

CITY COUNCIL WORKING MEETING

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Pam McClain	Mayor	Autumn Jones	Treasurer
Michael Higbee	Council President	Jason Scott	Street Department Lead
Kelly Peterson by ZOOM	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Amanda Hawkins	Council Member	Jazmine Mills	Planning and Zoning Clerk
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Concerned Citizens	
Karen Drown	Clerk		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING #1

Mayor McClain asked the applicant to make a statement. Galan Jantz stated he is wanting to change zone to build a home and shop to build cedar greenhouses. He stated he will not be building storage sheds.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony in support of the application.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony against the application.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony neutral for the application. Marvin Probasco, Buhl, ID questioned why does he need the whole five acres zoned R-3.

Written testimony received – David and Priscilla Jenks statement read for the record by Karen Drown. They stated concerns about traffic and the safety on Highway 30 and also the noise caused by the building. They questioned if the construction would be done inside a shop.

Galen Jantz rebutted by stating they would be built in a shop and most noise would be a loader pulling them in or out. The business is mostly done by phone and Facebook. He stated traffic would family coming and going and customers would be 1 or 2 a day and most of that would be a few months in the spring. He concluded that he could rezone only part.

Hearing was closed at 6:39 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING #2

Mayor McClain read the hearing notice she asked if Autumn if she had anything further. Autumn stated that covered the it but asked if Council had any questions.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony in support of the application. There was none.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony against the application. There was none.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony neutral of the application. There was none.

Hearing was closed at 6:41 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of December 12, 2022 – Working Meeting
2. Monthly Claims for Payment
3. Monthly Department Head Reports
4. Commission Minutes
5. Clerk Report
6. Treasurer Report

Michael Higbee moved to approve the consent agenda. Amanda Hawkins seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

ENGINEER REPORT

Scott Bybee was absent so there was no engineer report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pool Operations Discussion: Marla began by saying she would still like to see swimming lessons and felt they are vital to community safety. Michael agreed.

Karen detailed the program provided by the Idaho Department of Labor for possibly finding employees. She noted the program director hadn't put information out to potential candidates as the city has to sign up for the program before that can occur. But he noted he had one young man that is interested in park maintenance and we could look at possibly having a separate position that does more of that and allow the lifeguards to do the guarding and concession stand portion. Karen stated this was not an idea that she had the opportunity to go over with Jason Scott prior to this meeting.

Amanda stated she had checked the prices and Filer which is \$3 to \$4 and Wendell was \$4. She felt if there is a need then we should look at taking donations and reach out to the community but

she hates to raise prices. She also questioned the age of 13 before a child could be at the pool without an adult. She stated by then we have lost them; kids can be left home alone between 8 and 10 years old. The pool keeps kids out of trouble. Marla stated she was torn between the appropriate age. Michael added kids are hard as they have vandalized the new park restrooms; parents don't know they are at the pool.

Michael stated he would like to come up with more creative ways like an annual pass drive. He added that Filer and Wendell have annual tax revenue from all the citizens not just those that use the pool as they are recreation districts. He stated we need to make money off of sales of food items. He would also like to look at evening pool rentals. But it all hinges on lifeguard hours available.

There was a discussion of having a teacher as the pool manager. Karen stated she would look into reaching out to school staff.

Michael moved to hold an annual pass drive. Marla seconded the motion. Karen questioned what he was thinking that would involve. Michael stated include it on the billing statements, presentations at civic groups, chamber emails for starters. Karen questioned the pool that he was detailing the pool rental at, he stated the City of Boise is where he had attended an event. There was no further discussion and this motion. The motion passed.

Amanda stated she felt it was important to be open 7 days a week. There was a discussion of the hours in recent years and days opened had been determined by the number of guards available.

It was also mentioned about Filer having community sponsors listed at the pool.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of Public Testimony on request by Galen Jantz for a change of zone from R-1 to B-3: Amanda moved to accept the rezone request from R-1 to a B-3. Marla seconded the motion. It was questioned why the whole lot was being rezoned and not just a portion. Jazmine Mills stated the lot would have to be split and it would have to be done through a subdivision application as the lot had already been split once when the current owner split it to sell the parcel in question. It was questioned if semi-trucks would be allowed in this zone. Jazmine stated to allow semi-trucks it would have to be an industrial zone. There was no further discussion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Amended Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023: All members of the City Council having been furnished a copy of the proposed Ordinance No. 1018 and being fully apprised of the content and purpose of said Ordinance, Michael moved that the provisions of Idaho Code Section 50-902 which require that said Ordinance be read on three

