

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (North Entrance)

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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.*

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### CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

**PRAYER OFFERED BY: Tom Mattingly**  
**PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen**

**In Attendance:** Teddy Stronks, Teresa Hansen, Jerry Funke by phone and John Kaelberer.

**Also, in attendance:** City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Jaden Jackson, Kobe Jackson, John Scafe, Nathan Maravilla, Sheri Poulson, Michelle O'Malley, Sheryl Hill and Lisa Smith.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 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 1-8-2020 and Special Meeting Minutes 8-28-2019
- 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 Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she had forgotten to put a discussion on the Census with Blair Dance on the agenda. Mayor Mattingly asked if one of the councilmembers would like to make a motion to amend the agenda.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to add a Census discussion on the agenda at number 4 following the audit report. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### Regular Business:

*Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.*

### 2. Tennis Court Project Information– Mayor Mattingly **ACTION ITEM**

Mayor Mattingly and former mayor, Teddy Stronks, met with Andy Lambertson and Steve Hewett who own property here in Ashton near the City Park. Andy & Steve each donated \$2500 for the tennis court project. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her gratitude for the donations and Teddy's work in following up on getting more funds together for the project. Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to get together donation information for the next meeting.

### 3. Audit Report – Sheri Poulson, City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

Sheri Poulson is here to go over the City's financial audit. Her associate, Nathan Maravilla, is also in attendance and was the lead on the Ashton audit. Sheri's firm, Jensen, Poulsen & Company have done the City of Ashton's audit for several years. This year, the City's audit has an unmodified opinion which means a clean opinion or no material problems. Sheri passed out a copy of the audit and a letter with highlights from the audit and she went over the letter with the Council & Mayor. The City in general has increased in assets and is doing well. She is concerned about some problems with Caselle and how it

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figures some of the transfers between savings and checking. Sheri has spoken to City Clerk Stegelmeier and they will get that worked out with someone at Caselle. The City of Ashton is in a strong financial position now. She did voice concerns on some missing receipts but has spoken with City Clerk Stegelmeier who will be making sure to speak to the employees. City Attorney Angel expressed concern about the receipts and said that it is important to hang on to the receipts in protecting public funds. Sometimes it can seem annoying and nit-picky but even a \$5 missing receipt can be a misdemeanor if prosecuted. Mayor Mattingly thanked Sheri for her time.

### **4. Census –**

Blair Dance is helping with the Census. He is a recruiter for the Census for Fremont County. The census is about getting a complete count of the citizens. There are some good jobs paying \$16 an hour with a 57.5 cent a mile travel reimbursement. This is a good wage in this area the jobs will start in April and last throughout May giving everyone 6 to 8 weeks of employment. March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the cutoff date for applying for these jobs and Blair is trying to get the word out. There will be some additional responsibilities into June. Blair is asking the Mayor & Council as well as others in attendance to get the word out.

### **5. 2021 Budget Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she has brought a tentative schedule for the budget year to the Council. They discussed the schedule and the Council said that the schedule should work fine for them.

### **6. American Dog Derby 2020 – John Scafe **ACTION ITEM****

John Scafe said that in 24 hours Ashton will be a changed town. There are many teams here because Ashton is well known and organized. There are about 50 people volunteering and getting all the things done for the Derby. John has worked on promoting the parking. The track is marked, and the advertising is going on with billboards and radio. John would like everyone to come and join in the fun. The Council thanked John for his and his committee's dedication.

### **7. Wastewater Project – Jaden Jackson, City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

Jaden Jackson is here to give the Mayor and Council an update on grants. The sign grant for streets will be funded this year. This will allow the City to get the signs repaired and updated. This work will be done by contract and will go out to bid. The other project to discuss is the Railroad Avenue project. Jaden brought some information on the project. The City had talked about wanting to still have a large area for trucks to turn around close to Main Street. For the road to hold up there will need to be concrete and that will double the price and finish more of the road. Jaden is wondering if a forced truck route would be a better option. The City could require the trucks to go to Pacific Avenue southbound, over the tracks and come north up Railroad. The City would also need to discuss the options with the owner of the dental clinic as part of the current area that trucks are using actually belongs to him. The City also needs to discuss the project with Reinke Grain. The cost difference would go from \$91,000 to \$181,000. Mayor Mattingly would also like to talk to law enforcement and public works. Councilman Funke would like to make sure that a long-term plan to eventually get North Railroad Avenue paved should be done. Councilwoman Hansen thinks the truck route would work fine. The City will get back to Jaden on the project.

### **8. Comprehensive Plan Update – P&Z Administrator Bowersox **ACTION ITEM****

P & Z Administrator Bowersox explained that the second Town Hall was held the previous Monday. There was a good turnout and discussion. At the March City Council meeting she will report more and bring the posters, etc. so that the Council and others can use the post it notes to gather more information. She is then planning to have some Round Table meetings with specific invitations to pull together particular groups and focus on specific topics. She would like to have both the City Council and P & Z Commission in attendance. The Comp Plan includes a section on the future of the roads and infrastructure, and she would like their help with that part of the plan.

### **9. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier**

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

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**10. Council Discussion** - *Councilmembers will bring items to be discussed with the other Councilmembers & Mayor. No action should be taken on these items as they have not been specifically listed on the agenda.*

Councilwoman Hansen wanted to ask about the City having a program to help those who need help with their water bills. She said Panda Express lets customers round up their bill and uses it to help those who need assistance. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that several years ago the City worked on this. There is a form for those who need help and the City has funds from selling the old fire hydrants to help with the bills. Councilwoman Hansen was happy that the program is already in place but wondered if the City could add the 'rounding up' part to the program.

### **11. Executive Session**

*I.C. 74-206 Certain City-related matters may need to be discussed confidentially as a matter of law (Acquisition of real property, personnel matters, attorney-client communications) subject to applicable legal requirements, the Council may enter executive session by roll call vote to discuss such matters.*

(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to enter executive session. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Mayor Mattingly called a roll call vote: Councilman Funke, aye; Councilwoman Hansen, aye; and Councilman Kaelberer, aye. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council entered executive session at 7:58 pm.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to exit executive session. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Council exited executive session at 8:11 pm.

### **12. Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

### **NEXT MEETING**

- ◆ City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Questions concerning items appearing on these Agendas 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.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest

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Cathy Stegelmeier  
City Clerk

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Tom Mattingly  
Mayor