

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 14, 2024
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Pam McClain	Mayor	Jazmine Mills	P&Z Administrator
Michael Higbee	Council President	Jason Scott	Public Works Director
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Scott Bybee	City Engineer
Amanda Hawkins	Council Member	Andrew Wright	City Attorney
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Concerned Citizens	
Karen Drown	Clerk		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING:

There was no testimony in favor, against, or neutral to the application.

Autumn stated this budget amendment is for a total of \$3.5 million.

The hearing was closed at 6:32 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of September 23, 2024 – Working Session
2. Claims for Payment
3. Monthly Department Head Reports – Fire, Engineer, Police, Public Works, Code Services
4. Commission Minutes – Airport, Library, Buhl Housing Authority
5. Clerk Report
6. Treasurer Report

Michael moved to approve the consent agenda. Marla seconded the motion. Amanda had a question for Scott about the Fair Street sidewalk completion. Scott noted they are going to do as much with weather permitting, he added they are waiting on Idaho Power to move some poles and might have to finish that part in the spring. Scott also noted the residents have been great, but understands it is a tough situation. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote on the motion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of Amended Appropriations ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025: All members of the City Council having been furnished a copy of the proposed Ordinance No. 2024-7 and being fully apprised of the content and purpose of said Ordinance, Marla moved that the provisions of Idaho Code Section 50-902 which are require said Ordinance to be read on three (3) different days, tow (2) reading 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. Marla requested a roll call vote on the motion. Michael seconded the motion. There was no discussion. There was a roll call vote. Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, and Marla voted yes. The motion passed.

Marla moved to approve Ordinance No. 2024-7 the Amended Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Michael seconded the motion. Mayor McClain read the title of the ordinance for the record. There was no discussion. There was a roll call vote. Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes, and Michael voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of ARPA Change Order No. 3 for the repaving of 7th Ave N: Michael moved to approve Change Order No. 3 for \$284,684. Marla seconded the motion. Kelly questioned if the paving would take place this fall. Jason stated they started tearing out old asphalt that day and are hoping to have it paved in the next week or two. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote. Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, and Amanda voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Airport Payment and Update on Construction Progress: Kent noted it is looking like a runway again. The project is tracking under budget and under schedule. Kent added Buhl will be the only airport in the area with a dirt runway. Kelly moved to make the payment to Western Construction. Michael 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 Idaho Department of Lands Memorandum of Understanding and Funding Acknowledgement – Tree Grant: Michael moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Funding Acknowledgement with the Idaho Department of Lands. Kelly seconded the motion. Kelly questioned if the two trees taken out for sewer project were part of this grant. Jason noted the grant would remove an additional 4 and put 10 back into Eastman Park, but not close to the new sewer line. It was noted this was a reimbursement grant. There was no further

discussion. Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, and Marla voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Commitment to Volunteerism Proclamation: Marla moved to approve the Commitment to Volunteerism Proclamation. Michael seconded the motion. McKay Lundgren explained the website and app available for volunteers. Any organization can add projects but they have to be approved by the administration of the justserve.org organization. Kathy Schofield explained the Wreaths Across America was a project that used the site. They are hoping to get more involvement in the community. Michael noted examples of projects he volunteered for through the app one year at Christmas time. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote. Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes, and Michael voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Police Building Architect Contract with Laughlin Ricks Architect: Kelly moved to accept the contract by Laughlin Ricks. Marla seconded the motion. Amanda noted the cost of \$43,500. Kelly stated this is higher than other proposals but this one is all inclusive. He feels more comfortable with the process. Amanda questioned why get an architect. Autumn noted that because it is a commercial building and with ADA code an architect had to design it, she added Clearwater had contacted a number of draftsmen and they all said the same thing, an architect had to design this project. Mayor McClain noted we wanted to do it right the first time. Amanda added they had quite a few good reviews. Autumn noted Colby Ricks doesn't really have time but wants to support Buhl in this project. 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 Police Department K9 Incentive Pay: Marla moved to approve the K9 Incentive Pay. Michael seconded the motion. Marla questioned the care and feeding of the K9, Chief Engbaum stated the city pays for the vet bills and the food for the dog. Marla noted she was very impressed with the dog from the demonstration she had seen. Chief Engbaum noted the biggest bust Karma has been 6 pounds of meth. Amanda asked if the K9 officer received compensation now. Chief Engbaum explained Idaho Code stated ½ hour of compensation time per day which goes in his comp time bank. Amanda clarified over one month that equals one day off. Chief Engbaum confirmed and noted that time is for feeding and caring for the dog. There was further discussion about the recent grant for the new patrol vehicle and how Officer Katsules and Karma help other agencies such as Twin Falls County and the Idaho State Police. It was also noted she is trained in German and Dutch and it working on being dual certified. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote. Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, and Marla voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Comprehensive Plan addendum to the Mater Services Agreement with Clearwater Financial: Kelly moved to adopt the Comp plan addendum with Clearwater Financial. Marla seconded the motion. Michael questioned the \$20,000 and if it is not granted what would

