

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (North Entrance)

*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.*

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PRAYER OFFERED BY: Teresa Hansen
PLEDGE LED BY: Tadd Atchley

In Attendance: Teddy Stronks, Teresa Hansen, Tadd Atchley, Jerry Funke and Tom Mattingly.

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, Kyle Jones, Joette Lookabaugh, Steve Lookabaugh, David Reinke, Linda Reinke, Tamra Cikaitoga Sheryl Hill and Sara Bowersox.

Mayor Stronks welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Reading of Proposed Ordinance 472-18 – FY2018 Budget Amendment
Mayor Stronks opened the hearing on Ordinance 472-18 at 7:03 pm.

He asked City Clerk Stegelmeier if the proper notice had been given and to give a summary of the amendment. City Clerk Stegelmeier said that a copy affidavit of publication indicating the proper notice is included in the Council packets. She then explained that the Visitor Center Fund and General Fund both need to be amended for the overage in cost for the kiosks at the Visitor Center. The General Fund is involved because the additional funds will need to come through it. The Street Fund will need to be amended because of the AURA Sidewalk Project.

- B. Public Comment (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)
There was no public comment
- C. Reading of Proposed Ordinance 473-18 – FY2019 Budget
- D. Public Comment (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)
There were no signed in speakers. Mayor Stronks asked if there was anyone in the audience would like to speak.

Joette Lookabaugh, 2781 E. 800 N., Chester, Idaho. Joette explained that she would use the Ashton tennis court facility if it repaired. In her understanding of the new plan to repair the tennis courts will be moved off the adjacent property. After serving as City Attorney for several years and trying to negotiate concerning this encroachment, she feels that moving them would be a great way to solve the problem and avoid any further issues with the other property owner. Joette and her husband are avid pickle ball players and the new project would have a pickle ball court. Pickle Ball is a burgeoning sport and she is sure it will be used by families. She is against a skate park because as prosecutor she was aware that the St. Anthony skate park was a place where bullying was a problem along with the injuries that come from the sport. Joette supports the City repairing the Tennis Court.

Steve Lookabaugh, 2781 E. 800 N., Chester, Idaho. Steve explained that he is pro Pickle Ball and moving the tennis court. He thinks that if Ashton had a Pickle Ball court there would be many users. Right now, players have to travel either to Idaho Falls or Island Park to play. It is a sport that player

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

young and old love and is good exercise. Families can play together. Driggs' solution has been to put both the tennis court lines and pickle ball lines on the same court. Pickle ball is an inexpensive sport. Steve supports repairing the courts.

Tamra Cikaitoga, 947 Idaho Street, Ashton, Idaho. Tamra explained that she serves on the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant board. This is the fund that helped to build the tennis courts. She explained a little about the fund and what sort of projects they fund. Tamra went on to explain that the City promised at that time that the property would be dedicated to outdoor recreation. Any change from that would mean that the Land and Water Conservation Fund may come back to the City to have funds returned. There is funding through this grant if the City would like to apply for funding to do something but it has to be outdoor recreation, not just a pavilion but actual recreation. Skate parks are often not funded. Councilman Funke enquired as to whether it was fully funded by the grant or if there is match required. It is a 50-50 match grant. There is a meeting with Land & Water Conservation Fund group in October and the applications will be due the last Friday in January. They are reviewed in March. Community involvement is needed. It may take more than one or two years for this grant but the City should move forward with fundraising, etc.

Teddy Stronks, Ashton. This is a good project which will benefit the City. Everyone is interested in this project. The High Country R, C & D administrator spoke to him and there are other grants that can be applied for. He also has donors; Joette & Steve Lookabaugh, David & Linda Reinke \$1000 and Lonnie Bollard will donate \$1000 each - \$3000 in total. He has a CHC grant for \$13,000. He knows that the City can find donors for this project.

Councilwoman Hansen wants to explain that the City has no plans for a skate park. Maybe everyone got that idea from a discussion at the last meeting that there is more planning and funding needed similar to what the Council expected from the Skate Board committee a few years ago. She feels like the City has several important projects going right now. She is concerned that there is not enough money for the City to help with a shortfall. Councilman Atchley explained that the budget lists the income as coming from a grant and a budget is not real money. If the grants are not there, the City doesn't have to spend it. City Attorney Angel explained that it would be a good idea to move the court to avoid any problems with the adjacent land owner. Mayor Stronks explained that the CHC grant is only good for a year. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that maybe the City could use that grant to move the court off the other property and prepare the site if nothing else. Councilman Funke's opinion is that the City needs to complete the sewer project prior to this project. Councilman Atchley explained that they can leave it in the budget and pursue grants to complete. Councilman Funke asked Mayor Stronks about the contractor that has bid on the project. Mayor Stronks explained that the tennis court contractor that the CHC Foundation had him contact referred him to the current contractor. Councilwoman Hansen explained that she doesn't want to say that the City is going to do the project if the City does not have the money.

Mayor Stronks closed the public hearing at 7:45 pm.

2. ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION:

A. City of Ashton Ordinance 472-18 – FY2018 Budget Amendment **ACTION ITEM**

Councilman Atchley made a motion to read the City of Ashton Ordinance 470-17 by title only and dispense with the second and third readings. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

Councilman Atchley read the ordinance into the record by title.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to that Ashton City Ordinance 470-17 be approved and published. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

B. City of Ashton Ordinance 473-17 – City Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 **ACTION ITEM**

Councilman Atchley made a motion to read the City of Ashton Ordinance 473-17 by title only and dispense with the second and third readings. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Atchley read the ordinance into the record.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to that Ashton City Ordinance 470-17 be approved and published. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

3. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

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

A. AURA Street Project – Sara Bowersox, Marvin Fielding **ACTION ITEM**

Sara is here to discuss the Sidewalk Project. The bid has now come in under the budget they were planning on. She wanted to discuss something else with the Council. Sara asked the Council if they had read the newspaper article about the Council's last meeting. The Council replied that they had not read the article. Sara was disheartened by the article. She felt like when Councilwoman Hansen came to the AURA meeting, the discussion had ended positively. The article reported that the Council was quite negative about the project. She was particularly concerned about the quote from Councilman Atchley summarily saying that because AURA doesn't have the money it has become the City's problem. Councilman Atchley said that the quote had been taken out of context. He explained that the engineers were saying that the City would have problem if the project wasn't funded and the City has several projects right now that need funding besides the AURA project. He likes the project. Sara explained that she knows that there are times when things have not been reported correctly and wanted to visit with the Council to openly discuss any problems. The project has been scaled back and done in phases. Councilman Funke asked if AURA has the funding to do the whole project. Sara said that AURA does have the funding for the new cost of the project (\$291,000). Sara then said that she had heard that the Council was also concerned about the costs at the pocket park. Katie from the Development Company sent the costs in an email. The cost of the park for the whole year is \$2600 but much of the costs are water & garbage which will change when the City owns the lot. Councilman Atchley wanted to explain that things at the park may look the same as they do right now. The public works department does not have the time to weed flower beds, etc. Sara replied that the weeding is on a volunteer basis. She just wanted to be sure that the Council knew that it is not \$1800 per month.

Councilman Funke made a motion to except the bid from DePatco concerning the AURA Sidewalk Project. Councilman Mattingly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:

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

A. LHTAC Grants – Kyle Jones **ACTION ITEM**

Kyle Jones is here to talk to the Council about different grants available through LHTAC. This year the City will not be eligible again for a safety grant but there are other grants – one being a large million dollar grant. The Council talked about wanting to finish the projects they have planned. Councilman Atchley did explain, however, that the sidewalks on Main Street are becoming a safety

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

concern and that will probably be the next big project. The costs of construction were discussed and Kyle’s recommendation is to bid in late November or early December for the next year. That way the bids should be lower. Kyle also suggested speaking to Jason Minzghor at the ITD District office. There may be some help with the sidewalks through the ITD because Main Street is also a State Highway. Kyle would need the information by October to start preparing grant applications. Kyle has left Keller Associates but still has a good relationship with Marvin and Keller Associates. He changed because it was a better fit for him.

B. Farmer’s Own Ditch Pipe Project – Councilman Funke

Councilman Funke explained that the Farmer’s Own Canal, in which the City owns stock have a decision that stockholders in which stockholder votes are needed. The bids for moving the ditch into a pipeline have come back higher than expected and the stockholders need to vote on the overage. City Attorney Angel explained that as this is an amendment to the agenda, a vote of the Council will need to wait. Councilman Funke said he would let the Council know if a vote will be needed prior to the next Council meeting.

5. 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;

Councilman Atchley made a motion to enter executive session. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the vote. A roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council entered executive session at 8:18 PM. City Clerk Stegelmeier was asked to leave.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to come out of executive session. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council exited Executive Session at 8:40 PM.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

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

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, September 12, 2018, Council Chambers. 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

Theo R. Stronks
Mayor