

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, August 30, 2016

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: Becky Harrigfeld**  
**PLEDGE LED BY: Tadd Atchley**

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

**Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, Kyle Baldwin, Pauline Johnson, Valre Hull and Lisa Smith.**

**Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 6:58 pm and dispensed with the prayer & pledge.**

### 1. PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. Reading of Proposed Ordinance 470-17
- B. Public Comment (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)

Mayor Stronks opened the public hearing at 7:01 pm. There were no names on the sign-up sheet. Mayor Stronks asked if anyone in the audience would like to comment. There were no comments. Mayor Stronks closed the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

### 2. ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION:

- A. City of Ashton Ordinance 470-17 – City Budget for Fiscal Year 2018

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

Councilwoman Harrigfeld read the ordinance into the record.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld 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. Parks Grant Discussion – Pauline Johnson

Pauline and the Council discussed the plan and the alternatives that Pauline had brought to them. The tennis courts and a parking lot there will have to wait until another grant or donation can be worked on. The restrooms were discussed with porta potti pad and structure. Councilman Atchley would like to complete the whole project but is unsure on budget. Councilwoman Hansen is also concerned about the budget. City Clerk Stegelmeier reminded them that there is a savings in the General Fund that could help. Urban Renewal would like to repair the small pavilion, etc. There may be other places to find some grant money.

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

Councilman Atchley made a motion that the ECIPDA write the grant application using option 1 which will include the pool repair, parking, concrete pad for porta potties and walking path. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### B. City Employee Insurance – Mayor Stronks

City Attorney Angell explained that this discussion should be in open meeting but the Council needs to be cautious in speaking about any individual employee. They should be careful not to mention employee names. Mayor Stronks talked about always trying to pay for health insurance for the employees and dependents if the City could keep doing it. Mayor Stronks explained that he attended a meeting this month with 17 other Mayors from this area. He has made a list for the Council. Only Rexburg and Pocatello pay for dependents. Most cities cannot afford to pay for both. He spoke with City Clerk Stegelmeier and this year the City paid \$61,545 for the dependents. Next year it is going up to \$72,788. With the employees, the total will be \$159,987. Mayor Stronks then said that in the budget just passed, saving will need to be used to balance the budget. He feels that the City can't keep taking loss in their budget. This is taxpayer money and the City needs to be diligent in using it for the citizens. Driggs is paying 80 percent of their dependents. Mayor Stronks has talked to Councilman Funke and he is willing to go 50 percent. Next year the grandfather status may go away and there is no way the City will be able to pay for all like it has. He would like to start out telling the employees and having Ballard insurance come and meet with them and tell them what kind of options they have. Some of those options are better for their families. Councilman Atchley explained that the insurance is a plus in getting good employees. Councilwoman Hansen explained that there are some other ways that may be better for them. Coming off parents and going to the exchange can be great for some of the older children, etc. City Attorney Angell thinks that with the insurance agent speaking individually with families will be good. He praised Mayor Stronks for the information he put together on this insurance. Mayor Stronks will talk to the employees at the next employee meeting and City Clerk Stegelmeier will make an appointment with Ballard Insurance to speak with the employees.

### C. Election and Budget Amendment – City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the dates for candidate filing which is in progress and ends on September 8<sup>th</sup>. She then went over the budget amendment that will come before them next month. Rick's retirement party was also discussed. It will be Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 to 8 pm.

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

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

### A. Water at 357 Highland – Valre Hull

Valre is here about the City bill at a house at 357 Highland. It is owned by her son Chad Hull. He has not paid his water bill. Valre would like to get the house ready to sell and she came in to speak with City Clerk Stegelmeier about getting the water for cleaning. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the bill is far enough behind that Valre would need to come to City Council. Valre would like to pay the current – which is the bill since the balance was certified to the taxes – and keep up with it until the house is sold. Valre said that the certified amounts will be paid as part of the sale.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to allow Valre Hull to pay the bill up to date and maintain the bill in exchange for the City turning the water on. The past bill will be paid with the taxes when the home sells. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Atchley made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Harrigfeld seconded the motion. The motion

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

passed unanimously

### **NEXT MEETING**

- ◆ Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 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