

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, May 18, 2018

1:00 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

In Attendance: Teresa Hansen, Tom Mattingly, Tadd Atchley and Jerry Funke.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Todd Martindale, Del Jensen, Brett Griffel and Marvin Fielding, Andrea Gumm, Sheryl Hill, Sara Bowersox, Terry DeLong, Jerrold Raymond, Jason Minchin, Bryan Young, Drew Meppin and Megan Bryan.

Council President Hansen opened the meeting at 12:58 pm.

1. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

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

A. Wastewater Project/Consultant Contract – Marvin Fielding, Rick Miller **ACTION ITEM**

Marvin explained that he had dug test holes and monitored the water levels. The water levels have dropped between 11 to 16 inches. Dal Enterprises (subcontractor) hammered a trough through to help move water off the site. Eagle Rock (contractor) did bid for stabilizing 1/3 of the pond. Councilman Atchley asked where the gravel was going to come from. The gravel will come from a pit in St. Anthony. Marvin explained that Mayor Stronks has asked if the contractor had checked with Glen Atchley. Councilman Atchley asked about the Baker pit. Marvin explained that the Atchley pit is out of gravel and the Baker pit does not have the correct material. Councilman Atchley would like them to go over the bid again because he feels that 2 hours is too much time to get a load of gravel from St. Anthony. Councilwoman Hansen asked who would be determining if the contractor needs stabilization in an area. Marvin said it would be a mutual decision between the public works department, the engineer and the contractor. Councilman Mattingly asked about the fabric. He does not want to pay for the fabric up front – he wants the City to only pay for what is needed. Councilman Funke asked if this was a change order. Marvin explained that it was – it was not determined to be too wet when the design was done. Councilwoman Hansen is concerned that this is just more money being spent. Councilman Funke asked about the bond and insurance for this bid. Marvin said that the Council has the option is to wait until July to see if they can build but the new permit does give a deadline that the City may miss. Councilman Atchley would like Marvin to work with the contractor on the bid and get back to the Council. Todd and Brett expressed their concern that the contractor get going so the project will get finished. Marvin will get with the contractor and get back to the Council.

2. WORKSHOP:

An exercise directed by the Fremont County Emergency Manager designed to help local churches with emergency preparation.

A. Discussion with ITD **ACTION ITEM**

Jason introduced everyone that was at the meeting with the ITD and said that they came because the Council wanted to discuss items so he asked what they wanted to discuss. Councilman Mattingly asked what was happening with the construction on the intersection of 20 and 47. Brian explained that the project is a 2020 project they are hoping to be ready to bid by March 2019. When they did drilling as part of their project the sampling came up with aromas from gas and/or oil. Right now they don't know the impact of the toxicity. If it is below a standard there is no problem, if it is over then you must mitigate. The project is not in jeopardy. Councilman Funke expressed concerns he has heard from the community about a stop light. The light was a discussion with the Council and

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the Ashton Police and was considered the best option. The problem will be slowing traffic down prior to the corner at Ashton so that someone is not going too fast to stop. A light will make safety much better. Jason asked if there was a councilmember or someone who could coordinate with them as the design continues and then come to council if needed. The Council asked Chief Griffel if he would be the coordinator with the ITD as they get closer to the design review.

Councilman Atchley asked about HWY 20 from Chester to Ashton. He has been asked if it will be a 4 lane or 2 lane road. The ITD is planning on having passing lanes or a turn lane but have not started design. They are discussing several alternatives and will have some public meetings. It has been selected for funding. Next is the NEPA process which will take quite a while.

The Council expressed concern about moving HWY 20 out of Ashton as the City does not want to be bypassed. Right now there is not enough room and it has not been considered. Jason said that the reality is that Rexburg and Idaho Falls are growing and there is no way to predict the future. They really want public involvement.

Councilwoman Hansen asked if they would consider a few more speed limit signs on HWY 20 to help people to know that the limit is only 65 now. She also had some concerns about the merging sign at Chester as it seems more and more that drivers are not seeing it until it is a race. Councilman Atchley explained that the flashing sign has been great! No one seems to intentionally blow through that. Moving the 45-mph sign south has made a huge difference.

Chief Griffel did express concern about traffic stacking up at the light at the intersection of HWYs 20 and 47. Councilman Mattingly suggested a warning light before the curve that reads 'Prepare to Stop When Flashing". Jason and Brian said they would look at that.

Councilman Atchley asked for an update on the wildlife overpasses. Right now wildlife overpasses are one of the environmental options. The requirement is to take everyone's option. They will evaluate every option. They are waiting for additional field work. They will have a public meeting later this summer, probably the end of the summer. The Council asked if they could you hold meetings here at Ashton on those roads. They said that the one for Targhee pass will be at Island Park. The Council explained that there are just as many people down here that are worried about the Targhee pass. The Council would be willing to host a meeting. Jason said there has not been a decision made and they would consider the Council's offer. They are following a process.

The Council would like to meet every once in a while on the intersection project. The ITD will hold a public meeting on the project in the next month or so. Councilwoman Hansen thanked everyone for their time. She explained that open communications help to keep everyone on the same page.

3. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Atchley made a motion to adjourn. Councilman MATTINGLY seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 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

Cathy Stegelmeier
City Clerk

Theo R. Stronks
Mayor