

CITY COUNCIL WORKING MEETING

APRIL 25, 2022
203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Pam McClain	Mayor	Autumn Jones	Treasurer
Michael Higbee	Council President	Regie Finney	Public Works
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Jeremy Engbaum	Police Chief
Amanda Hawkins	Council Member	Andrew Stevens	Fire Chief
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Reba Puente	Library Director
Karen Drown	Clerk	Concerned Citizens	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of April 11, 2022 – Working Meeting
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 discussion and the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of TRIBE Color Run Request: Emily Apgood with TRIBE, the parent/teacher organization, was requesting to put on a color run with on May 7th, 2022. She presented a map of the route the 5K run/walk would take place. She explained it is a non-toxic cornstarch dye that is thrown. If the event was approved, they would be canvassing the route to explain to the residents about the event. She also explained the TRIBE organization works and uses the funds they raise to help with school spirit, teacher appreciation, additional STEM projects and supplement school funding for miscellaneous items. Kelly moved to approve the

TRIBE color run for May 7th. Amanda seconded the motion. Regie explained the new restrooms at the park would be open and suggested the crossing guards at the intersections wear safety vest. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Update from Rural Economic Development Services (REDS): Jim Schouten, a board member of REDS, presented information to Council members that REDS has been working on. He did note that Ervina Covcic had left REDS to take a position with the City of Jerome Planning and Zoning so they are starting the search for a replacement. He also added that REDS is back partnering with Region IV Development which allows them to cover more area in the Magic Valley. He mentioned a few of the businesses that REDS has helped the last couple of years including Buhl Family Network, Train Station, Magic Valley Brewing and 1000 Springs Mills. REDS requested continuing support from the City of Buhl for \$2,250.00. Karen questioned the relationship they have with Southern Idaho Economic Development (SIED). Jim stated they are separate now and REDS focuses on areas with population under 20,000 and SIED focuses on areas with populations over 20,000.

Presentation of 10-Year General Fund Departments Strategic Plans:

Administration: Karen presented projects for city hall including continuing to save for HAVC and water heater replacement. She noted the current budget year sidewalk replacement project will start in a couple weeks and included the year after next to do an additional project to replace the other ADA ramp by the front doors, the police door entrance and the transition from the sidewalk to the alley. She also explained the recent findings with the fire alarm system within city hall and the need to replace and relocate the main panel. The entrance for the police department has windows that have lost their seal, there was a project to replace all the windows in city hall but a meeting that morning with the Nu-Vu Glass recommended just replacing them when they lose their seals which can be done one at a time under the normal building maintenance budget. Also discussed was a code update that staff is looking at which will require additional codification once areas are identified and revised.

Planning and Zoning: Karen explained after a meeting with Mayor McClain and Scott Bybee the one area that needs to be considered is a full-time building inspector. Currently the city pays the State of Idaho Division of Building Safety seventy percent of each permit that is sent to them and Scott does the others. The costs paid to each would cover the wage of an individual so the need would be for the benefits and taxes.

Code Services: Regie stated that nothing was needed in this department. The pickup he has will last him a number of years.

Parks & Rec: Regie noted a new lawn mower will be needed and the mule needs replaced as the current one is older than most the employees. He presented information about a lighting upgrade

to LED's a Farris Field. Regie also explained plans for development of John Barker Park, pool rebuild and splash pad which he is looking for grants to help with these projects.

Police: Jeremy presented information about adding a detective position and also increasing the part-time position to 32 hour per week position. He also discussed upgrades for technology including smart phones to use along with the body cameras, additional licenses for Axon and eForce. During recent cases there is additional evidence room supplies for processing crime scenes and gear for fire department staff to enter safely. With the completion of the new evidence room, he would now like to look at creating the training room at the Public Works East (old dorm facility).

Tours of Administration, Police Dept., Fire Dept., and Library: Council members and staff toured the Administration, Planning and Zoning including the new conference room that is under renovation. Jeremy took them through the police department with an escorted look into the current evidence room. Andrew provided a tour of the fire department and training/living quarters upstairs. Reba concluded with a tour of the library including the recent community garden put in with the children's story time.

Review and Discussion of Fire Contract Counter Offer: There was a discussion about the previous meetings with the district commissioners and the options provided. Autumn and Karen explained that because there was no way to verify the numbers presented in the district budget proposal, they had not created an option to counter. Autumn had outlined a few contract ideas. Kelly proposed to either present a skeletal contract or keep it as status quo. Karen suggested a third option of using the current JMA and updated the formula presented that calculated equitable contributions. Consensus of the Council was to present that option at the special joint meeting.

COUNCIL CONCERNS: Amanda asked about the Johnny Horizon vouchers. Karen noted a post had gone up on Facebook earlier that day. The cleanup days are May 6th, 7th or 9th.

Amanda also asked about the plans for the swimming pool. Karen noted Teresa is working with the current lifeguard applicants to get them through the training. Once that is completed, we will have a better picture of how many will be available to teach lessons and a schedule can be set. There was a discussion about the current wages for lifeguards and the situation in finding applicants.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Michael Higbee moved that the meeting be adjourned; Kelly Peterson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk