

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom
(see Instructions below)

*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.*

Due to the Governor's "Rebound Idaho" directions, physical access to the City Building will not be allowed as of yet. Members of the public may attend online by way of Zoom.

Here are the instructions to join the meeting:

1. Go to www.zoom.us
2. On the right-hand side near the top choose 'Join a Meeting'
3. Meeting ID: 832 0226 1017
4. Meeting Password: 597502

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PRAYER OFFERED BY: Tadd Atchley

PLEDGE LED BY: Tom Mattingly

In Attendance via Zoom: Tom Mattingly, Teresa Hansen, Jerry Funke and John Kaelberer.

Also, in attendance via Zoom: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Chad Stegelmeier, Jaden Jackson, Keith Richey, Stacey Dexter, Teddy Stronks, Andy Lamberson, Steve Hullet and Sheryl Hill.

Mayor Mattingly welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

1. **CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION ITEM**

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 4-8-2020
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Business:

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

2. **PSI Cost Raise Hearing Date Change – City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that due the COVID-19 pandemic measures she knew that a in person public hearing was not possible. She discussed the hearing with the Mayor and they decided to postpone the hearing into June when an in-person hearing would be possible.

3. **City Park Pavilion – Mayor Mattingly, Teddy Stronks, Stacey Dexter ACTION ITEM**

Mayor Mattingly explained that he had met with Teddy and Stacey to discuss the new pavilion that Ashton Urban Renewal was planning to put up to replace the older pavilion at the park. Mayor Mattingly explained that he thought the old pavilion could be fixed. During the discussion it was tentatively decided that the City would fix the old pavilion and that the new pavilion would be placed in the North West side of the park. Teddy asked if a place had been chosen. Mayor Mattingly said that it has been marked. Teddy explained the contractor has had to take other projects so he will be out two months before he can get back to the

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pavilion. He said the concrete bid was \$5,400. Stacey Dexter explained that Urban Renewal has already paid for the pavilion construction but asked if the City is willing to pay half the cost of the concrete that will be needed now. Councilman Funke is concerned about concrete trucks going over the path & park. Stacey expressed his appreciation for how nice the park looks.

Councilman Funke made a motion that the City would pay for the repair of the old pavilion, ½ of the cost concrete of new pavilion and that the concrete contractor would use methods in order to preserve the path, sprinkler system and lawn. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Tennis Court – Teddy Stronks *ACTION ITEM*

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that this item was on the agenda so that the Council knew when the project would be starting, etc. Teddy said the contractor would be hear in late May to put in the courts.

5. 4th of July Fireworks, Parade – Rachel Hatton, Police Chief Griffel *ACTION ITEM*

Rachel Hatton is here at City Council to ask for the City's blessing and use of the City's insurance for the fireworks. Councilman Funke asked what the insurance would cover. Rachel said it is for the fireworks show at the high school if some misfortune would happen. Mayor Mattingly is concerned about 4th of July celebrations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Councilman Kaelberer explained is he is concerned that the fireworks are overrun and there are parking issues. Also – with Idaho Falls cancelling the fireworks – he thinks it will be worse. Rachel said that she has not heard that Melaleuca has canceled yet. Mayor Mattingly said that it might be a little early yet. He commented that Rachel has done such a great job in the past with the fireworks and parade but that he does not feel comfortable with the amount of people that would be here. People coming from other venues, etc. Councilman Funke thought that maybe the parking/space problem for the fireworks could be solved by maybe having them out to Jim's Boat dock and park on the road. Still have traffic and people. Mayor Mattingly said there could be fireworks all around town and other ways to show our patriotism. Then Rachel could start up fireworks and do something bigger next year. Rachel explained that the fire department said they could do it and they think they can do it. Councilwoman Hansen said that after talking to Greg that there were problems with parking and everything. The event needs to be reevaluated and a better location planned. The War Bonnet Roundup as is the Pioneer Day celebration in St. Anthony. Councilman Kaelberer said that he loves the fireworks but is worried that it will cause a lot of problems. There is really no way to social distance. Mayor Mattingly asked City Clerk Stegelmeier to write a letter to the Ashton Chamber of Commerce explaining the Council's decision.

Councilman Funke made a motion to send a letter to cancel the parade & events in the park this year because of COVID-19. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to deny the use of the City's insurance for the fireworks this year due to COVID-19. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Seepage Test at the Lagoons – Jaden Jackson *ACTION ITEM*

Jaden came to discuss the requirement from the DEQ for a seepage test on ponds 1-4 so all except the new storage pond. The current sewer project has some funds left in the Resident Project Engineering section that are not expected to be used. He is asking the Council to allow those funds to be used for the seepage test. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked how much the seepage test would cost. Jaden said he did not have that information but would send the information to City Clerk Stegelmeier as soon as possible. The tests were tried earlier but there were some problems with the ground water. Councilman Kaelberer asked if this project was time sensitive because of the ground water. Jaden replied yes. Councilman Kaelberer asked if there is a way to monitor the groundwater to make sure that we don't get another bad test. Jaden replied that the current plan should account for that issue.

City Councilwoman Hansen made a motion that the resident project representative to be used for seepage fund – hopefully get a ballpark figure so that the council will know. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion passed.

7. Wastewater Project Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Jaden Jackson *ACTION ITEM*

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Phase II of the wastewater project will start on the 18th of May. The contractor estimates that they will complete the project in 6 to 8 weeks depending on the amount of rock. As of now, the rock quantity is over by 1012 lineal feet which is an over budget cost of \$116,380.

8. P & Z Report – Administrator Sara Bowersox **ACTION ITEM**

P&Z Administrator Bowersox reminded the Council that there have been two town hall meetings held and she is now looking to have a focused discussion. She hopes to start that again as things get opened up following the COVID-19 shutdown. As the weather has gotten better there is more building happening in Ashton. The P&Z Commission did hold a public hearing on a zone change on 7th and Pine. This zone change will have a public hearing by the City Council at the June meeting. Other projects happening are a Building permit on the old bus shop, a new home and some decks. The Snow Buzz has also applied and received a permit to install a new building and have a drive through. The police and public works agree that it will improve safety at the Snow Buzz.

9. Summer Facility Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she would like the Mayor and Council to discuss the summer facilities, the Visitor Center & City Pool. City Attorney Angel has spoken with the City's insurance company, ICRMP. He says he sees no problem with opening the Visitor Center while following Governor Little's Rebound Idaho rules – the City just needs to have a plan in place. If anyone contracts that there is no coverage if someone is exposed at a city facility but City Attorney Angell thinks that it would be nearly impossible to meet the burden of proof. The City just needs a policy in place with the Visitor Center and the Pool and the policy needs to be followed. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the new information from District 7 Health does not allow for swimming lessons but the pool could be open. City Councilwoman Hansen expressed her thought that swimming lessons would have been hard to get organized with the time limits now anyway. City Clerk Stegelmeier will get policies for the facilities together and then send them to City Attorney Angell for a check to see if the plan would meet the basics required.

10. Budget and Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the next month's schedule with the Mayor & Council.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, June 10, 2020 Council Chambers, Ashton City Building – 714 Main, Ashton.
- ◆ Questions concerning items appearing on these Agendas or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meetings 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

Tom Mattingly
Mayor