

CITY COUNCIL WORKING SESSION

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Elizabeth Barker	Treasurer/Asst. Clerk
Michael Higbee	Council President	Scott Bybee	City Engineer
Kyle Hauser	Council Member	Regie Finney	Public Works Director
Sue Gabardi	Council Member	Barbara Gietzen	Planning & Zoning
Bill Nungester	City Attorney		

WORKING SESSION called to order at 6:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Elizabeth Barker confirmed a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ... Minutes of February 13, 2017: Michael Higbee moved to approve the minutes; Kyle Hauser seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Monthly Claims for Payment: Kyle Hauser moved to approve the monthly claims for payment; 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; Michael Higbee seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation from North Canyon Medical Services: This agenda item was cancelled since no one was present from North Canyon Medical services.

Review and Consideration of Ordinance changing City of Buhl's legal publisher: Mayor McCauley noted that the Ordinance would allow the Buhl Herald to once again be the City's newspaper of record.

All members of the City Council having been furnished a copy of the proposed Ordinance No. 985 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. Kyle seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Michael voted yes, Kyle voted yes, and Sue voted yes. Motion passed.

Michael moved to adopt Ordinance No. 985, to designate the Buhl Herald as the official newspaper of the City of Buhl. He requested a roll call vote. Kyle seconded the motion. Michael noted he was pleased to be able to go with a local option. Michael voted yes, Kyle voted yes, and Sue voted yes. Motion passed and Ordinance No. 985 was adopted.

Review and Consideration of Comprehensive Plan and Resolution: Kyle Hauser moved to adopt Resolution 383 to which would adopt the City of Buhl Comprehensive Plan 2016. Sue Gabardi seconded the motion.

Michael indicated that he was not so much questioning this comprehensive plan as wanting to be sure that the city would set goals and directions to accomplish the things listed in the plan. He noted that the plan states: the council will do this or the city is doing that; he wonders if in fact the council and the city are doing those things. Tom stated that it is important to note that the differences between a Comprehensive Plan and a Strategic Plan. Barbara Gietzen, Chair of Planning & Zoning, noted that the Plan does not say “the City shall” or “the City will.” Rather it uses words such as “promote” or “encourage.” The reason for that is that a Comprehensive Plan is supposed to be broad and general in scope. She stated that there was a citizens’ committee which developed the Plan and that the Plan reflected the desires of the citizens. She stated that the Strategic Plan to implement those desires would be the responsibility of Council.

Michael stated that he felt that it is important to do a Strategic Plan if the Council passes a Comprehensive Plan. He felt we should be basing our budget around the Strategic Plan. He also felt that there were several things in the document that had change recently and needed to be updated. He mentioned the change in the fire department staffing schedule and the number of new housing starts.

Scott cautioned about being too specific in the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that not only is this a transitional document, there are also transitional councils. He noted that every grant application asks if there is a Comprehensive Plan and how current it is.

Michael stated that he had concerns about how to answer the question of what the city is doing to promote the goals in the Comprehensive Plan. Discussion followed concerning housing development in the City. Several council members commented on changes that could or should be made to the Comprehensive Plan. Elizabeth advised council that if changes were made, another public hearing would be required.

It was decided that the Comprehensive Plan would be sent back to Planning & Zoning for updating. Barbara agreed to speak with department heads about updating the departmental sections, to update the growth and population information, and to add a paragraph noting that this is intended to be a transitional document which outlines broad and general goals for the City. She will put review of the revised Comprehensive Plan on the agenda for Planning and Zoning on March 15th.

Discussion regarding downtown parking in Buhl followed.

Tom stated that the motion on the floor was to pass Resolution 383. A vote on the motion was taken and all were opposed. The motion failed.

Kyle moved that a revised Comprehensive Plan be placed on the agenda two months from now. Michael seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

COUNCIL CONCERNS –

*Michael stated that after the approval of a Comprehensive Plan, the Council needed to create a Strategic Plan. It was suggested that the department heads incorporate items from the Comprehensive Plan into the part of the budgeting process where they lay out a ten-year plan or vision for Council. It was noted that it would be important to have input from the community, and Regie added that it was important to get participation from the school district as well.

*Tom stated that he had received a phone call Friday morning from a citizen expressing appreciation for the work the city crews had done to keep the streets clear. Barbara said that she had heard some of the same appreciative comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Kyle Hauser moved that the meeting be adjourned; Michael Higbee seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Barker, Treasurer/Assistant City Clerk