

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 13, 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	Reba Puente	Library Director
Marla Sisson	Council Member	Concerned Citizens	
Karen Drown	Clerk		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of May 23, 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. Kelly Peterson seconded the motion. There was discussion and the motion passed.

MONTHLY CITY ENGINEER REPORT

Scott stated the June Planning and Zoning meeting had been cancelled because there were no items on the agenda and the June URA meeting had been postponed until June 29th because board members were unavailable and a quorum would not be present.

Scott added the ICDBG project closeout was complete. Harvest Hills were proceeding with installing infrastructure pipelines.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Swearing in of Buhl Police Officer by Sheriff Tom Carter: Twin Falls County Sheriff Tom Carter explained he had done this swearing in since he first got into office. He added it shows

that the sheriff and police are all on one team and reduces jurisdiction issues. Cross deputizing can be important in the courtroom setting. He then swore in Officer Haley Brown, Officer David Katsules, Officer Jayson Wheeler, and Officer Cody Mai.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS:

Review and Consideration of 2022 Firework Stand Application from Phantom Fireworks, TNT Fireworks & Outlet Fireworks: Michael moved to approve the fireworks stand applications. Marla seconded the motion. It was noted they are the same stands as previous years. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Door-To-Door Application for Ilona Savik with Southern Advantage book sales: Michael moved to approve the door-to-door license for Ilona Savik with Southern Advantage book sales. Marla seconded the motion. It was questioned if there was anyone in attendance for the application. Karen explained the application had been emailed from the applicant who currently out of the country. It was noted this company sends the students from Europe to sell the books. They have applied before with different students and never had a problem. Amanda asked if this could be put on Facebook so the community knows they have been before council and approved. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Contract for Design only fees for Runway Rehab and Beacon Light (Contingent on FAA funding and legal review): Kent Atkins with JUB explained this contract was for the design only portion of the runway rehab project. Michael moved to approve the contract with JUB Engineers upon legal review and FAA funding. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Airport Grant Application including sponsor certifications for Design only fee for Runway Rehab and Beacon Light Project: Kent Atkins explained this is the grant application for the design only fees for the runway rehab and beacon light project. He noted the FAA and sent out notice the City of Buhl had been awarded \$250,000 but that was not entirely accurate because the application was for less. Michael moved to approve the grant application and sponsor certifications. Marla seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Chamber of Commerce 4th of July/Sagebrush Day Eastman Park Beer Garden, Vendors & McClusky Park Sunday Service: Rich White clarified the parade is on Monday, July 4th, there has been some incorrect information published that the chamber is trying

to get corrected. He detailed out that events would take place July 1st-4th; some events were sponsored by the chamber and others were by other clubs and service groups. Events at the city parks would include a Sunday service at McClusky Park and a horseshoe tournament and Monday would have the fun run, pancake breakfast, parade and vendors at the park. The chamber asked to allow vendors to be at the park July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. The vendors are being informed there is no separate security at the park during the event. Rich also requested the beer garden setup the same as last year. The rope would mark off the food area and invitation to other beer/wine vendors. Kelly moved to approve the request and agenda items for Sagebrush Days. Marla seconded the motion. It was noted the only event on Friday would be the Guns vs Hoses softball game. There was a discussion about the placement of the beer garden and the vicinity to the playground. Rich noted he would be setting up more tents this year because of the heat last year. There was a short discussion about the chamber office and who is running the events. Rich noted Jeanette Sparks is at the office Tuesday-Saturday 12 pm – 5 pm. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Chamber of Commerce Brews 4 Buhl Beer & Music Festival – September 10th: Rich White present information about the Brews 4 Buhl event. He noted the food vendors would be setup in McClusky Park gravel area and the rest of the event would be in the grass area. There was a discussion about the uses for the funds raised, last years was a \$2000 donation to the zoological center and two scholarships. This year's charities are not yet known. Michael moved to approve the Brews 4 Buhl event in McClusky Park. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Wilbur-Ellis street closure proposal and traffic plan trial: Regie explained the meeting that was had with staff from Wilbur-Ellis and their request to vacate some streets. The plan was to try closing a portion of 12th Ave South, 13th Ave S and Walnut for a trial period with signage before actually vacating. There was a discussion about the safety concerns within the area and the increased Hyster, truck and train traffic with the growth of Wilbur-Ellis and also Blick Trucking. It was question if the businesses in the area had been notified and Regie stated Wilbur-Ellis would be notifying them. It was also noted this would not change the trucks backing across Main Street to load. Michael moved to approve the Wilbur-Ellis street closure trial plan. Marla seconded the motion. There was a discussion of the vacation process that might happen after the trial period. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Review and Consideration of Idaho Central Credit Union CD's: Autumn explained the CD's being discussed are ones that show on the monthly bank report. Currently there are 60 month and yearly CD's and the four that have matured are four 60-month CD's. She explained she would like to have the opportunity to review not only these but all the investments at organize them to have a better understanding on what the funds belong to that are invested. Her recommendation would be to roll these over into one year CD's and allow time to research the investments and

possible options. Michael moved to roll over into 1 year CD's. Kelly seconded the motion and asked to have Council updated. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Budget Discussion: General Fund Projected Revenue Allocations for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

Autumn reviewed the current projected revenues from property taxes and new construction, she did not include annexation because that information had not come from Twin Falls County yet. Marla asked if there was a way to avoid what happened in 2007-2008. There was a discussion about the saving the city has and how it is prepared for the future. A number of years ago the city put in place working managers. It was also noted that prior the city was underserved in the accounting area. Kelly stated the city now has the staff and seasoned council to be prepared for the future.

Autumn reviewed the other revenue figures and noted the sales tax is the largest increase historically. She reviewed the department expenses and explained a 1% increase had been put on operating and maintenance and the different sheets showed the 1%-3% salary increase and the net effect on the available revenue. There was a discussion on salaries, Michael noted there needs to be a salary increase but can not look at just a 1% on operating and maintenance, we need to look at 5% or whatever is necessary. Marla stated she would like to give the departments 3% amount but also wants to keep current benefits. Kelly stated that anything less than a 3% increase would be cutting our noses off. Michael noted the year before was hell but these numbers are the best they have been. Amanda would also like to look at 3% with the cost of living going up. Consensus of Council was to have department heads look at a 3% salary increase and up to 10% on needed operating and maintenance.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Michael asked if city code addressed tiny houses. Scott stated the city code currently has a minimum square footage and tiny homes are not allowed. He had been approached about a couple tin homes being built and now they are using them as accessory building for an office and a gym.

Michael also questioned if weed notices went out. Regie stated Rick had been sending notices out for several months now.

Karen updated Council on the events at 816 Broadway and the owner had stepped in just before the city hired a company to clean it up. There were a few items still needing done but it was better.

Amanda asked if notifications could be put on the utility bill and Facebook to inform the citizens.

Regie stated the TAP #1 had no bidder and he was going to the LHTAC board to move TAP #1 & TAP #2 together. And then if the safety grant is awarded, he would bid that also.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Michael moved to enter executive session with provisions of Idaho Code 74-206, subsection 1.f to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options to pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. He requested a roll call vote. Marla seconded the motion. Marla voted yes, Michael voted yes, Amanda voted yes and Kelly voted yes. Mayor McClain excused everyone except Council members and Andrew Wright. Executive session was entered at 8:41 PM. Michael moved to adjourn Executive Session. Kelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed. Executive Session adjourned at 9:20 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Kelly Peterson moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mike Higbee seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk