

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

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: Teddy Stronks

Present: Mayor Stronks, Councilwoman Hansen, Councilman Pincock and Councilwoman Harrigfeld.

Also Present: City Clerk Cathy Stegelmeier, Tom Howell, Bernetta Hansen, Linda Janssen and Judy Smith.

Mayor Stronks called meeting to order at 7:07 pm

1. WORK SESSION:

- A. Old City Building – Mayor Stronks, City Clerk Stegelmeier, Tom Howell, Bernetta Hansen, Judy Smith, and Daryl Reinke

Tom Howell began his presentation with explaining that during the City of Ashton’s community review which talked about what an asset the Hess Museum was to the City. He went on to explain that the Fremont County Historical Society has been working on a way to open a museum that will last where the Hess Museum did not. They have set up a 501c3 and are here to talk to the City about leasing the Old City Building at 604 Main. They would like the City to lease it to them at a low price and the Society would be responsible for repairs, maintenance including repairing the roof. The City has the old steam engine from the Hess Museum that could be placed as an exhibit in one of the bays at the new museum. The Society has some money it received from the Rebecca’s as well as some promised funds from the Seed Growers. Councilwoman Harrigfeld asked if the Society is wanting to move the Archive to the museum. Bernetta Hansen said it would be a while before the Society would consider that and there would be discussion with the City before anything was decided. Linda Janssen talked about fundraising for the museum. They are not hoping to survive on an entrance fee but are looking to have sponsorships to sell. They are also going to be having programs and guest speakers that people will be interested in paying to attend. There are a lot of items ready to be used but the building will need work. The Society is asking for an eighteen month lease to start and see what they can do. Councilwoman Hansen asked if the Fremont County Commissioner be willing to help out. The Society has spoken to them many times. Tom thinks that they would be willing to let the Society keep the Fremont County Collection and pay them what the County is now paying to store the collection. That is still going to be an ongoing conversation with the County Commissioners. Councilman Pincock asked what the Society is willing to pay. Linda Janssen said they would like the payment to be minimal. City Clerk Stegelmeier offered to work with City Attorney Lookabaugh to get a lease together and then the City Council and the Fremont County Historical Society could negotiate the price. The City Council expressed their hope that there will be enough support to get this project going. Mayor Stronks thanked the Society for their time.

- B. Budget – City Clerk Stegelmeier
City Clerk Stegelmeier went through the budget with the Council. The budget is tight and City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that, with the new payments on the water system and the ongoing payment on the sewer system, the budget will continue to be tight. The budget will change prior to August’s meeting as the Fremont County Clerk has not sent the certified values to the City yet. City Clerk

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Stegelmeier explained that the revenues include a 3% raise as the Council has done for the last several years.

2. ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, August 13, 2014, 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