

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

6:00 p.m.

714 Main Street

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*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.*

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**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic: Please do not attend the meeting if you feel sick or have been around those who have been sick.**

**PRAYER OFFERED BY: Tom Mattingly**  
**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**  
**PLEDGE LED BY: John Scafe**

**In Attendance:** Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, John Scafe and John Kaelberer. Councilman Funke was not in attendance.

**Also, in attendance:** City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, Detective Belew, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Andrew Rogers, Rachel Hatton and Sheryl Hill.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 6:01 pm.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION ITEM**

*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 Special Meeting Minutes 7-13-2022
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

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

**Regular Business:**

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

~~2. Setback Discussion – Teddy Stronks, Administrator Bowersox~~

**3. Nuisance Abatement at 515 Main – City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she included in the packet the letter that was sent to Mr. Garz explaining that if work was not started at the location – the City would go ahead with the abatement of the property.

**4. Water Study RFP – City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier reported that to begin the process of working on the water system, the first step is to do a facility planning study. There is a grant through the DEQ for facility planning studies and the first thing the City is required to do to be eligible for the study is to advertise for a consultant who will complete the study. The City has put out a request for proposals (RFP) to local consultants. The City has received two proposals; one from Keller Associates and one from Harper Leavitt Engineering. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she knew that they had not had a lot of time to look over the proposals so she suggested going over them and then deciding at the budget hearing on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Scafe clarified that if a study is not completed – then the City does not qualify for funding. He explained that he thought that they are both well qualified. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that they could also ask them to come and give a presentation on their company and what they offer for the study. The council directed City Clerk Stegelmeier to have them present at the budget hearing on August 24<sup>th</sup>. a lot is going out there no a lot of

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trucks inside.

### **5. Railroad Avenue Project Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that DL Beck won the bid but have not started yet. They were going to try to work on the drain area of the project. The notice to proceed has been completed as they have been getting materials, etc. together for the project. The Mayor asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to talk to Reinke Grain to find out when the majority have completed their harvest.

### **6. Sign Safety Project Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

City Clerk Stegelmeier spoke to the Council about the bidding. The bid came in very high. Kevin Kuther at LTHAC explained to City Clerk Stegelmeier that LTHAC recommended reject the bid. Kevin then said that they would deliver the signs and posts to the City and we could have them installed. We could try to rebid but City Clerk Stegelmeier is thinking that the City could do it themselves. Have to have public works license. The council discussed the amount for the signs. Councilwoman Hansen is expressed her concern about why the grant has taken so long.

### **7. Visitor Center Discussion – Mayor Mattingly, Adam Zaragoza, Abby Rossman, City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

Mayor Mattingly received a visit from some representatives from the Idaho Parks and Recreation Department. They wanted to speak to the City because they want to expand the rails to trails. They are wondering if there is a building in town that they could use for offices. Mayor Mattingly them about the Visitor Center and went over a tentative route from the center to the Rails to Trails. After some discussion some representative came back and have said they are interested in leasing or buying the Visitor Center property for the Rails to Trails headquarters. Mayor Mattingly wanted to talk to the Council to get their opinion and then City Clerk Stegelmeier will contact Idaho Parks to tell them if the City is interested or not. Mayor Mattingly's opinion is to sell them the Visitor Center and remove the dump station. Over the last few years, the City has found that the dump station is overloading the City's sewer system. There are also many people filling water tanks with fresh water putting stress on the water system also. There was some discussion on the process if the Council is interested. Councilman Scafe is concerned that the City should work with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss how to help with information about our City. Councilwoman Hansen said that she is interested in meeting with Idaho Parks & Recreation. Councilmen Kaelberer and Scafe agreed. Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to contact Idaho Parks & Recreation and ask them to the next available meeting.

### **8. P&Z Report – P&Z Administrator Bowersox **ACTION IT****

P & Z Administrator Bowersox told the Council that there has been a handful of regular permits, a commercial on HWY 20, a new canopy for Jacksons and one residential addition. Several class one permits have been turned away because they haven't met the setbacks. This is just standard normal stuff. She has some meetings with some of those folks to help them look for a way they can redo to meet the setbacks. P&Z Administrator explained that there is one property owner who is appealing an administrator decision wo the Council will be holding a public hearing in September. She reminded the Council that their role is a quasi-judicial role so please remember to only speak with staff so that you will not need to recuse yourself due to ex-parte discussion. City Attorney Angell explained that the Council should know the name of the parties. Administrator Bowersox said that the parties appealing the decision are Billy and Katherine Stronks. She went on to explain that she has working with Wade Rumsey on finalizing the development agreement with them in the month of August. Right now, they are scheduled to have that discussion with the City Council at the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Hansen asked about the hearing on the appeal. They are working on planning it for the meeting in September. Councilwoman Hansen asked that the appeal be held as just a planning and zoning meeting as she feels like that works better for her. It was decided to have the hearing on the appeal on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September if possible.

### **9. Budget Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the draft budget with the Council. She has put all the department requests

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that the Council has received into the budget. She has put the 3% raise in tax revenue as well as a 3% raise in utility revenue in the budget. She then went over 3 separate sheets showing the difference in budget increase with a 3% wage raise, a 5% wage raise and an 8 % raise. Health insurance makes up a lot of the cost of wages. They discussed wage raises and the economy/inflation. There was some discussion on requests for larger wages due to certification. Councilman Scafe asked if the City pays for the training and City Clerk Stegelmeier replied that it does. They spoke about the great employees of the City. Inflation was discussed and the fact that most places do not pay for all the insurance. Councilwoman Hansen likes the 5% raise in the middle because of the benefits. Councilman Kaelberer said that benefits are good but you don't eat benefits. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her appreciation for benefits since she has been without in the past.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to 8% raise across the board plus a dollar for officer Belew. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Scafe made a motion to approve the tentative FY2023 budget. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 10.Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

Councilman Scafe said he had been asked if Fall River Propane could bid on propane for the City. City Clerk Stegelmeier said she would look into it.

### 11.Executive Session – City Attorney Angell **ACTION ITEM**

*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.*

(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the City of Ashton to discuss legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation.

City Attorney Angell had no communication to discuss with the Council.

### 12.ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 7:15 pm.

### NEXT MEETING

- ◆ Special City Council/Budget Hearing – Wednesday, August 24, 2022, Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Special City Council/P&Z 6:00 p.m. – Wednesday, September 7, 2022 Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Regular City Council 6:00 p.m. – Wednesday, September 14, 2022 Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Questions concerning items appearing on these Agendas or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meetings should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk or call 208-652-3987.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

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Cathy Stegelmeier  
City Clerk

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Tom Mattingly  
Mayor