

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (North Entrance)
Conference Room

*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.*

THERE WAS NO QUORUM OF THE COUNCIL.

This record is for information only.

Teddy welcomed everyone at 7:03 pm. He explained that he would like to keep this meeting to an hour if possible.

1. TABLE TOP EXERCISE:

An exercise directed by the Fremont County Emergency Manager designed to help local churches with emergency preparation.

Bob Foster explained that he thinks the first step is to differentiate between types of emergencies. For regular emergencies such as fire, flood, earthquake, etc. There are the basics like having blankets, food, medical supplies, cash for immediate needs, etc. Each family should also work towards having these items as well. There should be planning as well as practice for these emergencies.

A shooting is another response all together but planning is still important. Some of the planning will seem really foreign to what you do at church. The first step is to establish an emergency response team for a shooting type incident. They will need to use a plan and get specific – a good outline of what they would do in a situation with an active shooter. They should also organize an emergency drill so that everyone in the congregation is aware of the reaction for a threat response. It is probable that congregation will know the shooter. It will be someone who has mental issues and church leaders may have had to counsel them often. A church security plan is important. Questions like: Who has access? Or who is in charge? Need to be answered. Members have awareness of problems, what could happen and how to handle these situations. The workbook given out earlier has some profiles of troubled individuals. The discussion turned to carrying firearms in the Church. Chief Griffel explained that whomever you designate to be in charge to handle the threat will need to be willing and confident in their ability. They will need to have the confidence of the congregation and the pastor.

Discussion turned to the county emergency plan. The faith based and civil based planning is not integrated and that may be a problem. It would be a good idea to practice together to be comfortable with each other. A good idea would be to practice together to have a fully integrated response system. The pipe burst that happened the previous year at the Ashton Living Center was discussed. That was a great example of how government could work together with churches to help people in need. PLAN, PREPARE, AND PRACTICE. That is what is needed.

Bob encouraged each congregation to go through the workbook he had given to be prepared for the next meeting. He also encouraged them to get a crisis response team established. He encouraged everyone to let the local emergency response agencies know what they can do to help their organizations.

Teddy expressed his hope to meet again in April. A meeting was set for April 18th at 7 PM.