CITY OF FAIRFIELD
Special City Council Meeting Public Hearing #FY 27-1
Thursday, October 1st, 2026, 7:00p.m.

Mayor Terry Lee called the City Council meeting to order at 7:00p.m. City Clerk Sonja Chrysler took roll call. In attendance were Mayor Terry Lee, council members President Ted Miller, Amy Martin, Rodney Blount, and Tyler Ballard came in at 7:01pm. Also, in attendance was planning and zoning administrator Ed Reagan. In the audience were Joe Mabbutt and representatives from Ziply were Sakena Lesmeister – Government Relations Specialist, Tom Murn – Senior Engineering Manager, Shayne Miller – Construction Project Manager, David Hart - Inspector , Gage Mitchell – Inspector, and Brent Milford – Engineering Manager.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ***Council President Ted Miller motioned to approve the agenda, second by Councilmember Rodney Blount. Motion passed 4-0.***

NEW BUSINESS:

Ziply Fiber – ACTION ITEM: Ziply provided city council with new maps, a printed power point presentation with an additional map and objectives, as well as the Idaho Power contract for arial placement. Mayor Lee explained that the reason for the special meeting was to discuss the Ziply Fiber Project that was stopped due to discrepancies in the maps and digging and to get some answers to questions the city has and how they plan to get the project finished. He then turned the time over to Ziply. Sakena Lesmeister introduced herself and her role with Ziply and then the other representatives introduced themselves and their roles. Ziply explained each item they provided to council that they would be going over. They explained that they have very little work left to do to finish the arial portion of the project and that it should only be about a day or two, plus or minus. The underground boring should only be about eight to ten days. They are proposing to use directional boring for the remainder of the project to have the least amount of disturbance and best restoration. Ziply went over the map and explained the areas that were done and the areas that were still left to do. Councilmember Amy Martin and Mayor Lee asked them to talk about discrepancies, especially the area in the alley between Willow and Garnet near the County Road & Bridge building. That area was not marked because it was not on the original project map and it was believed that a phone line was struck due to trenching there. Ziply says they have performed a route cause analysis with their vendor and states the vendor went off script in that area. They assured the city that their vendor has remedied the issue with their crew and their practices going forward. In addition, Ziply says that their inspector David Hart will not be letting the vendor out of his sight during the remainder of the project. They state that the plan presented to council for approval is the only plan that will be followed and there will be no deviation from it. Ziply explained the changes to the map to avoid going through private property. Ziply agreed to a communication plan with the city, providing information in the form of email each morning detailing the work that is to be done that day in addition to any changes that might need to be made. A second email will be sent at the end of the day summarizing the work that was actually done. The emails will be sent to the city clerk who will then forward it on to the mayor, council, and

public works. Councilmember Tyler Ballard asked Ziply why the original presentation showed only arial and soft surface plowing with a vibratory plow at a depth of only 12" to 18" missing all buried utilities, and the new plan and what has already been done has no soft surface plowing at all and only boring and trenching. Ziply admitted fault with the fact that they originally presented soft surface plowing as the method of installing the fiber but later discovered that it would not work in Fairfield. They stated that they have since reviewed what they need to do in the future when working with cities and installing fiber and how they present the plans to do so in order to avoid what has happened in Fairfield. Ziply says they will finish the project with boring only and no trenching. They say it is more expensive but will be much less invasive. They showed the two pieces of machinery the city should expect to see doing the work. One is the boring machine, and one is a vacuum excavator trailer. Council President Ted Miller asked about Ziply Fiber services to the subdivision as they are not able to run fiber lines there. Ziply said they would have to investigate how to do that. At this time, they are unable to supply fiber to county residents. Ted also asked if there would be a cost to the customer if they choose Ziply in the future and the fiber needed to be run to the house. Ziply responded that there should not be a cost unless they have a mile long driveway. Ziply went on to explain the boring process and stated that the machine in the photo provided would be the exact machine in Fairfield doing the work. They said the vacuum trailer might be different, but that it would be a vacuum trailer and not a completely different type of machine. Ziply will provide an email contact list for the city to be able to reach out to anyone in attendance. They gave a time frame of October 1st for council authorization for work to continue, on or before October 9th for field remobilization, on or before October 23rd for remaining bores, October 30th for tie-ins, and October 30th for restoration and final review. Mayor Lee asked if there was a rule about distance from existing fiber. Ziply said they tend to stay about one foot away when crossing it, and that they don't have a rule when paralleling it, and that there is no issues with signals. Mayor Lee asked about the type of lids that Ziply would be using because of snow plowing. Ziply said they would be doing their best to keep them as far away from the roads as possible and went over each rating of lid they are able to use and can go all the way up to a 40,000 pound lid. Ziply also said they were very aware of trash pick-up routes and following rules and regulations for arial placement. **Council President Ted Miller motioned to approve the new plan including the new Northwest corner, seconded by Councilmember Amy Martin. Motion passed 4-0.**

Councilmember Amy Martin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Rodney Blount. **Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.**

Terry S Lee, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sonja Chrysler City Clerk