

CITY COUNCIL WORKING SESSION

OCTOBER 25, 2021
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Autumn Jones	Treasurer
Michael Higbee	Council President	Regie Finney	Public Works
Pam McClain	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Sue Gabardi	Council Member	Andrew Stevens	Fire Chief
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Concerned Citizens	
Andrew Wright	City Attorney		
Karen Drown	Clerk		

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McCauley asked the applicant to make a statement. Adeanna Jenkins with Region IV Development gave an update on the current ICDBG project. She noted this public hearing update is required by the ICDBG grant. She reviewed the amount of pipe for sewer and water going in the ground. She also reviewed the funds allocated for the project and those spent by each entity to date.

Mayor McCauley asked if there were any questions from Council. There were none.

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

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

Hearing was closed at 6:10 PM.

WORKING SESSION called to order at 6:10 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of September 27, 2021 – Working Meeting
2. Bi-Monthly Claims for Payment

3. Department Head Reports
4. Commission Minutes
5. Clerk Report
6. Treasurer Report

Michael Higbee moved to approve the consent agenda. Kelly Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Mayor McCauley presented to Karen Drown the Idaho City Clerks, Treasurers and Finance Officers Association Certified Municipal Clerk Certificate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act Resolution:

Kelly moved to adopt Resolution No. 421. Sue seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Finalize 2021-2022 budget with committed savings for equipment & projects and expense of previously committed savings: Karen explained there were several specific motions that needed to be considered in the budget to save money in the administration budget and spend money that was previously saved in the street department budget. Sue moved to save \$7500.00 in the administration for HVAC replacement. Kelly seconded the motion. Karen noted this had been saved for in previous budget but was not included in the budget for 2020-2021. She had included it in the budget for 2021-2022. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Sue moved to save \$100,000.00 in the administration budget for future purchase of fire equipment. Kelly seconded the motion. Michael noted this was the same as the previous years that was used for the quint purchase. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Kelly moved to release \$150,000.00 to expend for the Burley Ave Street project. Sue seconded the motion. Regie explained this was to continue work prior to the big project. This would include culverts and water retention areas. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review of Council meetings during Holidays: Michael moved to expend with the Council meetings for November 22nd and December 27th. Sue seconded the motion. Karen explained

there were items scheduled for the other meetings. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Review of Health/Vision Insurance Historical Rates & Renewal Rates: Karen announced the city had received an overall decrease on the health/vision coverage of 9.1%. She then reviewed the historical increases and decreases the city had received in prior years. Her and Autumn had discussed if changing the amount considered for an increase on the budget but the difference had been used to offset any changes to department employee changes during the year. For example, if a current employee leaves and only covers themselves but the replacement enrolls their entire family the premium amount will be more and the budget has room for those changes when using the 17% increase. Karen noted it will continue to be reviewed during budget time.

Review of Aging Accounts and Write-off Account Schedule: Karen reviewed the accounts that have been wrote off in prior years and how those write-offs hit the water, wastewater and sanitation budgets. She explained that within the last year payments have been received on accounts back to 2012 through the collection process. She detailed as the years show the amount owed is dropping so the amount needing to be budgeted for bad debt will be less and allow more for those departments. This also will be reviewed at budget time next year.

Discussion of Buhl Rural Fire Protection District station options presented: Michael began the discussion with a concern of the city putting money in but no equity at the end and several of the options are exactly that. He also noted he didn't want the city to be subsidizing the fire district, this is a substantial purchase. Kelly had some questions regarding the station layout presented. He also voiced concerns about how the district presented this prior as they were just looking and now, they are presenting these three options on helping pay for it. His concern is the district has an agenda to do something that doesn't include the city. He is opposed to the options and disagrees with the path that was taken. Sue noted she wasn't able to attend the meeting but was shocked by the packet that was presented and doesn't like any of the options. Michael added at the joint meeting in July the city was told the building of the station wouldn't affect the city and all three options affect the city substantially. There was a discussion about the numbers Autumn is pulling to update figures to have a future discussion about. Michael asked Andrew if there were any other departments that were receiving grants for new buildings.

COUNCIL CONCERNS – Karen asked if she could get a list of those who would be attending the upcoming city/county meeting and the AIC newly elected officials training.

Michael asked about the vandalism at the restrooms. Regie stated they were being winterized and he would try again in the spring.

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 6:51 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk