

Ashton Urban Renewal Agency

Meeting Minutes
June 30, 2011
Ashton, Idaho

Chairman Jeff Hamilton called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. Those attending were Jeff Hamilton, MaryLou Davis, Mayor Teddy Stronks, Terry Butikofer and Judy Coy.

Chairman Hamilton asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the May 10, 2011 meeting. No changes were suggested and a motion was made by Mayor Stronks to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by MaryLou Davis. Motion carried.

Chairman Hamilton presented an invoice from ECIPDA for administrative services in the amount of \$3,035.25 which was for the time period January 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011. A motion was made by Chairman Hamilton to approve payment of the invoice. Mayor Stronks seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chairman Hamilton then presented an invoice from Elam & Burke in the amount of \$942.00. A motion was made by MaryLou Davis to pay the bill as presented. Mayor Stronks seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chairman Hamilton then presented an invoice from Harlan Mann in the amount of \$94.60. A motion was made by Chairman Hamilton to pay the invoice as presented. Mayor Stronks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

Chairman Hamilton stated that there was a flurry of activity on Monday past to get the filing done for the Board of Equalization. He was appreciative of all of the effort that went into getting the work completed. Terry Butikofer then stated that in the letter from Ryan Armbruster it stated that there is precedence for a group like Ashton Memorial to seek relief on taxes. Whether they get approved or not depends on the County Commissioners who have a lot of power in that area. He noted that Ashton Memorial didn't really fit under the hospital exemption but more under the beneficial public charity or body exemption if they fit at all. Chairman Hamilton stated that there was a reference that Ashton Memorial's umbrella is one of nonprofit under a hospital scenario with their difference locations. He felt that each location needs to be separately reviewed and analyzed. Mayor Stronks felt that the first tactic is to educate the Commissioners on what urban renewal is. Ashton Memorial has been paying taxes since 2000 so they had been paying taxes for nine years and then they suddenly come up with the idea of not paying taxes and become tax exempt. Mayor Stronks felt that the Commissioners did not realize that urban renewal helps the City of Ashton. He felt that they didn't realize what they did to the City when they exempted those taxes. Terry noted that he did send the Commissioners some basic urban renewal information to help them to understand urban renewal better. Chairman Hamilton stated that conceptually they don't understand the goal and objective of urban renewal is to take advantage of new development and take advantage of the new tax increase that comes with new development and to rebalance and maintain an orderly semblance of upkeep both in the new and old areas of the downtown. It is not there to completely put it on a welfare program but to assist. The other example of what impact the exemption will have would be that by being exempted that parcel takes away from the dollars urban renewal has to do new projects. The county feels that they did not have to inform the urban renewal of the change in the tax status of Ashton Memorial. A plan was discussed for presentation to the Commissioners. The time of the hearing was July 8th at 2:00 PM at the Fremont County Courthouse. Chairman Hamilton and Mayor Stronks were scheduled to attend the hearing and make the presentation.

Amending the Urban Renewal Plan

Chairman Hamilton noted that the amendment to the Plan would still be on hold until the tax exemption issue is resolved.

New Projects

Mayor Stronks presented the quotes from Mountain States Lighting for just the lights. The quote for 15 light poles at \$1,690.00/pole came to \$25,945.00 with freight and shipping. Chairman Hamilton stated that he had talked to Brian Christensen at BECO and Brian felt that he should come out and look at what the project would entail so that he could prepare a bid that would be exactly for what the Agency had intended. No quote had been received to date.

Chairman Hamilton noted that the Board should be looking at target properties to include in the new area. He stated that Mr. Armbruster was pointing at including city blocks but it was felt that it might be better to take smaller parcels but everyone was encouraged to be thinking about it. Chairman Hamilton asked the question of whether the City would consider condemning the old hospital building. Mayor Stronks commented that they are considering possibilities for that building in the cities budgeting process.

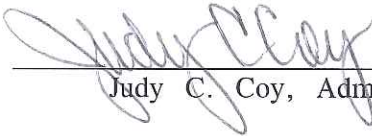
The next meeting date was to be scheduled after the Board of Equalization issue with Ashton Memorial was determined. A motion was made by Chairman Hamilton to adjourn the meeting at 4:37 PM. Mayor Stronks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes accepted by:



Chairman Jeff Hamilton
Assistant

Minutes prepared by:


Judy C. Coy, Administrative