

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 11, 2021

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.*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic: Please do not attend the meeting if you feel sick or have been around those who have been sick.

PRAYER OFFERED BY: John Kaelberer

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

In Attendance: Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, John Scafe, Jerry Funke and John Kaelberer.

Also, in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Deputy Clerk Warnke, Detective Owens, Mark Loosli, Andrew Rogers, Teddy Stronks, Rachel Hatton and Sheryl Hill.

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 Special 4-6-2022, 4-13-2022 & 4-27-2022
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Funke 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. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

- A. **City of Ashton Ordinance 489-22 – ACC 8.16.100 Burning of Refuse Amendment – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel, Fire Chief Rogers ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the ordinance with the Council and pointed out some of the items that were changed between the first and final drafts. The basic reason for the amendment was to make sure that the Fire Chief was the official through which permits are given. Applicants will apply giving a 24-hour notice and then the Fire Chief will give the City a 12-hour notice. Other updates were to what could be burnt. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the code already required a container for burning but that she has included a photo to show the Council that people can buy them if they needed. They can build their own but they are something that is also available to purchase. Councilman Scafe asked if the City will follow the same rules when they burn the cleanup items. City Clerk Stegelmeier said they will be out at the lagoon so they will follow county rules but the City will apply for a permit. Councilman Scafe wants to be fair and follow the same rules. Councilwoman Hansen asked if there was a reason that we are going over this code now. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that about a year and a half prior, she and Chief Griffel had a conversation about how fire permits should go through the Fire Chief instead of just through her office. Since then, they had been handling requests that way. A month or so ago – a local business was burning with a permit – they had talked to the Fire Chief but there was a local citizen that inquired about the burning. In that inquiry they found that we were not following the code. Police Chief Griffel went through the code and came with a draft last month. They then went through it again and brought this revised edition. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her thoughts that it probably will be better going through the Fire Chief. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that it will be a streamlined process

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for the citizens too as they will only need to call/apply through the Fire Chief. Councilman Funke asked if there was a need to put hours that things can be burned in the code. City Attorney Angel looked it up and it is burning is allowed from 8 am until 4 pm. Rules for burning trash in the county, etc. was discussed. There was a discussion about trees and limbs. Councilman Kaelberer asked if someone could still have a campfire. City Clerk Stegelmeier said that is already allowed by code – there is no reason for a change.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to read the City of Ashton Ordinance 489-22 by title only and dispense with the second and third readings. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Hansen read the ordinance into the record by title.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to that Ashton City Ordinance 489-22 be approved and published.

Councilman Funke seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. Councilman Kaelberer, aye; Councilwoman Hansen, aye; Councilman Scafe, aye; and Councilman Funke, nay. The motion passed.

B. City of Ashton Ordinance 490-22 – Vacation of Alley on Block 27 – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that on the property that the Hess potato warehouse was located, Block 27 and 26, the alley in Block 26 was vacated many years ago. She is not sure if it was an oversight but the owners do want the alley vacated now. Councilwoman Hansen asked if there are any reasons NOT to vacate the alley. Councilman Kaelberer explained that there are no City utilities such as sewer lines running in that alley. He thinks vacating the alley will help the owners with their building project.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to read the City of Ashton Ordinance 490-22 by title only and dispense with the second and third readings. Councilman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Kaelberer read the ordinance into the record by title.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion to that Ashton City Ordinance 490-22 be approved and published.

Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. Councilman Kaelberer, aye;

Councilwoman Hansen, aye; Councilman Scafe, aye; and Councilman Funke, nay. The motion passed.

3. Chamber 4th of July Parade – Rachel Hatton *ACTION ITEM*

Rachel came to give the Council an update on the Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce's 4th of July celebration. All the festivities will be on July 4th. Where it is a weekend, she is asking that the City workers wait to put the cans out until Monday the 4th. She is concerned that the garbage will be full before Monday if they are put out on Friday. She has ordered the cans to be delivered to the City building but she does not want them to fill up before Monday. She is wanting to know when Michele can help with the cans and barricades. Mayor Mattingly said he will need to speak to Michele before answering. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked if it would be possible for Rachel to get volunteers to help with the cans. Rachel said that she and Michele have a process. It is helpful for Rachel to have Michele, the public works guys and the police to help her. Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to set up a meeting with him and the employees for Monday and they will discuss Rachel's request. Rachel then requested that the Mayor and City Council be in the parade this year. It is noticed when they are not there. She gets lots of comments like "Where are they?" and "Why don't they care about us?". Councilwoman Hansen explained that they do care – they would just like to sit with their families. Rachel said that she never gets to sit with her family. She is requesting that they be in the parade instead of asking this year. Mayor Mattingly asked if she has a vehicle for them to ride on/in for the parade. Rachel replied that it has been tradition that the Mayor organizes what they ride in. Councilwoman Hansen will get the ride planned. Rachel would like them to lineup at 8 am in front of the motel. Rachel would like any other questions or inquiries about the parade be directed to call her on home phone number. The Mayor asked if the Chamber had chosen the theme for the parade yet. Rachel said that the theme is 'Flying from the Past into the Future'. The grand marshals this year will be the current veterans for the area. Mayor Mattingly thanked Rachel for all the work she has put into the

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4th in the past and now. There was a discussion on the candy, etc.

4. Sewer Connection Fee Discussion – Mark Loosli, Tyler Hess *ACTION ITEM*

Mark Loosli is at City Council to discuss the fees for hook up to the water lines. He had a meeting with City Clerk Stegelmeier earlier to discuss the grandfathering of the old hookup rate for their project on Blocks 26 & 27 in exchange for an easement for the sewer line. City Clerk Stegelmeier had found that there was already an easement in plat on the original sewer line. He is asking for the 6 dwelling units to be grandfathered in at the \$500 sewer connection fee. The reason is that their project had been in process prior to the discussion on the increase. The increase was passed the day that he presented for a Class I permit. He turned in the application in late November or early December. In reality, he is going to pay back the sewer anyway with the new units that are hooking on to the system. It will be adding to the sewer income. There was a discussion on the units and the costs. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that through the sewer project, the Council had discussed several times that the \$500 hook-up fee was not enough. It had been discussed for the year prior to getting the study back from the engineers which showed what the hook-up fee should raise. The study came back in October of 2021 and it was discussed in November and December. Then in January they had a public hearing and passed the resolution raising the rate. It was not because it was the day that Mr. Loosli was presenting or anything, it was just because the process was being finalized. The connection fee or hook-up fee is supposed to be a buy in to the system or what the other users have put into the system over the years. The City has a study, it should be what it costs to buy into a system that the users have been paying for over the years. Also – if they were to do a well and septic out in the county, City Clerk Stegelmeier is of the opinion that they could not do it for any less cost. Mr. Loosli and Mr. Hess had asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to apply the grandfathering but she explained that any change in fees was the responsibility of the City Council. There was some discussion on timing of the permits and the fees with the City Attorney. Tyler Hess explained that the thing is that they were never notified about any changes to the fee and he is upset. He doesn't know who would be responsible to notify them that would be but they were never told. Councilman Kaelberer said it was public record. They were only ones at the time that were looking to develop and it was never mentioned. He then talked about timing. There was a discussion with Administrator Bowersox and the developers on timing. Councilwoman Hansen explained that she has looked through Administrator Bowersox's notes. There has been mistakes on both sides. The squeaky wheel gets the grease and there needed to be more communications. She is also concerned that maybe their application is something that should be a Class II permit. Administrator Bowersox said she was trying to follow the information from the AIC training so that it would eliminate some of the public hearings, etc. Councilwoman Hansen started the conversation on grandfathering with suggesting the possibility of giving them the grandfathered price for the first two buildings – 6 units in total. City Attorney Angel asked if he could express his opinion on grandfathering. In the past – there was no consideration like this and in the future, there is no plan for such consideration. He wants to make sure that the Council would treat another applicant, for example – the Good To Go project that was heard the same night in January as this project, the same way. Mayor Mattingly explained that the Council had been discussing the sewer hookup for a long time. They have been checking with other cities, in fact, Island Park sewer hookup is \$8000. He said \$500 didn't even cover the time the employees put in per unit. Councilman Kaelberer said they had studies for other cities and had done quite a bit of homework into the fee. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her opinion that every case is different. Councilman Scafe wanted clarification that Rumsey project was later. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that it was later. Councilman Funke said that the day it is hooked up is the day the price is what it is.

Councilman Kaelberer made a motion that the charge for sewer hookups on the Loosli/Hess project are \$2500 per EDU. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. Mayor Mattingly called for a roll call vote: Councilman Funke, aye; Councilman Scafe, aye; Councilwoman Hansen, aye; Councilman Kaelberer; aye. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Projects 2022 Update –City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier said that the administrator and engineers have not heard back on the grant or loan on

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the wastewater project. The Railroad Avenue project is out to bid and the Council will discuss the bids at the next meeting. There will be slurry sealing this summer on more of the city streets. City Clerk Stegelmeier talked about the multi-purpose court and the bid on the asphalt bid. It is quite a bit lower and the handicapped spaces need to be completed to get the funding.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to accept the \$24,800 asphalt bid at the multi-purpose courts.

Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the budget prep calendar was there and it shows that they will meet on the 18th for the budget review and drive around. They discussed the meeting, etc. They went over some of the budget requests. They talked about grants and trying to get one for the Maple Leaf Drive project. They talked about needing to get started on the project or wait to try to get grants. They will discuss it more at the next meeting.

7. Pool Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained the processes that she has been going through to try to get applicants for lifeguards. She still does not have any applicants. The supervisor is coming back. City Clerk Stegelmeier contacted ICRMP for more info on whether the pool could open with no lifeguard on duty. They replied with Idaho Code saying that it could but there is a capacity limit of 35 people and that children under 14 would need to have an adult in the pool with them. She is still working on the logistics. There are not lifeguards for lessons. They talked about wages and raising the wages. There needs to be two staff members at the pool. Mayor Mattingly said we could go up a little on wages. Need local kids because of the price of fuel. Talked about fees. Councilman Scafe says to get the information out. City Clerk Stegelmeier will get more information to the Council next month.

8. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier that she has put the new rate study for Schiess in the packet for their information. Councilman Scafe had gone through the information and said it was nice to have it. She then went over the upcoming schedule.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 9:22 pm.

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ City Council/P&Z 6:00 p.m. – Wednesday, June 1, 2022 Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Regular City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, June 8, 2022 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

Cathy Stegelmeier
City Clerk

Tom Mattingly
Mayor