

CITY COUNCIL WORKING SESSION

JULY 24, 2017  
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Elizabeth Barker	Treasurer
Michael Higbee	Council President	Karen Drown	Clerk
Pam McClain	Council Member	Regie Finney	Public Works Director
Kyle Hauser	Council Member	Connie Stopher	SIEDO Director
Sue Gabardi	Council Member	Concerned Citizens	
Andrew Wright	City Attorney		

WORKING SESSION called to order at 6:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

Mayor McCauley asked consideration to add an item to the agenda because of information he just received in regards to the Fire Department helping on BLM fires and the pay for those career staff being paid overtime. Michael moved to add the item to the agenda and requested a roll call vote. Kyle seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote and all voted aye, the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ... Minutes of July 10, 2017: Pam McClain moved to approve the minutes; Kyle Hauser seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Bi-Monthly Claims for Payment: Kyle Hauser moved to approve the monthly claims for payment; Pam McClain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.
- ... Clerk/Treasurer Report: Pam McClain moved to approve the clerk/treasurer report; Sue Gabardi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update and New Fee Schedule from Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization: Connie Stopher introduced herself and passed out the new fee schedule for SIEDO which is based on the size of the city's civilian labor force. She pointed out that with the new fee structure the fee for Buhl would go down from \$4,738.00 to \$4,400.00. She stated that she started with SIEDO in mid-March and has done a review of the processes and the areas of focus that SIEDO

tries to promote. She outlined changes that would be taking place in staff positions and the revamping of the website and expansion into more online media. She added with the new website the City of Buhl would have a page specific to Buhl.

She also spoke to Council about a new recruitment project called the “Familiarization Tour” and they would be coming through Buhl with lunch at Clear Springs, a tour of Seneca and ice cream at Clover Leaf Creamery. This tour would provide site selectors information about our region to help market it to future projects. There was a discussion about the involvement that Buhl BEC has with the tour and SIEDO was asking for a \$500 donation from all those cities the tour would visit. She explained that BEC said they could do \$250 but asked if she would ask the Council and city to contribute the other \$250.

There was a discussion about the difference between SIRD (Southern Idaho Rural Development) and SIEDO (Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization). Connie explained that they do work together to promote the area but SIRD focuses on main street and small businesses and SIEDO focuses on large industry. The boards of both organizations have talked about how forces could be joined to improve the work they do.

Discussion of Smoking and Vaping Ordinance: Karen explained that public buildings fall under the state code for smoking but the code does not address vaping or e-cigarettes. There was a discussion about how hard it would be to enforce a ban in the parks and about putting up signs to discourage the action of smoking or vaping around children.

Andrew Wright stated he would draw up a draft ordinance that was fairly restrictive and Council could review and make changes. It was also discussed about employees smoking in city facilities and that would be addressed in the personnel manual.

Paid Overtime for Career Fire Staff on BLM Fires: Mayor McCauley explained that with the mutual aid agreements the fire department has with BLM there would be the opportunity for career staff to go work on a fire on their off days; with the new shift work schedule the paid overtime was removed from the budget. The question was if a career staff member went out and worked on a BLM fire could they be paid overtime instead of earning comp time. It was added that since paid overtime was removed when the shift work schedule started the mayor wanted to clear it through Council before proceeding. Mayor McCauley stated he had already discussed it with Neal Gier and had the approval of the district to pay the overtime. The work time and costs would be reimbursed to the city from the BLM on any costs incurred for the work performed.

Kyle moved to approve paying overtime to career staff working with BLM and US Forest Service when assisting on fires. Michael seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

COUNCIL CONCERNS – Michael had a concern about the \$250 that Connie with SIEDO had requested. He stated that was not a bad investment to have all the individuals visiting and looking at our community. Michael moved to expend \$250 through the contingency fund to SIEDO for the “Familiarization Tour”, Kyle seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed. It was stated that both SIRD and SIEDO are bringing a value to the community. Michael stated that he would like a more direct connection to SIEDO if the city is paying the \$4,400.00

MEETING ADJOURNED – Kyle Hauser moved that the meeting be adjourned; Pam McClain seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk