

# MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday, April 3, 2017**

**5:00 p.m.**

**714 Main (North Entrance)**

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*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.*

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### **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

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

**Also in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, Sheryl Hill, Jake Jacobsen, Julie Maurer, Sara Bowersox, Rachel Hatton**

**Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 6:58 pm.**

### **1. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. City Building Use – Jake Jacobsen, Julie Maurer, Sara Bowersox, Rachel Hatton, City Clerk Stegelmeier

Mayor Stronks welcomed the Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce board to the meeting. He explained that the City police department need a bigger place. He explained that they would like to use the rest of the City Building that the Chamber and Archives now occupy. The City is hoping that the Chamber would work something out with the City at the Visitor Center. Jake Jacobsen said brochure wise – the Visitor Center makes sense but the drawback is that there is no place for a desk and computer. The Chamber does use that desk & computer weekly. Otherwise the Chamber would just need to find a space for the other items – which are mostly storage items like the fencing for the crowds and the tables & chairs they have used in the past. They do understand, though, that they have had the space rent free. They are not here to fight with the City at all. They are just wondering what the options they have. Councilman Atchley asked City Clerk Stegelmeier if the Chamber has the information that the Council does. City Clerk Stegelmeier said they do not but that she has a copy for them. She handed out the copies. The information is on the revenue from the dump station at the Visitor Center. Councilwoman Hansen explained that at the dump the City has just collected what people have put in the box in good faith. The information in the packet includes information on a new locking system that would make it so someone could use a card OR cash and then dump their trailer. The City is confident that such a system would raise the revenue at the dump by quite a bit. Rachel Hatton explained that the Chamber board is quite overwhelmed – there are only the four of them holding the Chamber together. They would not be able to do caretaking, it is not an option. Sara Bowersox explained that taking over the Visitor Center is something new to her – it is not what Jake had explained. She explained that the Chamber can't possibly have input on that at this meeting – they will need time to go over the information. Councilman Atchley explained that in other towns the Visitor Center is usually ran by the Chamber of Commerce. Jake said that it makes sense. He then asked when the police want to move. Mayor Stronks said that if they were asking Chief Griffel he would say yesterday. Rachel responded that they are not asking Chief Griffel, they are asking the Council. Councilwoman Hansen said that the Council is willing to give them some time. Councilman Atchley said maybe there is some room at the Community Center. The City would be willing to trade plowing for an office for the Chamber. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there is a built in desk at the Visitor Center and the City has a phone line there – in fact there has been a wireless DSL there for quite a few years. Jake explained that storage is a problem. He also asked about winter heat. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there is heat there, there is just no

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insulation in the building. Discussion on plowing and whether the office space there would be usable in the winter. Jake said the phone and computer are the key – they could have their meetings at local restaurants, etc. Councilman Atchley asked if maybe there is a possibility for space at the Henry’s Fork building. Julie Maurer said that all the space is spoken for at the new building. Jake said that he already has storage in the shop but they may need more. The Council offered space in the shop if needed. Councilman Funke inquired as to why they have no members. Rachel said they have over 65 members – the members just do not want to help with the regular business of the Chamber. They say they are too busy. She went on to say that the Chamber’s website is a draw, Ashton is a draw, and the Ashton businesses are a draw. It is the same people all the time who will help – everyone else uses the too busy excuse. Jake said that the Chamber is willing to relocate and asked about a deadline. After some discussion, he then said he would like to be out by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. Any later and it will just be harder because everyone will be too busy. Mayor Stronks asked Councilwoman Hansen to attend the next Chamber meeting in case there are any questions for her. He also asked her to get with the Library District board to discuss the exchange for an office for the Chamber. Mayor Stronks thanked the Chamber for attending the meeting and Jake thanked the City for having the meeting, etc.

## 2. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Harrigfeld 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

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Cathy Stegelmeier  
City Clerk

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Theo R. Stronks  
Mayor