

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

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: Tadd Atchley
PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

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

Also in attendance: City Attorney Angell, City Clerk Stegelmeier, Police Chief Griffel, Matt Brady, Sharlene Bergeson, Dave Jacobsen, Judy Smith, Kaylie Bowman, Sara Bowersox, Sheryl Hill, Jan Albertson, Bill Stephens, Ron Palmer, Shon Shuldberg, Holly Shuldberg and Rachel Hatton.

Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:02 pm.

1. 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 Meeting Minutes 5-10-2017, Special Council Minutes 5-24-2017
- 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

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

2. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

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

- A. Text Amendment to the Development Code – Accessory Building as a Commercial Office or Shop – P&Z Administrator Tom Cluff & Kyle Baldwin
Mayor Stronks asked new City P&Z Administrator Kyle Baldwin to explain to the council his thoughts on the text amendment. Kyle explained that it seems that Tom is saying that the text amendment would allow us to look at them on a case by case because they have to go through the Class II process. Kyle thinks that a special use permit would serve us better. He is basing this idea on the definitions in the land use planning handbook concerning residential and commercial properties. He explained that there are several differences in how residential and commercial properties should be handled. Councilwoman Hansen asked, "So your recommendation is that add a special use permit?" Kyle said that it was and that he feels this would serve us well now and in the future. It would allow this particular owner to build what he is hoping to and would allow looking at it by a case by case situation in the future. It would also allow the City to more tightly define the uses. Councilman Funke asked, "If we change it (the code) would the change be legislative instead of quasi-judicial?" City Attorney Angell said it would be legislative. Councilwoman Hansen expressed her opinion that she feels that commercial shops in residential could be a problem but that the property that has been in question is possibly in a place that it would not be a problem because of the surrounding area. Kyle explained that other problems could be that if there is a lot split then the current proposed amendment would be a problem because the shop would no longer be an accessory building. Kyle will put a proposed special use permit amendment together and then take

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it to the P&Z commission. City Attorney Angell expressed his opinion that the special use permit is a good thought. He went on to say; “The lawyer in me would just caution that a conditional use permit can be used creatively. An experienced developer can use it for almost anything.” He went on to explain that it is a mechanism to allow for those situations that the code does not address. Conditions can be placed on the permittees and permits can be seen on a case by case basis. He did say that the City might need to be concerned that it be used to apply for a conditional use permit for a four story hotel. Most cities have some form of a conditional use permit.

Councilwoman Hansen explained that getting one in place now as we are growing would be a good idea. Mayor Stronks asked Kyle to have something back to the Council soon. City Attorney Angell explained that it will need to go before the P&Z Commission for review and discussion – then a public hearing before the P&Z Commission then another at City Council. The process may take a couple of months. Kyle explained that he will get something to P&Z this next meeting.

B. City Building Use – Chief Griffel

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the other bid for the heating/cooling system at the Police Building came in higher than the JUDCO bid so JUDCO is just about finished putting in the system. Councilman Atchley explained that JUDCO did get the chance to come back and revise their bid following the other bidder’s walkthrough because the sheetrock had been removed and a comparable bid was needed. The building seems to be coming along nicely and will be done soon.

C. Solar Eclipse Discussion – Police Chief Griffel, Officer Wes Owens, Sewer Supervisor Jensen, Water Supervisor Martindale, City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the eclipse story ran in the newsletter for June and that meetings with the County are ongoing for anyone who would like to attend.

D. Archives Digitation – Sara Bowersox

Sara Bowersox is here to update the Mayor and City Council on the archiving digitization process. Sara has learned a lot about the process and has spoken with the State Historical Society along with many others. In making a plan for the project, she has found that the physical preservation of the artifacts at home is the most important thing. The archive items could be sent over to Boise to the State Historical Society but they mean something more here in Ashton. The items need to be preserved in case of a disaster. There will need to be two locations for the digital items – one place could be cloud based and then one here on site. She has also learned the just because the Archive has physical custody of the items, it does not mean that it has the copyright. There will need to be some documentation done before some items can be placed on the website. The State Archive has a standard of 15 data elements and the Archive committee has agreed to use that standard. This means that each article will need to be named or indexed. They have started on the obituaries – after they are indexed (or named) they will take them to BYU Idaho to scan it. Sara then explained that this may be the time to discuss the location of the Archives in the future. She talked about just moving everything into the back room or moving to the museum. She explained that the discussion needs to start now. The process will take quite a while but organization will be key to the success of the project. She is proud that the process so far has been a real team effort with the Archive Committee, etc. Mayor Stronks asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to contact the Fremont County Historical Society for the next council meeting. He then thanked Sara for her report.

E. Sewer Project Update – Marvin Fielding

Marvin explained that he had written the council a letter for their last meeting. Since that time the bio solids have been completed and now the contractors are replacing the inlet. They will then get

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it backfilled, then start refilling the pond. As the council knows, there were more bio solids in the pond than anticipated. They got about half of the bio solids out. Six million gallons were anticipated and 8.5 were removed. If there is money left after the bidding is done on the main phase, it is possible to try to get more solids removed. When the pond one was drained there was some seepage noted. Marvin recommends is that the City go ahead and refill the ponds. There is a certain amount of seepage allowed and the ponds may pass inspection. If more work needs to be done, the only thing the City may expend is time. The design of the project is almost complete. He is hoping to have a design review meeting in the next couple of weeks. Marvin also reported that he and Delray traveled to Jackson to see that facility. The aerators that they are using are the ones that are planned in the project. They are working great there in Jackson and saving them money. The Council asked about waiting to go out to bid because the contractors may not be needing work enough to give good bids this year. Marvin explained that in order to keep to the compliance schedule they would need to go out to bid. He explained that in his experience it is better to go out to bid and if the bids are not good, then come back to the DEQ/EPA to ask for time to get more reasonable numbers.

F. Old Post Office – Brad Rankin

Brad was not in attendance so Mayor Stronks moved on to New Business.

3. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:

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

A. Park Project – Rick Miller

Rick Miller is here to talk about a new project in the park. There is a new grant through the Idaho Department of Commerce. This grant will assist cities and counties with park projects. Part of the grant requirements are community support and he thinks that given the park that you have, you would have the support. He met with Mayor Stronks and looked at some of the items at the park. There are some ADA issues and parking issues. There needs to be a park planning assessment and park facility maintenance policy. He can help the City formulate those items. The City will need to create a wish list with cost estimates and then apply. He explained that it is a nice little grant they are doing. Councilwoman Hansen asked if the City can apply for another grant the following year. Rick said if there is community support, anything is possible. Urban Renewal can also help with some of the costs. Mayor Stronks feels that the City could get a lot of private donations also.

Councilwoman Harrigfeld made a motion to accept Rick's grant proposal contingent on the Ashton Urban Renewal Agency's involvement. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Scout Project Proposal – Chris Hansen

Chris Hansen was not in attendance so Mayor Stronks moved on to the next item.

C. Personnel Policy Discussion – Mayor Stronks

Mayor Stronks explained that the City's current Personnel Policy does not allow paying those that serve in the National Guard when they are on maneuvers. He would like to pay them for the two weeks. Councilman Atchley asked if the guard members get paid to go to the guard training. Mayor Stronks said that they just their standard wage. City Attorney Angell said the City has to hold the position and that is in the policy. He went on to say that it is entirely the Council's choice whether they pay them or not but they need to change the policy. It can be a problem if the National Guard got deployed for a year.

Councilman Harrigfeld made a motion to change the military in Personnel Policy to pay them for up to 15 days of leave. Councilwoman Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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D. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the schedule with the City Council. Transportation for the parade was discussed. Mayor Stronks asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to see if the wagon they used in last year’s parade would be available.

Councilman Funke explained that the dust control got rained out but he spoke to Gary Cooper and as soon as it is dry, they will apply the dust control liquid.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

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

NEXT MEETING

- ♦ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, July 12, 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

Theo R. Stronks
Mayor