

CITY COUNCIL WORKING SESSION

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Pam McClain	Mayor	Autumn Jones	Treasurer
Michael Higbee	Council President	Regie Finney	Public Works
Kelly Peterson by phone	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Amanda Hawkins	Council Member	Andrew Stevens	Fire Chief
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Scott Bybee	City Engineer
Andrew Wright	City Attorney	Concerned Citizens	
Karen Drown	Clerk		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McClain asked the applicant to make a statement. Mike Bourlotos stated the vacation had been requested several year ago but the change since then was he purchased Lot 7 in October of 2021 which was the property in question before about available access. At this time, he was requesting to vacate the public driveway.

Mayor McClain asked if there was any testimony in support of the application. Theresa Strolberg, Fruitland Ave, Buhl, stated her property is adjacent to the roadway and was in favor of the vacation.

April Courtright submitted a response stating she no longer had interest in the driveway in question and no longer owned Lot 7 as of October 2021. She has no issue with the driveway being vacated.

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

Mayor McClain asked if there was nay testimony neutral to the application. There was none.

Scott provided a staff report and noted the driveway is only thirty-six feet (36') which would require widening if it were ever made an alley or street. This request was reviewed by the planning and zoning commission and the recommended the driveway be vacated.

The hearing was closed at 7:06 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of January 24, 2022 – Working Meeting
2. Monthly Claims for Payment
3. Monthly Department Head Reports
4. Commission Minutes
5. Clerk Report
6. Treasurer Report

Michael Higbee moved to approve the consent agenda. Marla Sisson seconded the motion. Kelly asked if the new employee in wastewater was a new position or a replacement. Regie confirmed it was a replacement that filled a position emptied by a retirement. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

ENGINEER REPORT:

Scott noted they are looking at the supply list to go out to bid. The Harvest Hills Subdivision is working on the irrigation system. He is looking at another ICDBG project with the URA because the URA area #1 is closing in 2024.

ICRMP will be coming to the planning and zoning for a training March 16th, council members are welcome to also attend the training as the topics being addressed also come before council.

Planning and Zoning and URA will be meeting on February 16th.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Idaho Rural Water Association came before Council to present information regarding the apprenticeship program the City of Buhl has been participating in. They noted the City of Buhl has helped pioneer the program which has paved the way for the program to improve. Colton Alvey and Garrett Williams have completed the program and were presented with their certificate of completion. This certificate is a nationally recognized accomplishment.

REGULAR MEETING

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of Public Testimony Vacation of Public Driveway: Michael moved to approve the vacation of the public driveway. Marla seconded the motion. Karen noted if this vacation is approved an ordinance and quit claim deeds will be drafted for final approval and recording. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Class Reunion for 1970 & 1971 at McClusky Park with Beer and Wine: Maggie Himmelburger presented information to Council about the class reunion they would like to hold on July 9th, 2022 for the Class of 1970 & 1971 and any other class that would like to participate. They would like to have some food trucks, live music and beer and wine catered by Magic Valley Brewing. Michael moved to approve the request to have beer and wine in McClusky Park. Marla seconded the motion. There was a discussion on how Magic Valley Brewing would monitor and control the serving of the alcohol and the fact there is not restrooms in that park. Maggie stated their group would discuss portable restrooms and work with Regie on the logistics. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of TAP Agreement with Twin Falls Canal Company and Buhl School District: Regie noted this agreement clarifies that if Twin Falls Canal Company were to have to tear out the pipe that would be under the new walking path. The city and school district would be responsible to repair the ground and path damaged. Michael moved to approve the signing of the agreement. Amanda seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration Idaho Central Credit Union Signatories and Visa Card Holder: Michael moved to approve Resolution No. 423 updated Pam McClain as an authorized individual on the ICCU accounts and authorizing her to have a Visa card in her name. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Ordinance to update City Council Meeting Days and Times: All member of the City Council having been furnished a copy of the proposed Ordinance No. 1008 and being fully apprised of the content and purpose of said Ordinance, Michael moved that the provisions of Idaho Code Section 50-902 which require that said Ordinance be read on three (3) different days, two (2) readings 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. Michael requested a roll call vote on the motion. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

