

*CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 9, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
420 NORTH BRIDGE, SUITE A, ST. ANTHONY, ID, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS*

PRESENT: Mayor Neils Thueson, Council Member Suzanne Bagley, Tom Erickson (arrived at 7:48 p.m.), Rick Hill, Rodnie Nichols, Russ Rubert and Rod Willmore.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Patty Parkinson, Attorney Bill Forsberg, Public Works Superintendent Scott Butigan, Chief of Police Terry Harris and 12 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 Councilmember Nichols. (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 Mayor Thueson.

GENERAL BUSINESS

JUB report on Phase I of the Greenway Master Access Plan - Mike Arneson, engineer from JUB Engineers, provided council with a report of the completion of Phase I of the Henry's Fork Greenway Master Access Plan. Arneson reported this first phase of a two phase process is now complete. Phase I was the Situational Assessment. This assessment was to go out and interview a variety of stakeholders having an interest in the Greenway. Arneson said they did a full debriefing with Mayor Thueson and Clerk Parkinson about a week ago. Some of the stakeholders interviewed were the BLM (Bureau of Land Management), Fremont County Commissioner Stoddard, Idaho Fish and Game, Joyce Edlefsen, Kyle Babbitt, Jerry and April Carter and Mike Wolfe. Through the process, they asked everyone the same questions. In summary, there was generally very good support for the project and a lot of appreciation the city would want to know what their interest level was and what their vision might be for the Greenway. There was no one opposed and considerable interest in moving forward. Included, in the report to council, was a four page summary report. The BLM owns the land in the river bottom and they have a nationwide initiative to support access enhancements and work with local communities. They are fairly excited about this and Arneson said he sees them as an engaged partner working hand in hand with the city. Mayor Thueson asked what the next step would be. Arneson said the next step would be to develop a master plan for the Greenway. The city would go through a process, where they would engage all the stakeholders, and alternatives would be studied. The plan would include accurate cost estimates, phasing strategies, and a big part would be how would be the best way to cross the river to create a loop. The outcome would be a document all the stakeholders would buy in to, ultimately approved by the city. This document would be the tool the city would use to design and construct improvements on the Greenway. There are no guarantees. However, when communities or local agencies have invested their own money or have "skin in the game", that makes all the difference in the application process of grant applications. In addition, putting

your own funds in to it gives the city that much more control over the process. The planning process would be about a six or seven month process. Beyond that, there would be the study and then the application towards a number of different grant opportunities. Thueson asked if Arneson is in a position to help the city find and apply for those grants. Arneson said absolutely, it is what they do and would help the city position themselves for the best possible outcome. Arneson said there is some consideration in timing for applications for some of these grants. Some of the bigger applications are due in the spring, usually April and May. The environmental aspect of this project would need some time to access and needs to be done when certain plants and animals are present, usually in the spring and summer months. Thueson thanked Arneson for his report.

Mayor Thueson said there are a number of code enforcement cases to review. We want St. Anthony to look just as good as we possibly can. When there are properties in town that are in poor condition, half burned down or vacant for a long time with broken windows or with tall grass or things around them, then it doesn't look good. These are things we want to change. For each case, Clerk Parkinson provided council with a printed copy of the case details and history. Photos of the property were projected on the wall for all to review. She reviewed with council the steps taken prior to this meeting.

Code Enforcement Case 160001/406 W 1st S – Property is owned by Brett and Kasey Hull. There has been no change from May 13th to today. The trailer is still there with items piled on the trailer. Kasey contacted the city at their last meeting, May 13th, saying it would be moved. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners. Attorney Forsberg said he would review this with Harris.

Code Enforcement Case 160003/22 N Bridge St – Property is owned by Mountain West IRA, Inc. There has been no change from May 13th to today. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners.

Code Enforcement Case 160005/335 E Main St – Property is owned by Launa Janssen. The old fence has been taken down and replaced with a new fence. The shed in back has been torn down and hauled away. Some of the tall grass and weeds have been mowed. There are still open windows into the property. The door has been secured. Clerk Parkinson was instructed to warn the owner, by letter, to request she complete what she has started by securing the property and mowing down the rest of the tall grass and weeds.

Code Enforcement Case 160007/650 S 2nd E – Property is owned by Lorraine Taylor. There has been little change. In addition, there is now tall grass and weeds. PWS Butigan said while taking photos there was the smell of raw sewage. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners.

Code Enforcement Case 160008/553 S Bridge St – Property is owned by Lance and Brenda Brackenbury. The biggest change is there is now tall grass and weeds. There doesn't seem to be much of a change as it appears some of it is hidden now due to the tall grass. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners.

Code Enforcement Case 160009/205 E 2nd N – Property is owned by Jason and Stephanie Hunter. Clerk Parkinson was instructed to contact the owners and request the refrigerator moved. This is the only remaining item which needs to be cleared off the property.

Code Enforcement Case 160010/667 E 4th N – Property is owned by Catina Smith. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners.

Code Enforcement Case 160012/28 S 11th W – Property is owned by Nick Nichols. Clerk Parkinson reported Nichols has done all the things requested of him. He has also been issued a permit for building a fence/gate, which would place all the other items out of view. This case will be closed.

Code Enforcement Case 160015/440 W 1st N – Property is owned by Aaron Mains. Mains was present and spoke to council. He said he is working on getting the curb, gutter and sidewalk built but cannot find anyone to do the work. Mains said he wants the sidewalk in just as bad as the city. He said he is not refusing to do it and is trying to get it done, but is unable to. Mayor Thueson said a citation is in order, however, since he is here to talk to council he will be given more time to complete the work. Councilmembers gave him a number of names to contact to complete the work. Mains was instructed to contact someone and then get back to the city with the date work will be completed. This will be tabled to the next council meeting to allow for 30 days to complete.

Code Enforcement Case 160017/615 S 2nd E – Property is owned by Robert Sessions. PWS Butigan said everything parked there is on city right of way and needs to be moved off. Chief Harris was instructed to issue a citation to the owners.

Code Enforcement Case 160020/249 E Main – Property is owned by Brain Hill. Hill said he wants to build a garage and move or haul off what is left. Council decided he had made progress and to close this case.

Code Enforcement Case 160024/29 W 1st N – Property is owned by Rachel and Jordan Lee. PWS Butigan was instructed to clear the sidewalk of the bushes and to bill the utility bill for the service.

Approve Fireworks Permit / Broulim's Store – The Broulim's store is requesting a permit to sell fireworks from June 23 to July 5, 2016. A motion to approve the fireworks permit was made by Councilmember Nichols and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

Cancel June 23 Council Meeting – Mayor Thueson said three members of council and three members of staff will be missing the next regular scheduled meeting because they will all be in Boise attending the Annual Association of Idaho Cities Conference. Thueson suggested the next meeting be canceled since so many will be gone. A motion to cancel the June 23, 2016 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Bagley. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thueson opened the floor for public comment.

Jim Hobbs, citizen and member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, said he really commends the city for taking on the Code Enforcement challenges. From a Planning and Zoning perspective things like this will only increase the value of property and make living in St. Anthony a better place to be. Hobbs said nothing has been done forever and it may hurt some feelings but council should really be commended for what they are doing. Hobbs said thank you.

Thueson then closed the floor.

INVOICES & CLAIMS - Payment Approval Reports were presented to Council. Bills from the prior meeting were approved for payment via email since there wasn't a quorum at the last meeting and could not be approved. Clerk Parkinson reported she received a majority vote via email to pay the bills, which she did. A motion to ratify the email and approve the bills from May 7th to May 20th for payment was made by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Rubert. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0. The next batch of bills, from May 21st to June 3rd, was 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 were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

MINUTES - Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2016 were presented to council. A motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2016 was made by Councilmember Willmore and seconded by Councilmember Nichols. All council members were in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Harris reported officers will be participating in another highway safety grant. This grant pays for officer's overtime to work the highway for aggressive drivers. Summer is well under way and the Sand Bar Park has experienced some incidents involving the river. A four year old child was sent to the hospital via ambulance after nearly drowning and today while at the Parks and Recreation picnic at Keefer Park two young adult women were rescued after going over the dam. It happened at shift change and so there was plenty of help getting them out of the water. Both women will be okay, other than being bruised up. The water is warmer than usual this time of year, which was good for them, as hypothermia could have been an issue, where they spent some time in the water before being rescued. The last day of school, officers volunteered their time to sit in a dunk tank for the kid's entertainment. All of the city's officers joined in and everyone had a really good time. This is an example of what good officers the city has. Harris said he will be gone during Pioneer Days. Other officers will be in charge. Councilmember Hill requested an officer at the school where the parade floats start up.

PWS Butigan said all the streets which were chipped and sealed last year have been fog coated. The work was finished today with striping on West 4th North, East Main, Teton

Highway and Yellowstone Highway. Crosswalks will be put back in later. Parking lots will be sealed this summer as soon as dates are figured out. A bike path will be completed from 6th South to 10th South and the parking lot for Keefer Park will be repaved. Butigan is still waiting on dates for these projects. The crack sealer has a broken cylinder on it and can't be used. Butigan said he can't find a new motor for it. He said he would look around for more pricing and options. The plumbing is in for the shower at the Sand Bar. Concrete work should be done next week. There have been a lot of complaints about the condition of the Sand Bar Park. However, when crews went to check it out, it really wasn't that bad. Clerk Parkinson said the South Fremont High School Cheerleaders were out there this morning cleaning up everything, right down to picking up gum out of the grass. Butigan said the river is running lower than it has in past years, but it is still running high. Mayor Thueson asked about more signage. Clerk Parkinson showed photos of the current signage. There are signs on the fish ladder, on the dam, a sign in the Sand Bar Park. Suggestions were made for other types and additional signs. Staff will review and see if Fremont County can assist in making some more signs. Water flows were discussed. Butigan said the walls are up on the addition to the shop. It will be completed in next year's budget. Butigan said "Fresh Oil" signs will be purchased for use for next year. The city will continue to do road maintenance which will include seal coating the streets. The Greenway will also be sealed this year. Councilmember Willmore asked about the loader. Butigan said he will be looking at some other options. Right now no one is even making an offer. Councilmember Nichols said he wanted to say thanks for the mosquito abatement. He was out last night and it is really nice to have this. Nichols asked when the playground equipment would be going in at Cedar View Park. Butigan said it will go in as soon as crews get caught up. This should be worked on the next two weeks or so.

Attorney Forsberg said he has some concerns about the Sand Bar Park. There have been two near drownings just this week. The weather is very warm and the water temperature is warm for this time of year. The city may want to do something more than what has been done. We can't rely on people's common sense, as apparently they don't have any. The city placed a snow fence up a few years back and maybe council needs to consider doing so again this year. Forsberg said he understands someone complained the buoys weren't up in the wading area. When the city puts up the buoys, people will think it is now a safe area because the buoys are up. It sends the wrong signal to people who shouldn't be out in the river. Forsberg suggested posting something right on the river front. Some sort of sign which people can't miss saying the river is high. It's higher than normal and it's extremely dangerous. The river is deceptive. It looks very flaccid and it's really running very high with strong currents. Mayor Thueson asked PWS Butigan to take a look at some signage and to put it up. Forsberg said the city cannot forbid people from going into the river. The river is a natural thing. The city has no control over it, therefore has no liability when people go into it. Attorney Forsberg said he thought the city ought to put up a snow fence to discourage people from entering the river. He said even college students will have to pay attention to a snow fence and ask themselves why it is there. PWS Butigan asked what a reasonable amount of water is. Butigan said, for this time of year, the water is relatively low. Thueson said he wanted to move on, as he isn't sure there really is a good resolution for this. Chief Harris said if the city wanted to do something, the police department could put up some "Caution" tape. Thueson said that might be all we need and we can try something and to do that.

Clerk Parkinson provided council with the Fund Summary ending April, Planning and Zoning Meeting Minutes from the months of January through March, the Parks & Recreation Meeting minutes from April, the Idaho Water Users Association 2016 Legislative Scorecard and the Spring 2016 Idaho Community Trees newsletter. Parkinson also reported the Finance Committee met and will have a preliminary budget prepared and ready for review with the city council for the July 14th council meeting. The public hearing is scheduled for the first meeting in August. Parkinson also reported the cheerleaders from South Fremont High School cleaned up the Sand Bar Park. Mayor Thueson asked Councilmember Bagley to let the Mayor's Youth Council know the city appreciates the youths' efforts. Parkinson said the Idaho Transportation Permits have been sent out for the Pioneer Day Parade and Summer Fest. The city's Planning and Zoning Commission will be meeting the Fremont County's Planning and Zoning Commission for a combined meeting on the city's Area of Impact with the new zoning the 20th of June. This afternoon the Parks and Recreation Board had their picnic at Keefer Park in recognition of all the hard work the volunteers of the board do. Parkinson said she can't thank them enough for all of their efforts in keeping the city's parks looking good.

COUNCIL & MAYOR REPORTS

Councilmember Rubert had nothing to report.

Councilmember Bagley had nothing to report.

Councilmember Erickson had nothing to report.

Councilmember Nichols said 11 years ago today Dustin Birch was killed in Iraq. He was in the Marines. He is the only soldier he knows of, since Vietnam, who has died from St. Anthony. Nichols said he never wants this to be forgotten and wanted a record of it in the minutes. He lived right across the street from the Nichols and he was a wonderful young man. He was honorable, an Eagle Scout, and just a good young man. He was killed June 9, 2005 and the whole community came together to honor him. When his body came to St. Anthony, most of the overpasses from Pocatello north had officers stopped, saluting with lights on as the hearse traveled by. Nichols said he presided at the funeral and when they left the Stake Center and came down Bridge Street, every business had people standing outside their business with either flags or white hankies and their hands on their hearts. Paul and Debbie Birch remember and they are very grateful for this community. He was a good, young man, Dustin Vincent Birch.

Councilmember Hill said the flower pots are out on Bridge Street and they look great. It sounds like they work as designed. It really looks nice in town. The city's Parks and Recreation Committee are very active and will be bringing to city council a few proposals or ideas of what they would like to do in the city's parks.

Councilmember Willmore had nothing to report.

Mayor Thueson had nothing to report.

Chief Harris said he has one more announcement. July 1st and 2nd, keep those dates available. Council has been invited to a dinner at Keefer Park. Helen Harris will be doing a Dutch Oven Dinner, Friday, the 1st, and PWS Butigan will be cooking steaks. Erik Estrada and his group will be at the dinner. On the 2nd, at the city building, Erik Estrada will be sworn in as a Reserve Police Officer for the City of St. Anthony. Estrada has a program providing police departments with software to help keep kids safe. In addition, he will be providing some funding for training our reserve officers.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m. by Mayor Theuson.


Neils Thueson, Mayor

Attest:


Patty Unruh Parkinson, City Clerk-Treasurer

