**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DOWNEY CITY COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

**ATTENDANCE:** Council President, Gary Barnes, Rex Nielsen, Grant Johnson, Dan

Wilson, Tony Hancock and Brenda Kay. Mayor Dennis Phillips was excused.

**Patrons:** Barbara Hill, Bonnie Hill, Sheldon Barfuss, Wade and Carol Christiansen,

Larry and Diana Burden, Dean Moser. Alan and August Starr and Marsha Elmore and Jeff Larsen arrived at 7:18 p.m.

**Call to Order:** Council President Gary Barnes called the meeting to order and

welcomed everyone.

Brenda Kay offered the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Comments from the audience on Agenda items only:** Not comments.

**ACTION ITEM - Approve Minutes: Grant Johnson moved to approve the Minutes**

**of the Regular Meeting of the Downey City Council on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting on Monday, July 1, 2019, seconded by Dan Wilson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM** **- Approve Accounts Payable: Dan Wilson moved to approve**

**the Accounts Payable of July 2019, seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**READING OF AGENDA:** President Gary Barnes read the Agenda.

**Law Enforcement:** Not present.

**ACTION ITEM – Sheldon Barfuss – Bannock County Fair Board – City and County Property at the Fairgrounds:** Sheldon informed the City Council

that parcels at the Bannock County Fair Grounds are a mess. The City owns some of the property and the County owns some of the property. He presented a map of the area and expressed concern about a circular area in the middle of the fairgrounds, which takes in some of the fair buildings. President Barnes reported this was the original design of the park area. The commissioners would like to get the lines cleaned up. He would like to see some of the property vacated and the property lines where they should be. Some of the fair buildings are on city property. Sheldon feels the plat is obsolete. President Barnes indicated the things that have gone on at the park have disregarded the original plat.

The County has run into a conflict re-building the fair building that has collapsed because part of the building was on City property. Rex Nielsen asked if they were going to be able to rebuild? Sheldon reported the money they had for the building now must go towards bleachers because they were condemned. The main fair building is on the City easement.

Sheldon would like to have a City Councilman, a fair board member and a County Commissioner meet to go over this and come up with a solution. He stated one of the road easements on the plat is taken care of by the County. Sheldon suggested the four streets and center area all need to be vacated by the City. Tony Hancock reported the city has helped with maintaining the road.

President Barnes informed Sheldon, it will be a lengthy process to take care of this matter. There will be a public hearing involved and it needs to be done by ordinance. The plat was never followed by the County when things were being set up. This is the reason there are so many things overlapping. The council agreed to work with the County.

**ACTION ITEM – Marsha Elmore – Marsh Valley Senior Center:** Marsha

Elmore reported she has been supporting the Marsh Valley Senior Center for the past two years. Marsha was unsure what the council wanted to hear and asked if they have questions.

Grant Johnson stated he would like to understand the operating expenses and the income against these expenses. What are the average monthly costs and income?

Marsha reported food costs have skyrocketed and this is her biggest problem. At this point in time, she has total lack of income. At her own expense, she takes care of Gem State Paper and Office Max costs, and she is having a hard time making everything work. She asked for help.

Jeff Larsen reported for the past two or three years Marsha has been taking a lot of money out of her pocket and his time to help her. They can no longer support the Senior Center. The council agreed, Marsha and Jeff should not be supporting the Center.

Jeff reported without a grocery store, they must travel to get groceries and it has gone downhill.

Rex asked if they have fewer people they are serving. Marsha reported the number they are serving is down. Jeff also mentioned the people who donated $1,000 to $2,000 per year have passed away. They no longer have any donors, other than Marsha and Jeff. They can no longer support it. They both love the seniors. They need help from the City and the County. No one is going to work for free, go get groceries and use their own gas money like they do now. Marsha would like to retire, but also wants the Senior Center to continue operating. She needs money to operate until someone can be found to run the Senior Center.

Grant Johnson asked what the deficit is that needs to be covered. Jeff stated it is phenomenal. it is probably $5,000 to $10,000. There is no way to really measure it. It comes out of their time, gas, shopping, and taking time off work. Jeff stated he does not have a figure. Grant reported it is hard to come up with a way to help if they do not have a figure. Jeff said they can work on it. He asked the City to get with Bannock County. They will only operate until the end of July. Jeff does not know a dollar amount needed to operate, but suggested Marsha would know more than he does. It is literally thousands and a lot of volunteer time that they both do. Marsha informed the Council she gave the clerk a copy of the utilities. The council received a copy of the information.

The council agreed Marsha has done a great job at the Senior Center; however, Grant stated this is not the issue. Jeff disagreed because no one is going to take it over and work for free. Grant asked if it is justifiable for the City or County to help financially. If the Senior Center can operate for 30 people and the City comes up with $10,000 to $15,000; is it justifiable?

Marsha stated her retirement is close, and she is sick and tired of spending it on the Senior Center. Marsha left the meeting at this time.

When asked by Jeff if the City just wants to let the Senior Center close, President Barnes reported the City will take care of what it can.

Rex asked Jeff if they can get the City figures together. Jeff stated he does not know the figures to fix the problem. He just knows he and Marsh spend hours and hours and thousands of dollars traveling and buying out of their own pocket. She is asking for help. Rex stated the City need some figures.

President Barnes informed Jeff the City will check things out and do what it can, but he cannot guarantee there will be money. Jeff stated if the City loves the Center, they will get it fixed. President Barnes excused Jeff and thanked him.

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of Building Permits for Starr August for a GARAGE AND Wade and Carol Christiansen for new construction of a home: Dan Wilson moved to approve a Building Permits for**

**Starr August for a garage and Wade and Carol Christiansen for new construction of a home, seconded by Rex Nielsen, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of Business Licenses for Nelson Electric: Rex Nielsen moved to approve a Business License for Nelson Electric,**

**seconded by Dan Wilson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of a Livestock Permit for Paul Sorensen, Dean Moser and Paul and Holly Schaeffer: Rex Nielsen**

**moved to approve the Livestock Permits for Paul Sorensen and Dean Moser and to approve Holly Schaeffer’s Permit with the restriction of two horses, instead of three horses as requested, seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of a Catering Permit for the American Legion to sell beer at the Bannock County Fair August 7, 2019 through August 9, 2019: Grant Johnson moved to approve a Catering**

**Permit for the American Legion to sell beer at the Bannock County Fair August 7, 2019 through August 9, 2019, seconded by Dan Wilson, all voted aye, motion.**

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of a donation for the Downey Queen Contest: Dan Wilson moved to approve a donation for the Downey Queen**

**Contest for $50, seconded by Rex Nielsen, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – Consider Approval of Rocky Mountain Power’s bid to change lights in City buildings: Dan Wilson moved to approve the bids from**

**Rocky Mountain Power to change the lights in the City Building for a cost of $198.64, in the Senior Center for a cost of $292.47, and in the Beauty Shop if needed at the same percentage, seconded by Grant Johnson, by roll call vote: Rex Nielsen, aye; Dan Wilson, aye; Grant Johnson, aye; and Gary Barnes, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – Splash Pad:** Tony Hancock reported he went down and looked at the

splash pad in Clifton. He did not feel the cement work was done very well on Clifton’s pad. Tony suggested Richard Austin can do a better job on the cement if the Council chooses to do a splash pad. Clifton’s was set up as a freshwater system. Doing a splash pad this way would cut the cost of a pump, a tank and supplies needed to chlorinate. It comes on for a very short time and uses very little water because it does not run long. Tony figures the cost of a splash pad will be about $1,000 for the cement, $1,000 for the plumbing, Richard Austin’s cost to pour the cement, and the splash pad kit. It is very simple. If the Council would like to do a simpler version instead of spending $125,000; he and Matt Henderson can do the work. Tony reported the splash pad can be done for about $6,000. It will mostly be nozzles and jets. He suggested one fixture he looked at, which costs about $500.

We need to find a place to put it if the Council feels it will be used. The problem with the City Park is finding room for it. Woodland Park has plenty of room.

Grant looked at one in Salt Lake and noticed the kids playing liked the lower spraying nozzles over the higher spraying nozzles.

Grant would like to see it planned out a little more. It will need to be budgeted next year.

**Rex Nielsen moved to continue working on putting in a splash pad after the City plans for it in next year’s budget, seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM** – **Consider Approval of Health Insurance:** The clerk reported

the Medical Plan for the City will increase about 2.6% and the Dental Plan will increase about 3%. This is the first time the Dental Plan has increased.

**Dan Wilson moved to approve the Health Insurance, seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM – City Officials Pay Increase:** Rex Nielsen suggested raising the

Council and the Mayor’s wages. There is a lot of time spent in telephone calls. Grant Johnson feels he is compensated enough as a Councilman but feels the Mayor’s wages should be raised.

**Rex Nielsen moved to prepare an Ordinance to increase the Mayor’s compensation to $500 per month, plus monthly utilities, and the Council Members compensation to $100 per month, plus monthly utilities, and PERSI benefits for both the Mayor and Council Members, seconded by Dan Wilson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**REPORTS**

**Tony Hancock:** Tony reported on the following items.

* The springs are flowing at 500 gpm. The well hasn’t been used yet.

Grant Johnson asked Tony about water sales to various companies. One is for a contractor doing the Interstate and the other is for chip sealing.

Tony reported one company purchasing water pulled about 82 loads. It will amount to about $2,600. It was done on the honor system because we only have one meter. The City charges $8.00 per 1,000 gallons.

* The road chipping is done. Fourth East and Grant were chipped and about two blocks West down on Fourth North. Fourth North will be finished next year, along with catching up on a couple of other roads. Tony thanked the Downey Swan Lake Road District for the help they provided.
* Tony and Matt Henderson have been catching up on weeds and other things.
* Tony asked if the council was happy about the way the building turned out. The Council all agreed it looked good. It was suggested the rest of the building be painted. Grant Johnson mentioned he talked to Chase Graham about re-doing the rest of the building. Chase is going to talk to the contractor who did the stucco and see what the cost would be. The mural across the street was also mentioned. It looks really nice.
* Tony reported the City’s sign was still usable but the Senior Center’s sign fell apart. Tony asked if the Council wants to wait and see what happens with the Senior Center before getting another sign. The council agreed.

Carol Christiansen volunteered to paint a sign for the Senior Center.

* Tony is going to get some grindings or millings to put in front of the school. It will be about $25 per dump truck load or $4.37 per ton. It will take about four or five loads. If Tony gets cold mix, it is $97 per ton and hot mix is $62 per ton. The City would have to haul it or pay $120 per hour to have it delivered.
* Tony informed the Council it will take about 20 to 25 loads of millings to do the airport taxi way area. Twenty loads will cost about $500. The area will also need to be cut out and prepared for the millings. If hot mix is used the cost will be about $1,500 and cold mix will be about $2,300. There will also be costs for delivery if hot or cold mix is used.

President Barnes asked if we would need to put a little asphalt on top of it to hold it. Tony recommended putting dust guard on it. Tony suggested waiting until next budget year to do something with the airport.

* The airport inspection is the 22nd of July.

**Brenda Kay:** Brenda reported the unlicensed dog list has been turned over to Tad Bybee,

the Animal Control Officer. We still have over 30 unlicensed dogs. Dog owners will be issued a ticket if they do not license their dog(s).

Dan Wilson reported he talked to Tad and when Tad approached residents about their dogs, they questioned who he was. Tad suggested having identification or a jacket with the “City of Downey” on it.

We have had residents checking out the shock collars. The council agreed more can be purchased if needed.

Tony also mentioned he shut down the burn hole because trash was dumped there. A camera and signs have been put out. Tony found out who dumped the trash and a letter will be sent to the person informing him he cannot dump trash at the site.

**Gary Barnes:** Gary thanked the staff for everything they do. He feels the City is blessed

with a good crew and appreciated them going the extra mile to help residents.

**Rex Nielsen:** Rex suggested painting the rest of the building. He has heard a lot of good

comments about it.

Rex asked where the money goes from the RV Park Dump. The clerk reported it

goes to the sewer fund. We have had to do repairs in the past because of things being dumped. This helps fund the repairs.

Tony reported there is a sign stating there is a camera at the RV Dump. The clerk suggested putting a sign up with the website address so patrons can pay online.

Rex expressed appreciation for all everyone does.

**Daniel Wilson:** Dan thanked the staff for everything they do. Dan feels the meeting has

gone well tonight. He expressed concern over some of the presentations at city council meeting going on too long and feels there needs to be a time limit on the presentations.

Dan has received a lot of complaints about dogs barking. Tad has explained to one resident that he must sign a complaint to get anything done about the problem.

**Grant Johnson:** Grant received an email about cyber training from ICRMP. The clerk

also received the email. The Council agreed it is a good training to take part in.

Grant is excited about some of the changes being made in the community and suggested we continue to look for improvements that might need to be done throughout the City.

**Mayor Phillips:** Not present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Consider Personnel Matters Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1)(b):** **Dan Wilson moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho**

**Code Section 67-2345(1)(b) at 9:03 p.m., seconded by Grant Johnson, by roll call vote: Rex Nielsen, aye; Dan Wilson, aye; Grant Johnson, aye; and Gary Barnes, aye; motion carried.**

**Dan Wilson moved to return to regular session at 9:28 p.m., seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**Grant Johnson moved to approve wage increases for the fiscal year 2019-20, as follows: Tad Bybee - $250/month; Tony Hancock - $23.00 per hour; Matt Henderson - $18.50 per hour; Kelly Dahlke - $26.75 per week; Brenda Kay -$20.00 per hour; and Selena Guthrie - $11.00 per hour, seconded by Dan Wilson, by roll call vote: Rex Nielsen, aye; Dan Wilson, aye; Grant Johnson, aye; and Gary Barnes, aye; motion carried.**

**ACTION ITEM - ADJOURNMENT: Dan Wilson moved to adjourn at 9:31 p.m.,**

**seconded by Grant Johnson, all voted aye, motion carried.**

**APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**GARY BARNES, Council President**

**Attest\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Brenda Kay, City Clerk**