Michael moved to adopt Ordinance No 1008 clarifying when a regularly scheduled meeting of the city council will be scheduled and the time requirement for having an item placed on the agenda for city council meetings. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion. There was a roll call vote. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes, and Kelly voted yes. The motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Williams Street Amendment Eligibility Study Resolution: Scott informed Council the URA is assisting in infrastructure in the Williams area with traffic. Idaho Code allows an amendment to the original plan by 10.8 acres to include Williams Street. The plan would take traffic off of Fair and have them enter at Williams and Highway 30. The URA has committed \$500,000.00. The URA #1 is trying to use all the funds for improvements before the area closeout in 2024. The funds are available in a reimbursement process to the contractor. And construction would take place this summer. Scott concluded there are restrictions to increase the area and that has been presented to the URA board. Michael moved to adopt Resolution No. 424 directing the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Buhl to commence with the preparation of an Urban Renewal Plan amendment. Marla seconded the motion. Scott noted there are additional processes to complete the entire plan amendment which will be coming before Council in the next few months. Andrew Wright questioned that the plan can only be amended one time and Scott confirmed and added that the area can only increase by a maximum of 10%. The current area is 108 acres so the most it can increase is 10.8 acres. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Report on Closeout of ICDBG Project: Scott stated he is working on the recently completed construction project. He summarized the improvements that were made to the water and sewer system under Burley Ave in preparation for complete rebuild of that road in hopefully 2026. He has submitted documents to Region IV and one more check is due to Walton's. The Department of Commerce holds 5% of the funds until project closeout is complete. He added patching will be done on Burley Ave when weather permits. He stated closeout is due in August but will probably have it for the first Council meeting in March.

Discussion of JMA Research: Karen reviewed information she had found from other cities regarding how they function with their local fire district. Andrew Wright noted that annexation would free up money for the city but it is difficult to undo an annexation after it is complete. It was noted House Bill 389 from the last session has affected annexations. There was a discussion between Council members and it was stated they don't want to move to a contract system and still have disagreements. The concern was how do we best take care of the citizens. Michael noted the district has been asked for their business plan and more was received in this update than the last 10 years from them. Karen stated the staff would continue to gather information and provide anything new at the next Council meeting. Chief Stevens noted the concerns of his personnel as a whole was to stay the same department. Chief there is a possibility of reimbursements for Medicaid response calls.

Discussion of Impact Area Agreement: Karen stated this item was on the agenda to ask permission to write the Twin Falls County Commissioners a letter concerning the draft Area of Impact Agreement that she has not been able to get from the prosecutor's office. She informed Council that Commissioner Brent Reinke was scheduled to attend the department head meeting on Wednesday, February 16th to discuss this agreement. Mayor McClain noted she was attending the West End Men's Association meeting the previous Friday and spoke with Mr. Reinke about this agreement. Karen stated she would update Council after that meeting.

Discussion of Association of Idaho City's Annual Conference – June 22-24, Boise Idaho: Karen asked for tentative confirmation on who would be attending the AIC Annual Conference. At this time, she just needs to make hotel room reservations so a firm commitment is not needed until a later date. Mayor McClain, Marla, Amanda, Kelly and possibly Andrew Wright would be attending.

COUNCIL CONCERNS – Marla asked about the intersection at Clear Lakes and Sawtooth and if anything is being considered for the safety of the area. Regie noted the hard part is it is a state highway and for anything major to be done there has to be a fatality. He did inform Council the trees blocking the view to the north have been removed and he is in discussion with ITD. It was noted that letters from citizens to ITD can help with concerns like this.

CITIZENS CONCERNS – Karen presented a letter that was received from a concerned citizen about licensing of dogs and cleanup of properties. She addressed the concerns mentioned in the letter and explained the process that code services, administration, and police department follow in regards to his concern.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Michael Higbee moved that the meeting be adjourned; Marla Sisson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk