

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

AUGUST 1, 2022
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Michael Higbee	Council President	Regie Finney	Public Works
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Andrew Stevens	Fire Chief
Amanda Hawkins	Council Member	Reba Puente	Library Director
Autumn Jones	Treasurer	Concerned Citizens	
Scott Bybee	City Engineer		
Teresa Robbins	Public Works Clerk		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Autumn Jones confirmed a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING #1: Department Fee Schedule

Public hearing #1 was opened at 6:32 PM and Autumn confirmed a quorum.

Council President, Michael Higbee, asked for the applicants statement from the city administration and city engineer. Autumn stated that this was annual review of all fees charged within each department of the city and felt that those that were struck needed to be adjusted. Autumn also stated that some of the Library fees were always being charged but were never listed in a resolution as such and listing them on the proposed resolution were to fix those fees. She also detailed that the planning and zoning fees increased to become more in line with what other cities were charging and to cover increase costs for postage and publications. Scott Bybee had no input on this resolution.

Michael stated that he was going to allow 3 minutes for each person's testimony in order to keep the tempo of the meeting going. He also stated that if several individuals had the same testimony he would ask for a roll call of the audience to see how many had the same opinion.

Michael asked if there was any testimony in support of the application. There were none.

Michael asked if there was any testimony in opposition of the application.

Harold Miller stated that he did not understand where Buhl feels like they are much more important than the Social Security office or retirement office. He stated that they only get 2%

increase on their retirement and maybe 3% from the federal government on social security. Stated that Buhl's fees were going way over that, 5% and that a lot of Buhl are retired people and can't keep up. He stated he was disgusted with the way things are run here because they keep paying more every year on our taxes. He commented to talk to Biden next time and tell him to increase Social Security. Harold stated that the city does not fix the roads and traffic signs are taken down and not replaced. He also stated that the holes in the roads are never patched. Michael stated that he needed to keep on topic and said that this public hearing was for the department fees as listed in this resolution. Harold asked if those fees could be used to fix the roads. Michael stated that no those fees could not be used to fix the roads.

Bonnie Miller asked if there was anything that could be deducted to lower it down a little bit. She asked what they were doing with the 5%. Autumn asked Michael if she could explain the 5% that was printed on the public hearing notices. Autumn stated that the notice does say 5% but that does not mean that there is an overall 5% increase or that each fee will increase 5%. State code states that if any fees within the resolution increase more than 5% the city is required to hold a public hearing. So that if just one of the fees within this resolution increases more than 5% then that automatically requires a public hearing. Michael stated that because of the increased costs for everything the council asked the city department heads to look for fees where the city are losing a lot of money on. Autumn stated that by just adding the library fees that have been charged for years that required a public hearing stage. Bonnie stated that this was to account for those fees. Michael stated that out of the many public hearing that city has held only a few have ever had so many citizens in attendance. That council has in the past held public hearings even when the fees were not increased by 5% for transparency.

Rhonda Greene stated that all of her questions were answered and she had nothing more to add.

Cheryl Jarrell who owns a business on Burley Ave asked if she could speak even though she was not signed up on the sheet. Michael said he would allow her statement since there was time and only a few had signed up. Cheryl stated she didn't know how small businesses can stay in business if fees have gone up for water slowly each year. Michael stated that those fees were not actually part of this discussion and that he would let her know when to speak at the right public hearing. Cheryl asked about the bond fees increasing. Michael noted that was a misprint in the Times News and that the bond fees are actually decreasing but that would be discussed further in the public hearing for utility rates.

Michael asked if there was any testimony neutral to the application. There was none.

There was no rebuttal from the applicant.

The hearing was closed at 6:43 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING #2: Water Service Line with Rock Clause Resolution

Public hearing #2 was opened at 6:44 PM and Autumn confirmed a quorum.

Michael Higbee asked for the applicants statement from the city administration and city engineer. Autumn detailed that this resolution was for new water service installations with the addition of the rock clause. She stated that the rock clause was for when a water service was being put in or replaced and there was rock that needed to be sawed through there would be an additional cost to the property owner who applied for the building permit or new water service connection. Scott Bybee stated that normally the City absorbed the cost of the removal of the rock but that was no longer feasible.

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

Bonnie Miller stated that at first she was against the resolution but after listening to the explanation of the proposed resolution she agreed with passing the cost of removing the rock onto the owner. Amanda stated that if a citizen has to have a water line replaced that they would have to pay to have the extra rock removed. Kelly mentioned that this was for citizens to take responsibility for their property.

Rhonda Greene again stated that all of her questions were answered and she had nothing more to add.

Randy at 215 Floral stated that he did not need to speak regarding this resolution.

Michael asked if there was any testimony in opposition of the application. There were none.

Michael asked if there was any testimony neutral to the application. There was none.

Donald at 962 Milner was signed up but did not speak.

There was no rebuttal from the applicant.

The hearing was closed at 6:49 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING #3: Adopt-a-Truck Resolution

Public hearing #3 was opened at 6:49 PM and Autumn confirmed a quorum.

Michael Higbee asked for the applicants statement from the city administration and city engineer. Autumn detailed that this resolution regarding the Adopt-a-Truck program and changing the fee from \$15 to \$25. She summarized what the Adopt-a-truck program is and that currently it is \$15 to fill the truck with natural items and \$15 plus \$44/ton from the transfer station based on weight to fill the truck with non-natural items. She stated that they looked at increasing this fee due to the increased cost of fuel and maintenance on the truck. Scott stated that it was a bargain for \$25, that if you rented a dump trailer in twin it would be much more

expensive. Michael stated that the city has been losing money on this program for years but council has made it a priority to continue the program to help citizens clean up their properties.

Michael asked if there was any testimony in support of the application. There were none. Michael asked if there was any testimony in opposition of the application. There were none.

Michael asked if there was any testimony neutral to the application.

Harold Miller stated that he tried to reserve the truck but they wouldn't take it to him.

Bonnie Miller asked questions regarding what the Adopt-a-Truck program was. Kelly clarified that the City will drop this truck off to the property over night or if it requested on a Thursday the truck will remain there until Monday morning. That citizens can fill it with whatever they want to get rid of, that if it is just natural items it is only \$25, if there is non-natural items like a stove or water heater then those cost \$25 for the truck and the cost to dump those items at the transfer station.

A citizen asked if that was limited to city limits or outside city limits could use it too. Autumn stated that you have to have a city utility bill to be able to use it.

There was no rebuttal from the applicant.

The hearing was closed at 6:54 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING #4: Utility Rate Resolution

Public hearing #4 was opened at 6:54 PM and Autumn confirmed a quorum.

Michael Higbee asked for the applicants statement from the city administration and city engineer. Autumn detailed how the utility bill is currently billed and broken down. She stated that currently a renter is billed for usable services for \$74.33 per month, that landlords are required to be billed the bonds for \$71.26 per month, and that a full account for an owner that lives in the home is \$143.75 per month. She also stated that the SRF bond is maturing as of September 2022 which is \$4.87 per month on the current bill. She stated that the \$4.87 SRF bond fee will be dropping off of the utility bill. She also detailed that will the increases to the county tipping fees, as well as, chemicals, fuel, electricity costs that they were proposing increasing the county sanitation fee \$0.38 and the operations and maintenance fee of \$5.49 for a total increase of \$5.87. Autumn explained that this would increase renter bills from \$74.33 to \$80.20, would decrease landlord bills from \$71.26 to \$66.39, and a full account would increase from \$143.75 to \$144.75. Scott gave a history on the bonds, as well as, water and wastewater treatment facilities. Scott also explained that there is an established rate committee of citizens that represent residential, commercial, and industrial users. He stated that it has been the rate committees

opinion that it is better to have smaller increases each year than not increase for a few years and then have a much larger increase. He stated that the rate committee reviews the proposed rates and makes a recommendation to the City Council. He also gave some input on future regulations, such as temperature and phosphorus, that the City will have to look at modifying the water and wastewater treatments facilities. Several citizens commented that the chlorine taste makes it so you can't drink the water. Michael asked the public works director, Regie Finney, if our chlorine levels are every out of proportion, Regie responded that we are always within the guidelines. Michael stated that we have to treat our water for safety and that is one of the most important things. Michael brought the meeting back to the original topic.

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

Marty Wilson stated that she was not going to come to the meeting but was seeing a lot of information on social media that the bill was going to go up tremendously. She stated that her husband heard at his business that the bill was going to go up \$50 to \$75. She stated that she picked up a copy of the proposal and was confused why citizens were angry about \$1. She stated she thought the council and city workers do a great job and was disappointed at how a citizen was treating a city worker on the HWY 30 project. Marty also stated that she believes citizens should stick together and not always believe what we read on social media.

Michael asked if there was any testimony in opposition of the application. There were none.

Donald Whisner asked what the increased rates are going for and if it was the bonds. Amanda stated the bond is dropping off. Michael stated that the city is seeing increased costs in everything just like citizens are. Donald stated that why is the city raising the rates now. Michael stated that the rates have increased a little bit every year. Michael stated that there have been several times that council has not accepted rate committee's recommendation in an effort to keep the utility bill as small as possible. Donald stated that there are some people who just cannot afford it. He added that our police department is full of good people.

Ron Wright stated that the council jumped their water bill from \$40 to \$90 then \$90 to \$140, that council back then stated that once the bonds dropped off the bill would go down. He stated that he didn't believe council then and he does not believe them now. Michael stated that he understood where he was coming from and that is the big unknown. That once those big bonds drop off is the water or wastewater treatment facilities going to need upgrades from more mandates.

Bonnie Miller asked if we could get the federal government to help the citizens. She stated to get a group and go talk to them about assistance or everyone signing a petition.

Rhonda Greene was thankful for explaining the rates and felt much better about it. She stated that water is a very precious commodity and was concerned about the schools and parks watering streets and during the hottest part of the day.

Harold Miller stated that the water pressure in McCollum is terrible. He stated that he could not run the dishwasher and washing machine at the same time.

Kathleen Madalena asked if the council or rate committee has discussed going to a one day a week garbage pickup to alleviate property tax increases. Michael clarified that the fees being discussed are a part of a government enterprise fund and citizen's property taxes are not used to fund water, sewer, or trash pickup; property taxes pay for things like police, parks, library, etc. Michael stated that most city bonds are on the property taxes and not on the utility bill but Buhl's bonds are front and center on each month. Amanda stated that if the bonds were on property taxes then it would have fallen off and that the actual increase to the bill was \$5 something. Michael stated that Amanda should not be having discussion right now during the public hearing, that questions can be asked for clarity. Amanda asked if Autumn could clarify how the bond is coming off but there is still the increase of the \$1 to show the actual increase. Michael asked Kathleen what her original question was. Kathleen asked if it was ever discussed going to one day a week garbage pickup. Michael stated that every year council discusses that option and also stated that some residents pay extra to have a second garbage can and both are picked up twice per week. Kathleen asked why we weren't putting the wastewater back into the ground and putting it into the river. Scott stated that is a separate issue than what the public hearing is about.

Cheryl Jarrell and Luann Kaes took turns speaking regarding their small businesses on Burley Ave. Cheryl stated that small business are struggling to pay what they are being charged. Luann stated that she uses 1,000 gallon of water per month but is charged 32,000. Michael stated that as commercial businesses they could request a review of their rates. Cheryl asked about the monthly rate committee meetings. Autumn stated that there is an annual rate committee meeting normally held in June and all of the public is welcome to attend; that the notice for the meeting and agenda are posted just like any other meeting. Michael said that the Mayor appoints individuals to represent residential, commercial, and industrial users on the rate committee.

Michael asked if there was any testimony neutral to the application. There was none.

Michael asked for rebuttal and Scott clarified that the rate committee can meet more than annually, if necessary but at least once per year. Scott detailed the reasons why the city does not inject treated wastewater back into the aquifer and the rules that have to be addressed at the State level. Scott encouraged every person to use the 12,000 gallons of water that they are billed for the base rate. Scott stated that back when the treatment facilities were upgraded they projected where rates would be in the future and that the city rates are still significantly below where those rates showed they would have been. Scott stated that the city has looked into a program that would decrease the bills for people that are low income and found out that it was illegal. He stated that he knows other cities do it but also stated one day they will lose the battle. Scott also went into detail on how the city passed the bonds, started construction on the plants, and then

there were state and federal grants available for those upgrades that the city no longer qualified for.

The hearing was closed at 7:46 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Autumn Jones confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of July 11, 2022 – Regular Session
2. Bi- Monthly Claims for Payment
3. Clerk Report
4. Treasurer Report

Kelly Peterson moved to approve the consent agenda. Marla Sisson seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed. Michael stated that council has already been provided all of the consent agenda prior to the meeting and can pass it by consent unless there are any questions or concerns.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS:

Department Fee Resolution: Kelly Peterson moved to accept the department fee resolution #425 as printed. Marla Sisson seconded the motion. Amanda asked if this was the one with the dog fees in it. Amanda stated that the City of Wendell's fees are \$5 if spayed/neutered and \$10 if not, the City of Gooding's fees are \$10 per dog per year, there dog at large is \$10 for 1st offense, \$40 for 2nd offense, \$80 for 3rd offense. She stated that this resolution does not raise any of the dog at large fees so the only dog fees that were raised were for the people that actually register their dogs. Amanda stated that if your dogs are at large you are not being penalized any more for that. She stated that the City of Filer's fees are \$2 per animal. She stated that she felt like the city is already charging way more than even before raising from \$15 to \$20. She liked the City of Wendell's dog fees. Michael asked if there was a specific recommendation that she would like to make a motion on. Autumn stated that the motion on the table needed to be voted on first. Amanda asked if there was discussion on these. Michael answered that they were right now. Michael stated that council had already voted on these before but if there was something she would like to change that they could vote down the motion on the table and this was the time. Amanda stated that she would rather look at other options before the council moves forward with this. Autumn asked if she would like to look at other options for just the dog fees or all fees in

the resolution. Amanda stated that she wanted to look at all of them again. Michael stated that it was council that asked department heads to take the time to review these fees and asked Autumn how that process happens. Autumn stated that was put into place prior to her as Treasurer but when department fees had to be in a resolution, council asked to include the review of these fees as part of our annual budget discussions. Autumn stated that as far as the spayed vs not spayed has not been a part of the fee schedule in the past that she was aware of. Marla asked when this resolution would take effect. Autumn stated that this resolution would begin as of October 1, 2022. Amanda stated that she spoke to legal and that legal said if there was something brought up that council needed to take the time and review that these items could be tabled. Michael stated yes that is correct but that motion that was made could still be voted on. Michael also stated that he was surprised to go through them again since in prior meetings council had gone through them and voted on them. Amanda said that was the question she asked legal was that our agenda always list items as “action items” and we never have a discussion. Amanda stated that she looked at other agendas and they do have discussions. She also stated that when they first got the fee schedules they got them on a Thursday or Friday and had to vote on them on Monday. Autumn clarified that the reason why most things are listed as ‘action items’ is because Karen and Autumn do not always know whether council will need to take action or not. She stated that if items are listed as discussion and not action then council can’t take action if they wanted to. She also stated that just because items are listed as “action items” does not mean that council must take action but is there in case they do without having to push those items to the next meeting. Amanda stated that she understood that but that is why there is a spot for “unfinished business”. Marla stated that she was interested in talking about the fees further but she wished the concerns were brought up earlier and that she felt like we are increasing fees for people that are doing the right thing and not those whose dogs are at large. Marla felt that dogs at large is a main issue. Kelly asked for the motion to be reread before voting. Autumn stated that the motion on the table was to accept the department fee resolution #425 as printed. The council voted: Marla – no, Michael – no, Amanda – no, Kelly – yes; motion failed. Michael asked that be an item on their next agenda. Autumn asked if the council wanted to see those options prior to the meeting. Michael stated that council needs to bring changes to the resolution to the next meeting.

Water Service Line with Rock Clause Resolution: Kelly moved to approve water line resolution #425 with rock clause. Marla seconded the motion. Kelly stated that he thought it was well supported by the general people that this is their rock and not every house is built on rock. He stated when the City got the bid for the Burley Ave ICDBG project that the contractor’s bid had a rock clause. Kelly also stated that this is not for when the city puts in a new main line up your road but for your service to your house. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Adopt-a-Truck Program Resolution: Marla moved to approved the adopt-a-truck resolution #426. Amanda seconded the motion. Michael stated that he still thinks this is a good deal and

was incredibly helpful when he used it. Amanda asked if the City was still going to offer the Johnny Horizon Day vouchers. Autumn stated that the program is through Twin Falls County and is up to the Twin Falls County Commissioners to approve those vouchers but as far as she knew we would still continue to distribute the vouchers as long as Twin Fall County Commissioners approved it. Amanda asked if a lot of those have been used. Autumn stated that those vouchers are only for that weekend and she did not know the numbers that were used this year right off the top of her head. Kelly stated that Johnny Horizon is a nationally recognized cleanup day. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – no, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Utility Rate Resolution: Kelly moved to approve utility rate resolution #427 as printed. Marla seconded the motion. Amanda stated that if this bond was on the property taxes it would fall off and it wouldn't be rolled over so honestly citizen's bills should have went down the \$4.87 and they tacked another \$1.00 on top of that. Michael called for a point of order and stated that Amanda said "they" but that she voted for that as well and asked that she not talk about the city like she is not part of the city. Amanda stated that now she was understanding a little better and her personal opinion is to let the bond fall off and if the city needed to go to the citizens and ask for more money than we need to do that in a way that "doesn't seem like we are trying to pull the wool over somebodys eyes". Amanda stated that the real increase is \$5.87 and not a \$1 and felt like there should have been more clarification for that. Autumn stated that we can't go back in the past and put the bonds on the property taxes and that in 2008 the citizens voted to have the bonds on their monthly utility bill not property taxes. Autumn also stated that she felt it was a blessing that the bond was falling off this year with all the inflation that the city is seeing because otherwise they could be looking at a \$5 increase overall on top of continuing to pay the bond. A citizen asked if they could be included in this discussion. Michael stated no. The citizen responded that they should be since Autumn was looking at them while explaining. Amanda stated that previously in the meeting a citizen mentioned that the bill would go down when bonds were paid off and that she felt that was the deal. Michael stated that the increase in expenses was regardless of the bonds dropping off. Michael stated that costs go up and that the same city council is wanting to increase salaries more than our tax revenues increase. He also stated that the city has to cover its expenses and it is illegal for us to not balance our budgets. Michael stated that council already voted on this and discussed this issue as a body and that council tried to do it in such a way to pay for the terrible inflation without the citizens feeling the burden of it. Michael stated that he would love it if there was a way to decrease those bonds. He also stated that council is up there trying to fight for the services that are necessary and quality of life for citizens while maintaining the type of service they deserve and are paying for. Amanda asked if the council has done the best we have ever done. She stated that we have more tax revenue this year than we have ever had historically. Michael stated that we actually have a very small increase in our L-2 from last year. Amanda stated that Michael had said that this is the best we have ever looked. Michael agreed and stated that when he started on the council the city was in

the red, had no reserves, and no accounting services going on. He also stated that thankfully we are not going to default on our loans. A citizen commented that in previous minutes we have 6-8 months in reserves in the utility fund. Michael stated that those comments needed to be made during the public hearing portion of the meeting. Kelly asked if he could make a statement and states that when it is said that we are in a better financial situation than we have been in years does not mean we have received a large increase in tax revenue. Kelly stated that we have received increases in building permits, etc. but by being in a better financial situation is from the efforts and frugality of previous council to put money aside. He mentioned that our auditors recommend to have 3 months of revenues in reserves and that by us having 6-8 months that means that if the revenues dry up we can operate longer than the average entity because of the council's efforts. Kelly stated that this isn't money sitting in a savings account, this is money that is specifically set aside for specific things like bonds. Kelly mentioned that he worked for the city for years and the first thing they said to him was that he has to pay his utility bill that just because he worked for the city does not mean he got a free pass on paying for services. A citizen asked if he had 6-8 months of reserves. Kelly responded that he does and that he had them because of decisions he made 30-40 years ago. Michael stated that when he started on council in 2010 the city was in the red and that was because of the major housing market recession and that their main goal was to get out of the red. Michael stated that it may sound like a lot of operating savings but if you have to buy one large piece of equipment or if we have to build another water tower for the new subdivision it eats away large chunks of that reserve. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – no, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

State/Local Agreement & TAP #2 Resolution: Regie explained that this is a continuation of TAP #1 that was supposed to begin this year but we couldn't get any bids because the contractors are too busy for a small project like this. He stated that the State agreed to let the city tie TAP #1 & #2 together to put a walking path down 7th Ave n, down Sawtooth to Clear Lakes, up Clear Lakes to Main, will end somewhere by 6th Ave. He also stated that he was just notified that he was accepting for the Child Pedestrian grant. He is hoping to start this project after school has ended in Spring of 2023. Marla asked for clarification on the start date. Regie stated that the it is a joint project with ITD, school district, city, and canal company. Kelly moved to approve TAP#2 resolution #428 and state/local agreement. Marla seconded the motion. Marla stated that it will be really good. Michael mentioned that is has been a priority of the council to create safe walking paths to and from school especially. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

PTO Back to School Event in Eastman Park after Closing Hours: Kelsey Margulieux was attending on behave of TRIBE PTO group. They requesting to hold a back to school event after hours and show a movie, have concessions, on August 19th started around 8:00 and ending around 10:30-11:00 PM. Michael asked if parks and public works were good to keep the restrooms open and extra trash cans, etc. Regie stated yes they would make it work. Amanda

moved to accept the request of the PTO Back to School Event in Eastman Park on August 19th. Kelly seconded the motion. Marla stated thought it was so fun for the kids. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Door-to-Door Permit for Mid-Columbia Bus Company: The representative from Mid-Columbia Bus Company stated they would like to hand door hangers regarding becoming a bus driver. She stated they needed about 20 drivers and would like to be able to do this for the next few months. Autumn stated that the application was for August 2022 to August 2023. Kelly moved to approve with dates yet to be determined. Amanda seconded the motion. Michael stated he applauded her for coming tonight since there are a lot of scams going door to door and this process is for the police and administration to know who is legit or not. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Idaho Power Franchise Agreement: Autumn explained that Nathan Murray was hoping to be there tonight but was unable to attend. She explained that a franchise agreement was for other utilities to use city rights-of-ways and easements for a cost. She stated that this is just the introduction of this agreement and that if council approved this tonight there would be a second notice after 30 days to approve the ordinance. Amanda asked if this was for 20 years. Autumn stated that Nathan mentioned that as far as length time for these agreements they range from 5-40 years depending on the city. She also stated that this is what they had prior and the administration felt comfortable continuing this agreement. Marla moved to approve the Idaho Power Franchise agreement. Kelly seconded the motion. Kelly stated he likes the lights to come on when he flips the switch and the only way that is going to happen is if we let them in. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 Budget Amendment: Autumn stated that the city needed to amend the current budget for Fire and Utilities Sanitation. She stated that the fire department received a \$5,000 grant from Seagraves that Andrew would use for RTF gear, boots, gloves, helmets, etc. for additional volunteer staff. She mentioned that the reason it could not be rolled over into next year was because the fund balance as the end of the year is split back to the City and Fire District so that \$5,000 would do the same and end up not being spent. Autumn also stated that the city needed to amend \$2,800 in the Sanitation budget due to the MoonGlo sanitation contract. Kelly moved to move forward with a Public Hearing Notice to amend the budget for FY 2021-2022. Amanda seconded the motion. Kelly asked if everyone at MoonGlo had received a can. Regie stated that everyone was good to go and would be picked up in the morning. Kelly stated he thought it was nice of the new owners to pick up that bill for the first three months. Amanda asked if the city wanted to take over sanitation at MoonGlo or was it the new owners. Autumn stated that it was per the new owner's request. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Final Property Tax Revenue Allocations: Autumn stated she had received an L-2 from the county and that now they could move forward in finalizing all the funds that receive property tax revenue. She stated that the city was able to fulfill all the requests by department heads like the detective position and building inspector. She stated that the library was able to increase hours and hourly rates per the Library Board's request but in doing so they will not be backfilling a position. Amanda asked if these are the changes. Autumn stated that these are the budgets they have been talking about for a couple of months but now we have final property tax numbers. She also stated that it was on the agenda because she was unsure if this would be a discussion on what items needed to be cut or if they could all be funded. She stated that she received the L-2 on Tuesday, got it all worked out but on Wednesday morning received an email stating that the State Tax Commission forgot something on the form and they would be sending a corrected copy. Autumn stated she did not receive that corrected form until late Thursday night. Michael asked what the contingency is. Autumn stated that the contingency was in the admin budget and was \$1,646. She stated that the L-2 did change from Tuesday to Thursday but only decreased \$15. Michael stated that is by far the smallest contingency he has seen but that is okay. Autumn asked for any changes that council wanted to make before final review on Monday, August 8th, 2022. Amanda asked if this was for the Fire budget as well. Autumn answered no that the fire budget had already been approved. Amanda said she had a question about the fire budget. She asked if all department heads can do what they want. Autumn said no, that is exactly why we tried to change the JMA formula. Amanda asked if his was different. Michael stated that the rest of the department heads must come together and say here is the rest of the pie and must work within the confines of that. He stated that the fire budget works outside of that and funded with the district. Michael stated that if the L-2 came back \$50,000 cheaper, we would have had to make cuts to every other department except fire. Amanda asked a question about department heads giving raises as they like. Michael stated that department heads work with the Mayor on how those are distributed but council decided the cost of living increase. A citizen commented that Autumn had told her today that council decides what department head salaries are. Michael and Autumn commented that council does decide that. Michael stated that the public forum was not the place to ask questions regarding specific department head salaries. Another citizen commented so a librarian can make more than a fireman. Michael stated that he wasn't going to argue peoples salaries. Kelly moved to accept budget worksheets as presented and move to the final review. Marla seconded the motion. Kelly stated that they have been having these discussions since March and not the first time this is brought up. He stated that he was glad to see people attend the meetings and if they wanted copies of the budget they just needed to fill out a public records request. There was a discussion on social media. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – yes, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Foregone for Fiscal Year 2022-2023: Autumn explained the history of the City's forgone. That the City originally did not take their 3% increase so they could take the governor's COVID money as relief for public safety salaries. Autumn stated that because of HB 389 Cities can only

take 1% of their budget as forgone each year. She stated that last year we used that money for the police department evidence room upgrades and that her recommendation for this year was for the police department training room upgrades. Kelly moved to take the forgone amount and use it for the police department training room. Marla seconded the motion. Michael asked for the amount. Autumn stated that it was \$19,710 and to clarify this is not passing the resolution for forgone yet. Amanda asked if this would finish it out. Autumn stated no, that we probably have one more year and that there have been rumors that there is legislation coming that would prevent cities from recovering any of their forgone. The council voted: Marla – yes, Michael – no, Amanda – yes, Kelly – yes; motion passed.

Engagement Survey: Amanda stated that this is a survey that would go out to all employees with questions about how the city is doing as an employer. She detailed that they could use Survey Monkey, it is online and free. She states that it is for employers to touch base with employees to see how are we doing is there anything we can improve on. She said that it has the option to remain anonymous. Amanda stated that she wanted to do some employee appreciation stuff and that it is important that employees feel valued. Michael asked for ideas. Amanda explained that where she works they will give them gift cards to place to eat. A citizen commented on maybe showcasing a employees on the City Facebook page. Amanda asked that it be put on the agenda for next time. She stated that her work posts all the results good or bad. Michael stated that it feels administrative and the council wouldn't be able to see any of the results or they would have to recuse themselves. Michael suggested that Pam talk to department heads about and see if that is something they were interested in. Autumn asked if she could comment in regards to the gift cards. She stated that we cannot give gift cards because that is considered compensation to the IRS and PERSI, as well as, that turns taxpayer dollars into untraceable money and that is illegal. Michael said we need to brainstorm to come to a solution. Marla mentioned that at the Association of Idaho Cities she went to a session about this where they talked about giving gym memberships and pet insurance to employees. No action taken.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Marla commented that she appreciated all the people showing up tonight and hope they continue to attend meetings. She said that a couple of questions she heard tonight has been addressed in other meetings.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Marla moved that the meeting be adjourned; Kelly Peterson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Minutes prepared by Autumn Jones, Treasurer