

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

March 9, 2015  
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Regie Finney	Public Works Director
Kyle Hauser	Council President	Mark Korsen	Fire Chief
Pam McClain	Council Member	Eric Foster	Police Chief
Michael Higbee	Council Member	Officer Benny Torres	Patrol Officer
Sue Gabardi	Council Member	Kristy Churchman	SIRCOMM Dispatcher
Karen Drown	Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	Concerned Citizens	

REGULAR SESSION called to order at 7:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ... Minutes of February 23, 2015: Kyle Hauser moved to approve the minutes; Pam McClain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Monthly Claims for Payment: Michael Higbee moved to approve the monthly claims for payment; Kyle Hauser seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Monthly Reports: Pam McClain moved to approve the monthly department head reports; Sue Gabardi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Clerk/Treasurer Report: Kyle Hauser moved to approve the clerk/treasurer report; Pam McClain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Monthly Report: Scott Bybee explained the ICDBG/Urban Renewal project is planned to bid on March 19, 2015 and begin the first part of April. He commented most of the project is pipe bursting and with this project it will complete the 3, 4 and 5 rated lines on the project list created by the wastewater department. He informed council that DEQ is commenting how Buhl is ahead of other communities with putting pipe in the ground with projects in wastewater and water. He stated this would be a 90 day project.
- ... Liquor, Beer & Wine License Fee Discussion: Pam commented the liquor fee is at the maximum so it is only the beer and wine permit fees that need to be looked at. Michael commented the surrounding areas average \$100 and few are at the maximum. It was discussed that there is no resolution on file that sets the current fees. Kyle stated he holds one of these permits and he sees the fee as part of doing business. Michael moved to set a

public hearing to consider raising the fees for wine both by the bottle and drink and also the beer for consumption on premises to \$100. Sue seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Police Department Awards: Chief Eric Foster explained the police departments award system that has always been in their manual and he is bringing them back to the department with most are given at the annual Christmas party. He announced tonight Officer Benny Torres is being awarded the Buhl Police Star. He explained it is the department's third highest award and the recipient has to be recommended by a fellow employee. He then read the narrative by Officer Rusty Hawkins concerning the night of July \_\_\_\_\_, 2014. The call Officer Torres responded to put him and Twin Falls County Sheriff Deputy James Elliott in the line of gun fire risking their lives on the call. Officer Torres was presented the Star Award and also a plaque commemorating the event.

Chief Foster also presented SIRCOMM dispatcher Kristy Churchman a Chief's Accommodation for her skills as the dispatcher during the call that evening. She remained on the phone for over two hours with the caller and saved many more lives that evening. He commented that it was one of the calmest dispatches for that type of situation that he has heard. He also presented her with a Police Department Challenge coin which is given out for doing something significant.

Mayor McCauley thanked Chief Foster for the presentation. He thanked Officer Torres and Kristy Churchman for their service.

Surplus Items for Disposal: Chief Foster explained the car that he was requesting for disposal will be replaced with the car that was in the 2014-15 fiscal budget. He explained it starts and runs so it will be taken to Hunt Brothers Auction. Regie Finney explained the items on his list are things that have been cleaned up around different public works sites and the Dodge pickup had been replaced with a pickup within the department. He explained all of the items would be going to the Buhl Public Auction on Thursday, March 19, 2015. Kyle moved to approve listed items for disposal. Pam seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

**COUNCIL CONCERNS** – Michael asked if there were any updates on businesses looking at coming to town. Tom commented there is nothing pending in the near future.

Michael also questioned the neighboring towns on how they handle their fire departments. His questions are on how they ran their department, how much they spend and how many they provide service to. He also wanted to confirm the calculation that Les suggested are correct. He stated he would like to be prepared on anything to drive the dialog. He is trying to

see what the city's position is and move forward. He explained the district is meeting and having discussions ahead of time. He stated he felt the city needs to make points and have serious thought for proposals at meetings.

Kyle had a concern about what other property the city owns. He is interested in knowing since the lease for the dorms was discussed. He stated he was surprised that the owned that property. He would like to see a list. Bill Nungester commented the city insurance policy should have a list.

CITIZENS CONCERNS – Eric Foster compliment the council on the new toy at Eastman Park. He stated his son can see the park from their driveway and always wants to go and play on it.

Pam moved to enter into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345, subsection 1.f to communicate with legal counsel. She requested a roll call vote. Kyle seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the voting was unanimous. Executive session was entered at 7:52 PM.

Pam moved to adjourn executive session. Kyle seconded the motion. There was no discussion and executive session was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Michael moved that the meeting be adjourned; Kyle seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, Assistant City Clerk-Treasurer