(3) different days, two (2) readings by Title only and one (1) reading which shall be in full, be dispensed with and that said Ordinance be passed upon one (1) reading by title only. Michael requested a roll call vote on the motion. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

Michael moved to approve Ordinance No. 1018 amending the Fiscal Budget 2022-2023 as presented. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of New Airport Board Member: Michael moved to approve Phil Gandiaga as the new member of the Buhl Airport Board. Amanda seconded the motion. Karen noted Phil is a pilot and rents a hangar at the airport so he is a vested member of the airport functions. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Records Destruction Resolution for Police Department Records: Michael moved to adopt Resolution No. 434 for the records destruction of the paper copies of the Police Department records. Marla seconded the motion. Amanda questioned the process of this destruction. Karen explained these records had been scanned and the digital copy now meets Idaho Code for a true record; this resolution is just to destroy the paper copies. There was a short discussion about not retaining the hard copies of documents but it was noted these digital copies were saved on the server and backed up in two off site locations. Karen noted it is hard to let go of paper copies but this will help with the amount of files stored, but there will still be many paper documents to be kept. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Surplus Resolution for Police Department Ammo and Firearms: Chief Engbaum explained the gun and ammo being traded are for old models the department no longer uses and the new guns would allow for all officers to have the same guns. He stated this ammo is anywhere from 5 to 10 years old. Michael moved to adopt Resolution 435 and surplus one gun and the assortment of ammo for three new guns with Reds Trading Post. Marla seconded the motion. Kelly questioned if the shotguns are no longer used. Chief Engbaum stated the 12-gauge are being changed out to bean bag rounds. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Proposed Fire Contract Formula and Budget: Autumn reviewed the budget sheet provided which included the new formula using net taxable market value multiplied by the district levy rate. She included the current salaries and current operating and maintenance costs. She stated this left \$59,157 to be allocated. She stated this would provide a ceiling or cap to go into union negotiations with as that discussion is up in the air at this point in time. Michael stated this makes it apples to apples on levy rates. Autumn stated any excess could be used for capital purchases such as other departments use fund balances and this could be done by reinstating the Joint Capital Fund. Michael stated he had compared levy rates within Twin Falls County and city sizes.

A fire alarm occurred at 7:36 PM. The meeting was held in recess for several minutes until an all clear was given.

Michael continued that Buhl is providing the Cadillac of service. Autumn explained that Andrew had noted the districts concern is their contribution keeps going up.

Kelly stated he agreed with Autumn, Karen and Michael and that agreed in 27 years it hasn't worked. He added the savings to the city could be used to help the swimming pool.

Amanda stated she would like to take this proposal to the joint meeting. Marla noted she felt nervous for the district to hold the contract. Consensus was to present this proposal to the fire district at the joint meeting the following Monday. There was a discussion about the timing on when the joint budget needs to be approved.

Review and Consideration of Collective Bargaining Representative: Andrew Wright stated he had spoken with Ricky Walsh with International Association of Fire Fighters. Andrew explained Council would need to elect one member as bargaining representative who would attend the bargaining negotiations and then bring back requests to the Council members who would then meet in executive session to discuss. This could be at a special meeting or on a normal Council meeting agenda. He stated this first agreement would be to set the ground layer and does not feel it will be hugely contentious. Amanda moved to have Michael as the city collective bargaining representative. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Kelly asked if there had been an update from Barry Seeklander about the naming of a baseball field for Levi Woodhouse. Amanda noted she hasn't heard from him. Mark Murphy who was in attendance and a member of the VFW post with Barry, they had been informed that all the school facilities were named. They were reaching out to TRIBE Baseball about the batting complex as a possibility.

Marla asked for the pool discussion to be an agenda item at the next Council meeting.

Marla asked Mayor McClain how coffee hour went. Mayor McClain stated there was 3 people who showed up. She noted she will be doing them quarterly and the next would take place at Book Haven and will be taking Rick Brook as weed season will be starting.

Michael questioned an email that all the Council members and mayor had received. He confirmed that Karen had replied to the email and clarified the process that had taken place and future actions that could occur.

Amanda asked if there were properties being worked on that needed to be cleaned up. Rick Brook noted there are several he is working on trying to gain compliance.

Karen questioned who would be potentially attending the AIC Annual Conference in June as she needs to make hotel reservations.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: There were none.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Michael Higbee moved that the meeting be adjourned; Marla Sisson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk