knows the lights are expensive. Vicki asked if it's not worth someone's life. Councilmember Nichols wondered if there wasn't more traffic at 1st North versus 4th North. Chief Harris said it is probably the most dangerous intersection in town. The intersection at 4th North does have a crossing guard and that mitigates some of the issues. It is still scary; however, the intersection at 1st is all day long pedestrians.

Kasey Hull said she wasn't able to attend the council meeting where she was on the agenda regarding their property at 406 W 1st S and the lease. So, she is here tonight. She said the property borders the canal and is an odd shape. The shed has been there as long as the house has been there. She said the property was "grandfathered in" and

there is no paper work. She said there was an agreement between the property owners, who split the property down the middle. She said they have made major improvements on the house there and because of that other people are making improvements on their houses. The main reason they wanted to purchase the property is because of the canal and the erosion, there is a good chunk of the shed hanging over into the canal. The shed can't be placed on the other side of the property because the City couldn't bring a sewer line in to them and so most of the property has a leach field and nothing can be placed on top of it. Mayor Thueson said the decision council made was to not sell the property. The City will still entertain leasing the property to the Hull's, if they still want to continue to keep their shed on the property for \$100 per year. Hull asked if it wouldn't benefit the City more to sell it and then collect property taxes on it. Thueson said the concern is the City never really knows what or when city property will be needed for something. This property is a platted street owned by the city and the neighbors might have had an agreement to split the property, but that doesn't make any difference. It is still property owned by the city. Thueson said the street is big enough for a building lot. Thueson said the lease has lapsed. Hull said she paid the lease, today. Clerk Parkinson said she checked before the meeting and hadn't noticed it was paid. Hull said she paid by credit card. Parkinson said, that is why, as it take a few days for credit card payments to post. Hull asked if she can come back later and ask to purchase the property in the future. Thueson said city council seats change and it may be one day in the future they might entertain selling the property. Hull said when the fence was being built to block in the septic she was told this was where the fence needed to be. Butigan said if they don't continue the lease the shed and the fence will need to be removed. Hull then asked where the fence should go. Butigan said on her property line. Attorney Forsberg said it sounds like Dig Line may have given them direction where the fence may or may not go, the answer is if you choose not to lease, then the fence will need to be moved, possibly even further in on their property, past whatever was marked as being under the ground.

Lyndon Rinehart said next to the grain bins, next to Trost's, there is red stuff all over the ground. This red stuff is what is used to treat seed and it causes cancer and kidney failure. Rinehart said they leave it all over the place. He would like to see them clean it up. Councilmember Hill said some of it is just color, red dye. Mayor Thueson said the city would talk to them.

There being no other comments, Thueson closed the public comment period.

A motion to amend the agenda and include a discussion on the Old A&W or the Bennie Parker property located at 1045 S Yellowstone was made by Councilmember Nichols and seconded by Councilmember Willmore. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion on the Old A&W or the Bennie Parker property located at 1045 S Yellowstone – Mayor Thueson said the south west corner of the building is sitting on city right of way and there is an individual wanting to clean up the property and put a coffee shop or other similar business there. Thueson said the city can lease this

property to him and Thueson would like to hear comment from council regarding this issue. Councilmember Erickson said originally there was a discussion of narrowing the street and he doesn't think anything needs to be done but to just lease it to him. Councilmember Hill thought leasing the property would be okay to do. Councilmember Willmore and Bagley agreed. With council's permission the Mayor will go back to them and tell them the city will be willing to lease to them this property for \$100 per year.

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

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2016 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2016 was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Erickson. All council members present were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Harris said he would like Wendy Sykes to report on the feedback received after she was awarded St. Anthony's Citizen of the Year. Sykes said Fremont Animal Care Center is now spaying and neutering animals, which the city picks up and adopts, at a discounted rate. Rabies vaccinations will also be reduced to \$15 for any adopted dog. Upper Valley Humane Society (UVHS) will be giving out a \$25 off certificate for spaying and neutering any adopted dog, in addition to 25 pounds of dog food. Any dog Sykes can't adopt out, then UVHS will then take on to get adopted. Beginning in May, Fremont Animal Clinic will be providing rabies shots at the reduced rate of \$15 per animal. Mayor Thueson said he spoke to the 9th graders today and they wanted to know what they can donate. It was suggested to do some work for the dog pound. This is something they heard about, because of this award, and the town is doing so much good. Sykes said Fremont Animal Care Center is also giving the city the use of a microchip scanner and so now we can scan the dog and locate the owners. They also offered to look at animals if they are sick. Harris said a national training facility contacted the city on receiving training on dog encounters. This will be a free training to our officers. The only cost will be travel to attend the class. Harris said he will be working on a draft to start doing annual dog fees, which he will be presenting to council soon. Attorney Forsberg said the council will need to amend the ordinance, which can be reviewed over three different meetings. Thueson said this will be a good way to get public input.

Public Works Superintendent Butigan said crews have had the sweeper out, sweeping streets and are patching some of the pot holes. The loader is down in Idaho Falls, trying to get sold. Mayor Thueson said a representative from Rocky Mountain Power told him the City of St. Anthony has the finest public works crew. Whenever, they come to town to work on lines and need assistance the city crew will always provide them with aid. Thueson asked Butigan to tell the crew they are doing a good

job.

Attorney Forsberg reported the Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z) will be having a work meeting to look at the City's Industrial Park. They will be having a field trip and extend an invitation to council to join in this work meeting. Forsberg said if a quorum attends to please let Clerk Parkinson know so she may post a special meeting agenda for the council. The meeting begins at 5:00 p.m., meeting in City Hall. P&Z will be looking at possibly amending the zoning and reviewing the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the Industrial Park.

Clerk Parkinson provided council with a thank you note from Deputy Suzanne Bagley for the City's participation in Shop With A Cop. The Fund Summary ending January 31, 2106 was also provided to the council members. Parkinson also provided a demonstration of the new Code Enforcement, Permit and Dog Licensing Software purchased through iWorQs. Parkinson also reminded the members of the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner being held tomorrow night, beginning at 6:30, in the basement of the Community Presbyterian Church. Parkinson had the tickets ready for those who requested to attend.

COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Councilmember Bagley had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson had nothing to report.

Councilmember Nichols asked if there was a means to plow the South Greenway. He said he's heard from some people who like to walk it, but it is difficult to walk when it is snow covered. PWS Butigan said in the past it was never plowed in order to allow skiers to cross country ski on it. Mayor Thueson thought with the weather warming it, it is past that and it could now be plowed off. Butigan didn't know if the four-wheeler will move the snow, since it is now packed down and icy. It will probably have to warm up some more and melt on its own.

Councilmember Hill had nothing to report.

Councilmember Willmore said he will not be at the next council meeting as he will out of town.

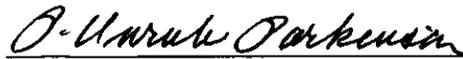
Mayor Thueson reported on receiving a letter from Sheriff Humphries which was a forwarded email from a lady who needed assistance getting into her home. She was having difficulty because of the snow. Two officers from the City, Officers Neff and Belew, were dispatch to assist her. The officer dug her vehicle out of the snow and helped her into her home. She responded with this thank you email, saying "...As a citizen of this great city I am very grateful to have Officers who would come to my aid..." Thueson also had an opportunity to attend an American Red Cross event, East Idaho Real Heroes in Idaho Falls where two local Heroes were honored, Howard Overton,

Fremont County Law Enforcement, and Erick Thomas, Fremont County Search and Rescue. Thueson said we have good people in St. Anthony who will do all they can to help out.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m. by Mayor Theuson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