happen. Autumn noted then city staff would be responsible for that additional work. It was clarified the \$30,000 grant from the Blue Cross Health Foundation had to go to the comp plan. It was also noted the Gem Grant is typically \$15,000-\$20,000 but could be up to \$50,000. Amanda questioned if the community outreach had been defined. Autumn noted the calendar of the addendum and that outreach was shown with a star. Karen and Autumn noted it is too far out and it needs to be known who is doing what first. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote. Amanda voted yes, Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes, and Michael voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Comprehensive Plan Questionnaire for Town Hall Meeting: Marla presented the questions she had pulled from the website Karen provided. Kelly moved to adopt the questionnaire. Michael seconded the motion. Michael noted he was happy with the suggestions because of the great wording. Mayor McClain noted the town hall attendees are only the Twin Falls County Commissioners. Amanda questioned if they will be steering this. Karen noted the questionnaire is not part of the town hall it is just to start letting the community know we are starting this project. There was a discussion about the format of the questionnaire and it would be paper for now and possibly taking it around to businesses to get out to the community. There was no further discussion. There was a roll call vote. Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, and Amanda voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Parking Ordinance Changes: Karen presented the draft ordinance that included the recommendations from Andrew Wright. Michael questioned the samples of loading and unloading that were presented at a previous meeting. Amanda noted she feels the 72 hours is fine. She doesn't see a problem with the current code. She questioned if someone needed to do a repair it would be a police citation. Andrew stated the problem with 72 hours is it can't be enforced. Amanda stated she is not comfortable not allowing parking to load and unload. Michael stated the previous code is unenforceable, he added the Twin Falls area doesn't have broken down cars, and RVs on the street. He added this addresses issues of trying to fix safety for pedestrian traffic and access to city services. Andrew noted that if the \$25.00 ticket wasn't paid in 7 days it would move to an infraction. Karen noted if Council wanted to proceed there would need to be a motion for a public hearing. Michael made a motion to move forward to a public hearing. Marla seconded the motion. Michael noted this gives us more time to respond to the public and research. Amanda noted it could also be tabled. There was no further discussion. Michael voted yes, Amanda voted no, Kelly voted yes, Marla voted yes. The motion passed.

MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor McClain read the below statement.

We need to make sure that we comply with the law with regards to employee privacy issues. If a member of City Council would like to discuss any issues pertaining to complaints, discipline, etc. of a city employee, those will first need to be discussed with the mayor, who is the chief city

administrator per Idaho Code 50-602. After review of the complaint, discipline, etc. if it needs to go before City Council it will be listed under an executive session on the upcoming meeting agenda.

Michael asked if we should put a detour sign on Fair Street close to Highway 30. It was noted the problem crews are having with people driving around road closed signs and even driving over and destroying them. Jason said they would look at options.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mayor McClain read the below statement.

Public Input Procedures

1. Individuals wishing to provide public input regarding matters relevant to the City of Buhl shall:
 - a. Wait to be recognized by the Mayor or Chairman.
 - b. Approach the podium.
 - c. State their name, and whether they are a resident or property owner of the City of Buhl and proceed with their input.
2. All public input will be limited to two (2) minutes at the discretion of the mayor. Individuals are not permitted to give their time to other speakers.
3. All presenters shall remain respectful.
4. This is not a question and answer period with Council.

Public input will not be about any of the items that were on this agenda (as these were not public hearing related topics), personnel, or a personnel-related issue. All issues involving City personnel should be directly communicated with the mayor.

Anyone failing to follow these rules will be provided with one (1) warning. Should the speaker continue to disregard these rules after the warning, they will be asked to return to their seats.

There were no citizen comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Kelly Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned; Marla Sisson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk