

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

OCTOBER 12, 2020
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Michael Higbee	Council President	Regie Finney	Public Works Director
Pam McClain	Council Member	Scott Bybee	City Engineer
Sue Gabardi	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Autumn Jones	Billing Clerk
Karen Drown	Clerk	Concerned Citizens	
Elizabeth Barker	Treasurer		

Because of the recent COVID-19 pandemic Buhl City Council made this meeting available telephonically.

PUBLIC HEARING opened at 7:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

Karen explained the application from Idaho Milk Products had been to designate Burley Ave as a 129,000-pound truck route. This had been brought before Council this spring but we were recently informed by LHTAC that a public hearing needed to be held and a resolution considered. Michael asked if Idaho Milk Products was in attendance, they were not in person or over the phone.

There was no testimony in support of the application.

There was testimony against the application.

Ed Jarolimek has lived on Burley Ave for a number of years. He noted a number of reason 129,000-pound trucks should not be permitted for Burley Ave including it not being built for heavy loads. He also noted the intersection of Highway 30/Highway 46 does not have adequate radiuses and it is destroying the islands. He stated the street is not safe for walking or biking because the edge of the road is breaking up.

Denise Jarolimek testified against the application quoting several Idaho Code sections under Chapter 10 and the process of this designation. She noted there are sixteen businesses along the one mile and traffic is increasing. She also questioned what happens at the end of

Burley Ave because there was no request to go down Fruitland. She stated this needed to be looked at smartly not just quickly.

There was no testimony that was neutral.

The hearing was closed at 7:27 PM.

REGULAR SESSION called to order at 7:28 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Monthly Claims for Payment
2. Monthly Department Head Reports
3. Commission Minutes
4. Clerk Report
5. Treasurer Report

Pam McClain moved to approve the consent agenda except for the minutes of September 28, 2020. Sue Gabardi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Pam moved to approve the minutes of September 28, 2020 with the correction on page 2 add the word "tough" to her statement, she commented that it looked like it just got left out. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

MONTHLY CITY ENGINEER REPORT

Scott noted Planning and Zoning and Urban Renewal would be meeting on October 21st. Building plans continue to come in and he had received inquiries on two hangars at the airport.

He also wanted to compliment Regie and his crew on the work they had been doing on Main Street. It was a wonderful improvement to the city.

He updated council on other upcoming projects including meeting with business owners on Highway 30 and Fair to look at widening that section. There continued to be discussion on the Williams Road and discussion with the URA and their attorney on ideas.

It was also noted the Burley Ave grant project the funding had been moved to 2026 with a project total of \$3.1 million. Regie noted the city is in the money que and has approximately 80% complete in design.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review and Consideration of Grant Administration Contract with Region IV Development:

Andrew Wright stated he reviewed the contract and said it looked fine. Pam moved to approve the contract with Region IV. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of Public Testimony & Resolution for 129,000 Pound Truck Route:

Pam moved to adopt Resolution No. 412. Sue seconded the motion. There was discussion concerning points that were made during the public hearing. Regie only the study for engineering standards had been done, there was nothing budgeted for safety studies. There was also a discussion concerning the current speed limit on Burley Ave and the process to change that. Michael noted Council had a lot of questions in the original presentation and most had been addressed by Idaho Milk Products, but based on testimony there were more questions to be considered. There was discussion to look at no parking along Burley Ave, reducing speed limit to 25 mph and adding crosswalks. There was a vote on the motion with Sue and Pam voting yes and Michael and Kelly voting no. Mayor McCauley was not in attendance to break the tie. It was asked if there are 129,000-pound trucks running currently. Regie noted there is 129,000-pound truck configuration but he doesn't know their actual weight. Michael asked to have the items reviewed and would reconsider at the regular session meeting on November 9th.

Review and Consideration of Special Permit Issuance Agreement with Idaho Transportation Department: Karen explained because there wasn't a decision made on the prior agenda item this agreement would be considered also on the November 9th meeting. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Review and Consideration of Combining Revenues for Sales Tax Revenue Distribution:

Elizabeth explained that due to a change in legislature the way Idaho Sales Tax is distributed would be changing. Instead of it going from the state to the county and then the city, it would go directly from the state to the city. Elizabeth confirmed it doesn't change the amount of money the city will be receiving it would just eliminate two revenue line items and the amount would be added to the amount from the state. Michael moved that all state sales tax revenue will show in the state sales tax revenue budget line. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of State/Local Agreement and Resolution for Sidewalk Tap Grant with LHTAC: Regie explained this agreement and resolution was for the sidewalks/bike paths on 7th Ave North and Sawtooth. This is the first step to get the project going. He noted that LHTAC will be the grant administrator on this project. Pam moved to adopt Resolution No. 413. Sue seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Pam moved to approve the state/local agreement. Michael seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion also passed.

Presentation of Preliminary Agreement with Nation Cemetery Administration (NCA) for water and sewer services at Nation Cemetery: Scott noted the agreement that was included in the council packets was a preliminary agreement to run water and sewer lines to the new National Cemetery. This is an area the NCA is hearing because there are no restrooms at the site. He stated there have been discussions concerning this project and the NCA are eager to proceed. This project could run between \$300,000 and \$500,000 to complete. Andrew Wright noted he had reviewed the preliminary agreement and there are some items that needed to be firmed up to protect the city but work will continue and parties make their changes. Scott stated when the agreement is more solid it will be brought before Council for approval.

Description of Administration's COVID-19 Plan: Karen explained a situation that occurred with a very sick individual at the front payment window and also noted the rising number of cases that are being seen. The administrative staff had met to discuss a plan for going forward. She noted masks will now be required in city hall and new signs will be posted. Also, in the event the school were to close based on the health department figures that would also be the time the city hall lobby would be closed for walk in customers. Business would still be done when previously closed either over the phone or by email.

COUNCIL CONCERNS – There were none.

CITIZENS CONCERNS – Denise Jarolimek noted the item of masks required should be stated on the bulletin on the monthly statements.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Kelly Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned; Sue Gabardi seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk