

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

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: Tadd Atchley
PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

In Attendance: Teddy Stronks, Teresa Hansen, Becky Harrigfeld, Tadd Atchley and Jerry Funke.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, Carol Lenz, Mary Cory, Michelle O'Malley, Garth Blanchard, Mary Cory, Brad Rankin, Beth Rankin and Brenda Montano.

Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. AMEND AGENDA:

Any items added less than forty eight (48) hours prior to the meeting are added by Council motion at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS: A. Visitor Center Usage – Mary Cory

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to add item A: Visitor Center Usage to the New Business/Petitions portion of the agenda. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 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 6-8-2016, Special Meeting Minutes 6-16-2016 & 7-7-2016.
- 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

There was some discussion on the bills. Mayor Stronks said that there seemed to be quite a lot of bills this month. City Clerk Stegelmeier reminded them that a large part of the expense this month was the \$43,000 Water Project payment.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PRESENTATIONS, CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Oath of Office, City Attorney – Mayor Stronks

Mayor Stronks administered the oath and welcomed Sam L. Angell as the Ashton's new City Attorney.

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

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

- A. Sale of City-owned Main Street Properties
Mayor Stronks opened the Public Hearing.

Brad Rankin came to comment about the old city building at 604 & 606. 608 Main Street. He has looked at the building and has found that there needs to be better venting of the basement crawl spaces. There is some moisture and mold - it will need to be fixed. He had thought he would be able to move from the building he is currently renting into the old city building but now he can see

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that there will need to be some work done prior to moving. He is interested in both the old building and the building he is currently renting.

Brenda Montano is here to talk about the building next to her building at 580 Main Street. The building used to house the senior citizen craft center. She is wondering if she can just buy this building because it shares a basement and a roof with her building. She is worried about the possibility of the building being sold because of these issues.

Mayor Stronks thanked everyone for their time and testimonies. He closed the public hearing.

Councilwoman Hansen is wondering if we need to put a wall in the basement of the old senior center. Councilwoman Harrigfeld expressed her opinion that the price was set so low because of the issues with the old senior center. Councilman Funke asked City Attorney Angell if the City can sell the property 'as is'. City Attorney Angell explained that the City would try to disclose what it knows – possibly as a hand out at the meeting and can sell the property 'as is'. Councilman explained that he thinks that the Council should leave it and see if anyone bids.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to notice for sale of the buildings at public auction with the minimum bid for the old senior building at \$ 2500 and the other two buildings at \$ 25,000 with listing the disclosures as a handout at the August 10th City Council meeting. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

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

- A. Mosquito Abatement – Councilwoman Hansen, City Clerk Stegelmeier
Councilwoman Hansen went down to St. Anthony and visited with the public works supervisor. Mosquito abatement costs the City of St. Anthony approximately \$ 8,000 per year total including labor. The chemical is applied every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in about 2 hours. The application machine is driven down all the long streets and if it is windy it is done the next day. The machine rides in the back of a pickup and the supervisor said that they do not need a license to operate the equipment. Discussion continued and it led to the conclusion that the representative for the equipment and spray should come to explain what could be done and how much it would cost. Councilwoman Hansen will contact the company.
- B. Abandoned Vehicles – Officer Griffel, City Clerk Stegelmeier
Chief Mattingly explained that Officer Griffel is out of town. He went on to say that the vehicles that are left are those belonging to someone who resides out of the area or the vehicle has been registered. Councilman Funke said things were looking a lot better. He thanked Chief Mattingly for working on the project and hopes that they will continue to follow up on them.
- C. Police Hiring – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Officer Griffel, Chief Mattingly
City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there has only been one applicant so far and is wondering if the job notice could be redone reading 'until filled' instead of a deadline.

Councilman Harrigfeld made a motion to advertise for the police position in the local paper until filled and also send the advertisement to the Idaho Police Association. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Maintenance & Clean-up – Councilman Funke
Councilman Funke had a list he would like to go over with the council. The first thing on the list is the alleys by Main Street. The alleys need gravel and grading to grade. The water lines on the tree wells on Main Street are not working yet. Councilman Hansen explained that the guys are repairing the lines and will have them on as soon as possible. Councilman Funke explained that the ball park

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has not been watered and the City Park has been watered very little. During the 4th of July softball tournament there was a person injured because the ground was so hard. The parks need to be maintained so that they will be used. Councilman Funke asked whether the street sweeper had been repaired. Mayor Stronks said that it has been looked at and the parts are ordered. Councilman Funke feels that the equipment needs to be prepared and ready to go. The last item on his list are the many noxious weeds in town. He would like more letters sent out about weeds.

