

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

6:00 p.m.

714 Main Street

*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*

PRAYER OFFERED BY: John Scafe
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME
PLEDGE LED BY: Nate Finley

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, Officer Joel Vega, Adam Zaragoza, Abbie Rossman, Heidi Burke, Tyrel Clark, Sara Bowersox, Taci Stoddard and Rachel Hatton.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. AMEND AGENDA: ACTION ITEM

1. 3. Railroad Avenue & Maple Leaf Drive Discussion – Tyrel Clark, City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to amend the agenda to add Railroad Avenue and Maple Leaf Drive Discussion at item 4. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 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 2-13-2024
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

Councilman Scafe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Finley 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.

2. Visitor Center Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Adam Zaragoza, Abby Rossman, Heidi Burke ACTION ITEM

Adam Zaragoza is happy to be here to accept the City's counteroffer to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) board on their behalf. Mayor Mattingly expressed his appreciation to Adam and the board. There will be discussion and negotiation on the management of the dump station, which the City will manage for the time being. City Attorney Angell asked Adam if he would have the attorney for IDPR come up with the documents and send them to the City for review. Councilman Kaelberer thanked

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the IDPR and their staff. Councilman Scafe expressed his opinion that the Rails to Trails will be a great asset for the people of Ashton. Mayor Mattingly asked Abby Rossman what the current plan is for the 2024 season. Abby explained that they are hoping to begin the construction on the building to make it year-round. Right now the plan for this year is to be open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. There may be some closures due to construction.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to accept the sale of the Ashton Visitor Center to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation for \$350,000. Councilman Scafe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Wastewater Screen/Headworks Project Bid Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Tyrel Clark *ACTION ITEM*

Tyrel Clark is here to discuss the Wastewater Screen/Headworks project. He reminded the Council of the bid costs versus the estimated cost which was what the DEQ used to award the grant for the project. The bid was 1.2 million over the grant. Following the bids coming in – Tyrel, with help from Altura (the City’s grant administrators), sent a letter to DEQ requesting further grant funding. The DEQ approved additional grant funding to be able to pay for the project. Tyrel did, however, forget to include the additional engineering and administrative costs in the request. He has submitted an additional request but has not received a reply. One of the alternatives from the request could be dropped from the project if the new request is denied. Tyrel then recommended the approval of the bid to Edstrom Construction. That way Edstrom can begin getting supplies, etc. There was discussion on the evaporators and other parts of the project.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to award the Wastewater Screen/Headworks Construction bid to Edstrom Construction for \$2,431,089. Councilman Finley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Railroad Avenue and Maple Leaf Drive Discussion – Tyrel Clark, City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

Tyrel reminded the Council that they had made the decision to bid these two projects as one larger project. The project documents are ready. Tyrel will start advertising for bidding if there are no objections or concerns from the Council. There were no objections or concerns so he will begin advertising so that bids can be back prior to April’s City Council meeting.

5. Resolution Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there are rough drafts for two resolutions in the packets. The first is a resolution to raise the open swim costs for customers at the Ashton Swimming Pool. She has included two different proposals for a raise along with a screen print of the costs from other local pools. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that both proposals are over a 5% raise in fees so there will need to be a public hearing. She is hoping that the Council will think over the costs and be ready to finalize a fee that can be advertised for public hearing at the May meeting. The other resolution is a schedule of timelines for billing so that the City can avoid long outstanding bills on water/sewer services. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked the Council to look over the draft and bring back any changes to the April meeting. This resolution can be approved without a public hearing as it is an administrative tool – not a fee structure or ordinance. There was some more discussion on ways that the pool can become more viable in the future. Councilwoman Hansen is hoping that the pool committee can work on fundraisers to help with costs. Councilman Scafe explained that he knows of several citizens who are really interested in helping to keep the pool going.

6. American Dog Derby – Councilman John Scafe *ACTION ITEM*

Councilman Scafe gave a report on the 2024 running of the American Dog Derby. He and the other

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American Dog Derby Committee members, while not so happy with the snow lever, were pleased with the turnout and the race. Everything went well. He expressed his appreciation for the City and Mayor Mattingly asked that he tell everyone thanks for all they do to make the American Dog Derby work every year.

7. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the schedule with the Council.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 6:48 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

Cathy Stegelmeier

City Clerk

Tom Mattingly

Mayor