

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

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: Teresa Hansen**  
**PLEDGE LED BY: Teddy Stronks**

**In Attendance: Teddy Stronks, Teresa Hansen, Becky Harrigfeld and Tadd Atchley.**

**Also in attendance: City Attorney Angell, Tom Cluff, Todd Martindale, Rick Miller, Sheryl Hill, Marvin Fielding, John Scafe, Brandy Burlage, Devin Burton, Michelle O'Malley and Shon Shuldberg.**

**Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.**

### 1. AMEND AGENDA:

*Any items added less than forty eight (48) hours prior to the meeting are added by Council motion at this time.*

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS: A. Council Inquiry – Devin Burton

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to amend the Agenda to add Council Inquiry from Devin Burton. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2. CONSENT AGENDA:

*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 Special Council Meeting Minutes 12-7-2016.
- B. **Treasurers Report & Financial Statement**– As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted
- E. **Budget Report** – Worksheet showing the revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year to date

Mayor Stronks excused City Clerk Stegelmeier as she is snowed in at home. City Attorney Angell is not in attendance but Mayor Stronks suggested that the roads or weather may be affecting his attendance. Mayor Stronks explained that City Clerk Stegelmeier had added some more invoices to the payment approval report and had Deputy Clerk Warnke print new reports for their approval.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. PRESENTATIONS, CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. State of the City Address – Mayor Stronks  
Mayor Stronks gave his annual State of the City Address. A full copy of the address is included in the full record of the meeting.

### 4. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

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

- A. American Dog Derby 2017 – John Scafe  
John Scafe is here to report on the progress of preparation for the 2017 American Dog Derby. There will be enough snow this year! They have lost a key volunteer since Klara Varga has moved but

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Klara did find someone to take her place prior to leaving. The mutt race will still be a great time for the kids at the Dog Race. A lot of new volunteers have come and are helping. It is looking like everything is going well. They have their insurance. There is a snow mobile race planned at the old football field. Varley Sanford is organizing it. It will bring in more people to town which should be good. The businesses in town have donated more for advertising. Cabela's is still sponsoring the race but with less money than they thought. It is the 100 year anniversary of the race so the dog derby committee is looking at running the race down Main Street. They are working with ITD on this and hoping to get it going - working out the final details. The businesses and mushers are hoping that they can run it down Main Street. Having mushers signing up, the one traveling the furthest so far is from Minnesota. There will be some great souvenirs. Councilman Funke asked what the dates of the race are and John explained it will be held February 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. It is always held the third weekend in February. The snow cross race starts at 3 pm on Friday and on Saturday will be at 9 am. Hoping to work out parking and running down the Main Street for nostalgia. The Museum will be open too, they will be showing the old photos, trophies, etc. of the Dog Race. John thanked the City and the Community for their support. There will be the Mutt Race, Weight Pull, Raffle, Museum and the Snow Cross for people to enjoy so hopefully everyone will come out and support it. Councilwoman Hansen asked if the businesses will be open for the race to support it. John said that what he has heard is that they are excited and ready to be open. John explained that his focus in all of it is a safe, community event. Mayor Stronks thanked John for coming to the meeting.

### B. Funding Update for Wastewater Project – Rick Miller

Rick is here to go over what was discussed concerning the loans for the Wastewater Project last meeting. He brought the spread sheet from last time and explained the DEQ loan fund availability as discussed in the December meeting. When comparing the different funds available the DEQ loan looks better for the City than the USDA loan fund with the amortization, etc. The best timing is the DEQ loan at 30 year loan. It will save almost a million dollars in the amortization if borrowing from the DEQ. There is also a possible \$250,000 grant that may be available from the Army Corps of Engineers. Other benefits with the DEQ are that the DEQ funds are available but USDA loan would take a while to fund. The other is that the DEQ does not require interim financing. Interim financing can cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$40,000 so that will also save funds. Councilman Funke inquired as to what the increase on the water bill would be with the DEQ 30 year loan. Rick replied that it will raise the bill \$ 17.45 for a base rate of \$ 57.75 – if the Army Corps money is granted it will drop the base rate to \$56.34. Rick is working to capture all the savings he can for the City. Mayor Stronks thanked Rick for his time. The loan applications were due to the DEQ the previous Friday so Rick completed the paperwork, the Mayor signed the application and the DEQ has received it. It will take four weeks for approval and then the DEQ will send an offer for funding to the City.