- E. Development Code Discussion – Mayor Stronks, City Attorney Angell, City Clerk Stegelmeier
- Talking about changes to the code about planning and zoning administrator out of the code. City Attorney Angell said that the title talks about the permit process from administrator to planning and zoning commission and the commission hears the appeals. The code would need work to make it so the planning and zoning commission could do what the Mayor has planned. Councilwoman Hansen thinks that there needs to be an administrator to keep the process simpler and faster for the citizens. City Attorney Angell said in the Mayor's scenario the appeals could be heard by the city council. City Attorney Angell said that the Mayor can appoint someone to fill the administrator position for now while the Council works on the code. There would be a wait on permits as the commission only meets once a month. Mayor Stronks feels that the City needs to utilize the commission. City Attorney Angel suggested that the building inspector could maybe help with permits. Councilman Atchley thought maybe the building inspector could act as the administrator until the code was updated. Mayor Stronks will ask Blake if he will act as the administrator on an interim basis. The council will look over the code and come up with their thoughts on administering the code.

Councilman Funke made a motion to that the Mayor approach Blake Bowman to see if he would be interested in taking on the P&Z Administrator position on a temporary basis. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS: s

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

- A. Visitor Center Usage – Mary Cory

Mary Cory is here to ask the City Council for use of the Visitor Center park to host an Ashton Summer Arts Market. Her idea is to have one a month through the summer or 4 a year. There is already a Farmer's Market in town but it is more for homemade items and farm items. This would be focused on the artists and art in this area. She has been to several and has gotten information on what she would like to do. There would be no permanent structures – just pop up canopies and folding tables. Councilwoman Hansen inquired about insurance. Mary has looked into it and will include the cost in the cost of a booth. Councilwoman Harrigfeld asked if she had talked to any vendors. Mary said she had and she is working on application and vendors. Mayor Stronks expressed his opinion that there would need to be a cost because there would need to be garbage cans, etc. Parking may be an issue during big weekends like Memorial Day, etc. There may need to be some help with traffic on and off the highway. Councilman Atchley asked if she had spoken to the owner of Ashton Quick Stop. Mary said that she had and they are excited about the project. City Attorney Angell will put an agreement together.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to allow the Ashton Visitor Center park & parking lot to be used for an artist market after an agreement is signed through the City Attorney. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- B. Sidewalk/Excavation Permit – City Clerk Stegelmeier

There was a water leak on Main Street and it couldn't wait for approval. The sidewalk is already fixed and problem is solved.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to approve the sidewalk/excavation permit for 517 Main. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

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- C. FY2017 Budget – City Clerk Stegelmeier
City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there will need to be a workshop in order to get the numbers finalized for the 2017 budget. She asked the Council if they would be able to meet on July 27th or 28th. Mayor Stronks asked if the 28th would be alright because he has a prior commitment on the 27th. The meeting was set for July 28th.
- D. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier
City Clerk Stegelmeier did not have any scheduling but Councilman Funke had some ideas for the City newsletter. He thought that citizens should be thanked for working towards a cleaner City although he thinks that the City still needs to contact some landowners to clean up. Another idea he had was that the newsletter could have a reminder for those under 16 to be wearing a helmet on ATVs. It is the law in Idaho. City Clerk Stegelmeier suggested talking with Officer Griffel about it because he may want to include it in the police section of the newsletter. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her opinion that the parade went well and that a thank you for the Chamber could be included in the newsletter. Mayor Stronks would also like to thank the Atchley's for lending the nice coach for the Mayor and Council.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

I.C. 74-206 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.

- (a) Consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need;
- (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student;
- (f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to enter an executive session per Idaho Code section 74-206 (a,b & f). Councilman Funke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Funke, aye; Atchley, aye; Hansen, aye; Harrigfeld, aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Stronks excused the audience. The Council entered executive session at 8:24 pm.

Councilwoman Funke made a motion to exit executive session. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. A roll call vote was taken: Funke, aye; Atchley, aye; Hansen, aye; Harrigfeld, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council exited executive session at 9:01 pm.

City Clerk Stegelmeier inquired about an item in the City Attorney contract concerning extra payment for land negotiations. City Attorney Angel explained that item would be for a negotiation that went beyond the scope of the basic agreement and that he would discuss any item like that with the City Council prior to beginning on it. If City Attorney Angel has a concern that is outside the scope he will come to council and discuss the item. He is trying to anticipate what may come along. He does want to mention that this contract, as well as all other contracts should be reviewed every 4 years to make sure that the City is getting value for the costs. Councilwoman Hansen asked if it is a conflict of interest if a councilmember or Mayor ask him to work on a private issue for them. City Attorney Angell said that it depends – in may not be a conflict. He will tell the individual if it is a conflict and help them find other assistance. In the contract – there is a 90 day notice for termination if so desired by either party.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to accept the City Attorney contract. Councilman Funke seconded the

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motion. The motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Angell said that he would prorate July's payment but would like the Council to use it as a cash bond per the City Code for his City Attorney bond.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld in lieu of July's payment for legal services, a \$ 1,000 bond will be used on behalf of Mr. Angell's City Attorney bond per the Ashton City Code. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

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

NEXT MEETING

- ♦ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, August 10, 2016, 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