

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda 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.*

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**PRAYER OFFERED BY: John Kaelberer**

**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

**PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen**

**In Attendance:** Tom Mattingly, **Teresa Hansen**, John Scafe, John Kaelberer and Nate Finley.

**Also, in attendance:** City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Chief Griffel, Jaden Jackson, Sara Bowersox, Taci Stoddard and Rachel Hatton.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 6:00 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 Meeting Minutes 4-10-2024
- 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 Scafe 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.*

**1. Public Hearing – Resolution 24-01 – Pool Fee Update**

Mayor Mattingly opened the hearing. He asked City Clerk Stegelmeier if the proper notice was given. She replied that it had been noticed correctly and a copy of the affidavit of publication is included in the packet. Mayor Mattingly then opened the hearing for public comment. No one had signed in on the list. He then asked the audience if anyone would like to speak.

Rachel Hatton 969 Cherry Street. Rachel is in favor of this fee update. She explained that many people have given money to the pool through fundraisers, etc. There are people in the community who have donated and want to keep the pool open. The new rate is reasonable. She is excited that the pool will be open and that there will be swimming lessons.

Mayor Mattingly thanked Rachel for her comments and asked if there was anyone else who would like to comment. There was no more comment and Mayor Mattingly closed the public hearing at 6:06 pm.

**2. Resolution 24-01 – Pool Fee Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

The Council discussed the fee update. Councilman Kaelberer expressed his opinion that a dollar raise is fair. Councilman Scafe explained that he sees the raise in cost as reasonable and needed. Councilman

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Finley explained that the benefit to the swimmers is worth the new price and the price will help with the budget issues in the parks fund.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to approve a raise in rates at the pool as presented. Councilman Scafe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. **Maple Leaf Drive & Railroad Avenue Construction – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the bid came in a higher than expected. The budget will allow for completing about half of the project being and City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that it might be good to do half of the project in this fiscal year and then the balance in the next fiscal year. Jaden Jackson will get with the contractor and set up a meeting to discuss the project. Councilman Scafe expressed concern for getting the Maple Leaf water line replaced as possibly.

Councilman Scafe made a motion to approve the bid from 3H Construction proposal as presented. Councilman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. **Railroad Discussion – City Attorney Angel, City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Attorney Angel explained that the City has been working on this issue for a while. There are undocumented water and/or sewer lines running under the railroad tracks. During the sewer project in 2018 the City needed to replace part of a line and went to the railroad for permission to cross their property. At that time, the railroad was changing how they dealt with the requests and had hired a company out of Tennessee to manage them. The City needed to get permission as the project was in construction so a deal was hammered out quickly. This company then wanted the City to pay for each crossing or undocumented line with a \$4000 fee up front and \$1300 for each crossing per year. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked Attorney Angell if this company is authorized to charge for the owner, which is different than the lease holder of the rails. Attorney Angell says this company, Omega Management, claims that they have the authority. Mayor Mattingly explained that at the mayor's meeting in Island Park last year, he had asked about the railroad fees for crossing the easement and no other cities are paying this kind of a fee. Councilman Kaelberer is wondering if an easement can be grandfathered. Councilwoman Hansen said that mowing the railroad property costs the City money so we should charge the railroad for the mowing and just exchange money. City Attorney Angell will investigate this item more and come back with information.

### 5. **Wastewater Screen Project Update – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there are biweekly construction meetings with Keller and Edstrom. Edstrom Construction is planning on being on site in the first part of June.

### 6. **Budget FY2025 Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Clerk Stegelmeier said that there was another updated budget report in the packet along with budget requests. The Council will start working on the budget more in June.

### 7. **Federal Holiday Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that Juneteenth is a federal holiday. The holiday was discussed along with the other holidays that have been used by the City in the past. City Attorney Angell gave an opinion that the Mayor and Council should adopt the federal holidays as written and either give more holidays or not. Mayor Mattingly would like to think about the holidays and discuss them more in the June meeting. Councilman Scafe said we should also talk to the employees prior to a change. Councilwoman Hansen's opinion is that if banks, etc. are closed then the City should take that holiday. The Mayor will put a discussion on the employee meeting agenda.

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

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the schedule with the Mayor and Council.

### 9. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting ended at 6:49 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

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Cathy Stegelmeier

City Clerk

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Tom Mattingly

Mayor