

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

7:00 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.*

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing will be required which may impact the amount of people able to attend the meeting.

ALSO: Temperature screening will be required.

**Please do not attend the meeting if you feel sick or have been around those who have been sick.**

### CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

**PRAYER OFFERED BY: Teresa Hansen**

**PLEDGE LED BY: John Kaelberer**

**In Attendance:** Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, Jerry Funke, Tadd Atchley and John Kaelberer.

**Also, in attendance:** City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Tony Kissner, Nick Hale, Brett Griffel, Kathy Scafe and Jaden Jackson.

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 6-10-2020, Special Meeting 6-24-2020
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

Councilman Atchley made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

### 2. AMEND AGENDA:

*Items presented for addition to the agenda following posting. The City Council may amend the agenda to include these items if warranted.*

- A. **5. Bid for Electrical Upgrade at City Building – Mayor Mattingly, Chief Griffel**

Councilman Atchley made a motion to add the item as presented. Councilman Kaelberer 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.*

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

Jaden reported that the contractors are on the last part of the project. They should be done in two more weeks. Councilman Funke asked if this will finish the whole project as bid. Jaden replied that it will.

### 4. Screen for the Wastewater Facility Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Brett Griffel **ACTION ITEM**

Brett Griffel had brought some photos from the lagoon and asked the council if they had them. He explained that citizens are flushing a lot more sanitizing, baby and personal wipes. It is making quite a problem at the lagoon. The wipes get caught in the aerators and cause them to stop and sometimes burn

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up the motors. One motor has now been replaced but the bigger problem is that the mixing is not happening. The mixers need to run so that the effluent process can be completed. Different types of screens were discussed. The Council asked Brett to look at other screens at other facilities, get with the engineers for their suggestions and bring back some ideas to discuss.

### **5. Bid for Electrical Upgrade at City Building – Mayor Mattingly, Chief Griffel**

Nick Hale and Tony Kissner from Jewell Electric have looked at the City Building to tell us what needs to be done to get a generator installed for emergencies. Nick explained that the building has a lot of electrical issues. The panels are simply not safe. He brought a bid for a Generac generator, materials to install the generator, materials to fix the electrical panels and labor. To do all of it is \$79,885. The City Council discussed the problems and bids with him. Councilman Funke asked if an exhaust fan for the shop was included. Nick did not have that on his list so he will get a bid to the City for that item. City Councilwoman Hansen asked for a breakdown of the bid to see what each thing costs. Mayor Mattingly thanked Nick for his time and said that the Council would consider the bid and get back with him.

### **6. P & Z Report – Administrator Sara Bowersox **ACTION ITEM****

P&Z Administrator Bowersox explained that there is a lot of activity now that we are in the thick of summer. Most of it is fairly routine – fences, sheds, porches. She did want to speak to them about the Comprehensive Plan update. She has not received any of the questionnaires back from the City Council or employees. It is important that those involved in the City participate in the update. Ashton citizens do not want an outsider to come in to tell them what the City should do. We need to know from the general public what they want while trying not to influence it with our own opinion. Based on what she has read in the comp plan - it does not need a lot of change. It can just be reviewed and can be still valid with little or no change. There are some points she thinks the City Council should consider. Housing is going to be needed and they might want to redefine what allow in residential zones. Another item is maybe a distinction between heavy vs light industrial. Right now, it is just commercial or industrial - maybe there is the need for some manufacturing in the commercial zone. Bicycles manufacturing comes to mind. The Highway Commercial zone does not list hotels – maybe we just want to add motels. Or make a zone called the Gateway Zone. Maybe an institutional (gov't and schools) needs to be added. Councilman Kaelberer asked what would be the advantage of having that zone. P&Z Administrator Bowersox said that it would list what restrictions would be needed or different in that zone. Another item is revisiting the conditional use permit – may not be needed with new zones. Is it needed at all or can we address the problem through different means? Administrator Bowersox then listed some items outside of the code. The first was licensing short term rentals or businesses. Councilman Atchley said that other cities/counties have had problems with the regulations. The State of Idaho has said that short term rentals cannot be forbidden but the license can say things like – there has to be real live person that has to be on the premises on the property. P&Z Administrator Bowersox has spoken with City Clerk Stegelmeier about business licensing and knows that her concern is that the City has to be able to monitor & enforce the code. Councilwoman Hansen likes the idea of a business license to know what businesses we have in town. Councilwoman Hansen and P&Z Administrator Bowersox have discussed the situation and would like the council members to gather information from their constituents. City Clerk Stegelmeier will put it on the agenda for next month.

### **7. Pool, Visitor Center and Tennis Court Information – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

City Clerk Stegelmeier reported that the pool is back up and running. The Visitor Center is still under construction but should be completed soon. City Clerk Stegelmeier had no information on the Tennis Court.

### **8. Utility Rate Study Alternatives – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM****

City Clerk Stegelmeier reported that there is a company that Marvin Fielding has been working with that has some software that helps water/sewer system managers track the expenses versus the revenue of the

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systems in order to make sure the base rates are equitable. The company is called Waterworth. They will set the City up for free right now. Cities like Ammon and organizations like Idaho Rural Water are using the company. Idaho Rural Water may work with them eventually to have it for all their members. City Attorney Angell expressed his opinion that bigger cities pay firms all the time to come up with this sort of schedule to make sure that the rates cover the costs of the infrastructure. He thinks it is a good way to start. The Council directed City Clerk Stegelmeier to work on getting started with Waterworth.

### **9. Budget and Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier *ACTION ITEM***

City Clerk Stegelmeier spoke to the Council about the budget and the items the Council had directed her to put in the budget. She will not have the final numbers from the County until the last week in July. She will bring a proposed budget for approval at the August meeting.

Councilman Funke explained that he was upset about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Last year the pool was open on the fourth. He believes that it should be open. He had some people from out of town who wanted to go to the pool. He got rhubarb over it pretty hard. The Mayor and Council all agreed that the pool should be open next year on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting ended at 8:23 pm.

### **NEXT MEETING**

- ◆ City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, August 12, 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