

**BUDGET HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
DIETRICH, IDAHO**

February 16, 2026

Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor, Aaron Nicholes. The roll was called; those answering present were Shawna Stewart, Dean Grissom, Rex Hendrix, and Trent Hanson. Also, present were city maintenance operator, Kelly Nebeker; City Clerk, Michelle Johnson; Deputy Clerk, Emily Buckway; community member, Alberto Cabrera.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nicholes.

The mayor and council discussed the split property next to 91 N Washington St. The property pins are on the west side of the road and would require easements from the neighbors on the south and west. The maintenance operator indicated he needs put in a culvert for the runoff water. Also, to make sure the irrigation water is draining off the property correctly, as to not take away water access to other citizens.

Trent asked whether water access could come from Rail Street. It was clarified that the existing water connection is located on N Washington Street and runs along the north side of the properties. Alberto stated that he does not want a road access or easement crossing his father's property. He and his family are willing to allow a utility easement but do not want fire trucks using that route.

There was discussion about S 675 E, which was likely once a county roadway. Trent suggested designating it as a road so it could serve as an access point. Concerns were raised about the cost of constructing a road, especially since the city has been unable to establish a road on Jefferson Street, and the current easement is not maintained as a roadway by the city.

The council advised that Alberto is responsible for adding gravel, compacting the surface, and maintaining the roadway. It was also noted that S 675 E does not currently have enough width for a snowplow to travel through.

The council voiced the pros and cons of "doing things the way we have always done it". The prior mayor/council member administrations may not have done things accurately. The clerk expressed concern with connecting water on the south side of Rail Street and suggested consulting with an engineer. She also informed the council that the city does not own Rail Street – we only have a lease agreement with Union Pacific Railroad. The easement is for the utility access. The property owners are responsible to maintain their sections of the roadway that currently exists.

The deputy clerk informed the council that the residence to the south of the new site and all the homes to the North side of town are all N Washington, even if they are on the west side near S 675 E. Trent stated the Brandon Rasmussen indicated to him that where the driveway is – that is where the address must be. If his driveway is not on N Washington, it needs to be on Rail Street.

The mayor expressed he would like to see improvements by having the engineers include a survey for the entire town with the water improvement plan. He's sympathetic to the points expressed in this meeting and doesn't want to limit the growth of the community. The council discussed the northern properties and noted that if those parcels are ever split to allow additional homes, the standards set now will guide future development. There was also a recommendation to investigate the history of S 675 E to determine whether it was originally established as a county road. Trent reiterated his interest in expanding the community's road network.

A motion was made by Shawna Stewart and 2nd by Trent Hanson that with a pending receipt of notarized easement agreements with Manual Cabrera, Mary Smith, Rita Gallegos, City Council will approve new address of 222 N Rail St for Alberto Cabrera, property located on S 675 E. The notarized easement from Manual Cabrera will be designated easement for water and sewer and the easement from Mary Smith and Rita Gallegos will be for road access off S 675 E. Mr. Alberto Cabrera will also be required to gravel the road from Rail Street to 5 feet past his designated driveway. All were in favor and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Shawna Stewart and 2nd by Rex Hendrix to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk