

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (North Entrance)

*The purpose of the Agenda is to assist the Council and interested citizens in the conduct of the public meeting. Careful review of the Agenda is encouraged. Testimony from the public will be solicited for any item or issue listed under the category of **Public Hearings**. The Mayor will not normally allow audience participation at any other time. Idaho Law prohibits council action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance.*

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PRAYER OFFERED BY: Brett Pincock
PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

In Attendance: Teddy Stronks, Brett Pincock, Teresa Hansen and Becky Harrigfeld.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Lookabaugh, Police Chief Mattingly, Michelle O'Malley, Del Jensen, Brian Hatton, BJ Hatton, Rachel Hatton, Todd Martindale, Tamra Cikaitoga, Sheila Kellog, Darrell Reinke, Karen Lansing and Sheryl Hill.

Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

Being considered routine by the City Council, these items will be enacted by one motion unless requested by a Councilman or a citizen that one or more items be removed for later discussion.

- A. **Minutes** – Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes 9-9-2015, Special Meeting 9-29-2015
 - B. **Treasurers Report & Financial Statement**– As Submitted
 - C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
 - D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted
 - E. **Budget Report** – Worksheet showing the revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year to date
- Teresa asked about traffic report**

Councilman Pincock made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

2. PRESENTATIONS, CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Ashton Urban Renewal Agency Member – Mayor Stronks
Mayor Stronks explained that Sheri Jenkins had said yes to his appointment request for the Urban Renewal Agency. He said many people call her Roz so maybe that is the name that some of the Council may know. Councilwoman Hansen inquired as to whether she is the Roz that works at Fall River Electric. Mayor Stronks replied that she does work at Fall River.
- B. Tree Board Member – Mayor
Mayor Stronks explained that Judy Heinz has agreed to serve on the Tree Committee.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to accept the Mayor's appointees as presented. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

3. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.

- A. Park Scout Project Report – BJ Hattont.t
BJ Stronks is here at Council to thank the Council for opportunity to serve the citizens of Ashton. BJ brought a photo album for the Council to look at while he reports. The first pictures are of the

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fundraiser he organized to pay for the materials used in the project. The next photos are of the playground as it was before the project. It was interesting that there was a spray painted toilet float being used for the finial on the flagpole. He replaced it with a nice brass finial. He finished by expressing his hope that the project was sufficient for the City. Councilwoman Hansen asked how long it took to do the project. She also asked where he went for the fundraising. BJ said it took 3 to 4 days total time and the fundraising was done in the subdivisions on Ashton Hill and in St. Anthony. Councilwomen Harrigfeld and Hansen expressed their gratitude for his work on the project. Councilman Pincock said that it was a job well done and asked him to make sure and thank his parents for all their help. Mayor Stronks said that he would like to give BJ a hand and the audience gave him a round of applause. BJ said he would have Teresa sign the Eagle Scout papers following the end of the meeting.

B. Dog Concerns – Councilwoman Hans

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she had included a copy of the City Code concerning Dogs (6.08) in the packet along with a document that she copied from another City. The document is an application for a dog tag that could be taken to all the homes with a dog. It lists the rules, etc. Councilwoman Hansen likes the idea of the application being sent to everyone in the City, maybe in the newsletter. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that with the surplus sale flyer going out with the newsletter this month, she would need to wait until next month to send out the application. The Council agreed that she send out the application with the newsletter sent out in November.

4. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:

Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.

A. Special Assessment on Empty Lot – Karen Lansing, Darrell Reinke, Sheila Kellogg

Karen Lansing with the Idaho Falls office of Habitat for Humanity came to the Council meeting to inquire concerning an empty lot at the corner of 4th Street and Highland Street. Habitat for Humanity has been working with the Fremont County commissioners by asking them to reduce the fees on the lot in order to make it more affordable for a potential homeowner. The commissioners have reduced the County fees. While meeting with the commissioners, the commissioners suggested that Habitat for Humanity speak to the City about reducing some of the City charges on the lot. In working on the project Habitat has found that there are two fees: one that had been assessed to the taxes for \$4,095 and another for \$6,700. Karen is here to ask the Council if they would forgive the \$6,700 fee to make the lot more economical for a Habitat for Humanity family. The long term vacancy and improvement of the lot were discussed. It was also discussed that taxes would then again be paid on the property if a home is built on it.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to go ahead and relieve that property of the \$6700 bill against it. Councilwoman Harrigfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Snow Concerns – Tamra Cikaitoga

Tamra is here to discuss snowmobile trails as we will soon be facing snowmobile season. She is representing Fremont County Parks and Rec Department. The County has been grooming trails for over 40 years now. Ashton is quite a hub for snowmobiling. Last year was hard because there was not enough snow on the roads. They had to use Maple Street, Cherry Street and then the Union Pacific right of way to get to the Wye from the County Sheds. Tamra received a call from someone saying they represent the City Planning and Zoning telling her that there is not to be a new

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unimproved trail in the City. Tamra explained to the person that it was not the County's intent to create a trail, they were just using it to have enough snow. Tamra did talk to PacificCorp to make sure it was OK to use their property. PacificCorp was baffled by why the use would be a problem. Tamra is asking that the City Council call the next time if there is a problem. The City Council explained that they did not know who called but that they were been authorized by to call. The City Council and Mayor did not know that it was happening. They appreciate the County and the use of the Wye bringing business to town.

C. Surplus Sale – City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she is ready to get the surplus sale ready. She would like to send out a list of items for sale in the newsletter, have the walk through October 26th through 30th, and then prepare the bids for the Council's approval at their November 11th meeting. The bidders would be notified on November 12th and the items gone by the 20th.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to set up a sale and bring back winning bids to the Council for approval. Councilwoman Harrigfeld seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

D. City Committee Handbook Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there is a copy of the City's Committee Handbook in their packet. She has updated some of the names, etc. included in the handbook but would like the Council to look at it and bring back any ideas for change at the Council meeting in November.

E. Agenda Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier.

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that at the ICCTFOA training there were several cities that have department reports at their City Council meetings. She thought that might be a good idea. Councilman Pincock explained that he thought that the employee meeting was sufficient and that every month would be a burden on the departments. Councilwoman Hansen thought it may be a good idea but agreed with Councilman Pincock that the employees already know that they can come to Council anytime if they need to discuss something.

F. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the schedule with the Council. They also discussed that the next meeting would be on Veteran's Day and spoke about their gratitude for veterans.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

I.C. 67-2345 Certain City-related matters may need to be discussed confidentially as a matter of law (Acquisition of real property, personnel matters, attorney-client communications) subject to applicable legal requirements, the Council may enter executive session by roll call vote to discuss such matters.

Personnel

Councilwoman Pincock made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilwoman Harrigfeld seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called: Pincock - aye, Hansen - aye and Harrigfeld - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council entered executive session at 7:50 PM

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion.

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The motion passed unanimously.

The Council exited executive session at 8:15 PM

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Pincock made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Harrigfeld seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

- ♦ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, November 11, 2015, Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meeting should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk or call 208-652-3987.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

Cathy Stegelmeier
City Clerk

Theo R. Stronks
Mayor