### C. Design Contract with Keller, Assoc. – Marvin Fielding

Marvin Fielding is here to go over the design contract with the Mayor and Council. It is a long contract because Keller Associates used the form that the funding agency wants them to use. Councilwoman Harrigfeld asked City Attorney Angell if he had noted any problems with the contract. He explained that he had looked over the contract and found none. Mayor Stronks expressed his opinion that the contract is basic and he had no questions. Marvin explained that Keller Associates did have a question for the City on the insurance coverage carried by the City. They may need to adjust the amounts that they listed if the amounts are different. City Attorney Angell suggested that Marvin get with City Clerk Stegelmeier to get those amounts. Sheryl Hill spoke up from the audience and asked if she could ask a question of Marvin. Mayor Stronks allowed the question. Sheryl explained that there is a large commercial development that is coming to the City of Ashton which maybe Marvin had heard of in the last City Council meeting. Sheryl has done some rough calculations and finds that this building is equivalent to about 15 new houses. It seems to her that it

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is going to consume 10 years of the growth potential for the modifications to the wastewater system. If the design of the project will be complete by the end of March or April and if there is a facility needs study done for that new development and if it is found that changes need to be made, can those changes be incorporated into the design? Marvin explained that he would just have to look at how much of that existing capacity that project would take and then it would be a decision of the Council from there. Sheryl asked if he thought that 15 houses would be a fairly significant consideration. Marvin explained that the studies, both the previous water study and this wastewater study, both anticipated a design population of 1300 to 1400 people (the current population is 1126). They would have to look at how much of that capacity would be taken up by the development. Councilman Funke asked if there would be enough City water. He is concerned as there have been wells in the area that had gone dry last year. Marvin explained he had been involved in the water study and knows what was involved including the calculations. It is something that could be looked at again if the Council directs him to do so. Councilman Funke expressed his opinion that it would be better to be on top of the situation. Councilman Funke also explained that he has found a source for gravel to add to the list for the bid documents for contractors. Marvin said he would get the information from him to add to the documents. Councilwoman Hansen asked Marvin if he needed anything else from the Council. Marvin explained that if the contract is agreeable, he is just hoping for an approval from the Council. They are ready to start and want to get working on the design as soon as possible. It is a pretty aggressive schedule to have the design ready by March. He does want to point out that, as pointed out in the contract, there will be three bids: bio solids removal and disposal; treatment improvements; and collection system improvements. They will bid the bio solid and treatment work to then see how much budget there is left. More collection lines will be replaced if there is budget left to complete the work. Marvin went on to explain that he also filled out a letter of interest for funding through DEQ. If the loan the City has applied for goes through the DEQ will just take the City off the list.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to accept the design contract with Keller Associates. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

P&Z Commission/Administrator – Tom Cluff

Tom Cluff is here to introduce himself. He is the Planning & Building Administrator for the County. The County is going to be allowing him to assist the City by acting as the City's Administrator while the City looks for a new Administrator. He will be meeting with the P&Z Commission the following week and after that they can begin to look at specific applications, etc. Mayor Stronks explained that he, Councilwoman Hansen & Councilman Funke met with Tom and gave him information on upcoming applications, etc. They talked about going through the proper procedures and Tom will work with the Commission to get them going. City Attorney Angell will be able to help with that also. Councilwoman Hansen explained also that now the City should get the job opening listed in the paper or whatever in order to get someone hired. She feels that it would be a great idea for the new administrator to shadow Tom for a while if possible. Mayor Stronks thanked Tom for his time.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:**

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

#### **A. Council Inquiry - Devin Burton**

Devin Burton explained that this is probably old business also. The amendment to de-annex his property wasn't completed in time for taxes so he went ahead and paid the taxes. Instead of asking that a check be written to him, he is asking that a credit be placed on his City utility bill. The amount paid was \$ 153.31 that was paid on just to the City. Devin explained that if this was granted, City Clerk Stegelmeier had told him to make sure that it granted by motion. It should be cleared up for 2017.

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Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion that the City give Devin a credit of \$ 153.31 his City utility bills in lieu of the taxes that he paid on that property. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier

Mayor Stronks dispensed with the scheduling as City Clerk is not here.

Mayor Stronks explained that there was an executive session planned.

Councilman Funke asked if there were any more questions from the audience. Mayor Stronks said he didn't think there were any more questions.

### **6. 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.*

(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student;

(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;

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to enter an executive session per Idaho Code section 74-206 (b & f). Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Funke, aye; Atchley, aye; Hansen, aye; Harrigfeld, aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Stronks excused the audience. The Council entered executive session at 7:43 pm.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to exit executive session. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. A roll call vote was taken: Funke, aye; Atchley, aye; Hansen, aye; Harrigfeld, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no information on the recording as to what time the Council exited executive session.

### **7. ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **NEXT MEETING**

- ◆ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, February 8, 2017, Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meeting 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

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Theo R. Stronks

Mayor