

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, March 29, 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

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

Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Chief Griffel, Detective Owens & Michelle O'Malley

Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. City Building Use – Police Chief Griffel, City Clerk Stegelmeier
- Chief Griffel explained that he is hoping still to move the police department to the other side of the City Building. There is room in that building for office space, an interview room and an evidence locker. The most important advantage to moving though is the privacy. When there are interviews with informants or other individuals who need privacy – it is hard to get that with them having to walk through the building. Jan & Cathy have been very good at trying to give privacy but it is still a problem. It has to be uncomfortable and may be unsafe for Jan. Mayor Stronks asked if the police have thought of options for the Chamber. Chief Griffel explained that most Visitor Centers are ran by the Chamber of Commerce. The Visitor Center would be the perfect place for them. He also explained that the new Henry's Fork Building may have some space available. He has also thought that the Archives may want to move to the museum. The museum would be a good option for the Archives because we don't want to see them go away. Councilwoman Hansen explained that she and Councilman Atchley had toured the other building. She can see that a move is needed and since the City has the space – we should use it. The Chamber area is pretty messy and the City has not charged them rent. Councilman Atchley expressed his opinion that the building would suit the police well. He thinks that the City should keep the Archives as is and see how well the museum does for the next while prior to deciding on moving them. Councilwoman Harrigfeld said that she has thought for a long time that privacy for the police was needed. Chief Griffel explained that there are a lot of folks who work off their criminal charges by doing undercover things for the police. He is concerned about others knowing who they are as he feels their safety is in his hands. Detective Owens is concerned for the safety of the City Office workers – maybe not the most safe place to bring those people in and leave them right in front with Jan and/or Cathy. Councilman Funke agrees and also thinks that there is a safety concern even without the police concern. He feels there needs to be a buzzer system for emergencies. He also feels that it may not be the best time to turn over the Archives as Tom Howell may be a little overwhelmed in getting the museum up and running. Councilman Atchley expresses his opinion that we might need getting them digitized – it may be a good project for a BYU student. Then everyone could search it online. Councilwoman Harrigfeld said that the County Court is going all digital soon. She also explained that right now we could lose the whole archive if there were a fire. Mayor Stronks explained we still need to know what to do about a Chamber office. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked Councilwoman Hansen to report on her discussion with Kathy Davidson (last year's Visitor Center Director). Councilwoman Hansen reported that Kathy is not sure she will be able to run the Center again. This might be a great time to move to the Chamber responsibility at the Visitor Center. Councilwoman Hansen went on to explain that ever since she started on City Council the City has been trying to get the Chamber to take more involved at the Visitor Center. Mayor Stronks explained that the numbers of those helping at the

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Chamber have gone down and he knows they are concerned about taking something else on. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the City could allow them to keep the proceeds of the dump station and that would mean that they could hire someone for the summer. Mayor Stronks feels that someone needs to go to a Chamber meeting to explain it to them. The next Chamber meeting is April 20th at noon. Councilman Atchley asked if the Council could meet with the Chamber earlier. Mayor Stronks asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to call their president Dave Jacobsen and set up a meeting for Wednesday, April 5th at 7 pm.

Councilman Funke made a motion that after further research and solutions for the Chamber are complete that the City move the police department to the other City Building then find a future home for the Ashton Archives. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 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 (a & f). Councilwoman Hansen 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 7:29 pm.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to exit executive session. Councilwoman Harrigfeld 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.

The Council exited executive session at 7:50 PM.

3. ADJOURNMENT:

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

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, April 12, 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