

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

7:00 p.m.

714 Main Street

*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” order, social distancing will be required and there will be less than 50 participants allowed at the meeting. These rules will impact the amount of people able to attend the meeting.

ALSO: Temperature screening will be required.

Please do not attend the meeting if you feel sick or have been around those who have been sick.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PRAYER OFFERED BY: Tom Mattingly
PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

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

Also, in attendance via Zoom: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, P&Z Administrator Bowersox, Rachel Stronks, Katherine Stronks, Rick Miller and Jaden Jackson.

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 5-13-2020
- B. **Treasurers Report** - As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As submitted

Councilman Atchley made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilwoman Hansen 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. Public Hearing: **PSI Cost Raise – Mayor Mattingly ACTION ITEM**

Mayor Mattingly opened the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

There was no testimony.

Mayor Mattingly closed the hearing at 7:04.

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

3. Public Hearing: **Zone Change at 82 N. 7th Street – City Attorney Angell ACTION ITEM**

City Attorney Angell opened the hearing at 7:05 pm. He asked P&Z Administrator Sara Bowersox to give a report on the application. P&Z Administrator Bowersox explained that Katherine & Billy Stronks would like to use the old Teton Fitness building as their residence instead of letting it sit empty. The City’s Comprehensive plan has the Community Core Zone as Main Street, one block North and one block South.

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There are, however, many places that it extends to only the alley. This building has residential uses nearby and would not fit the definition of spot zoning. At the P&Z Commission hearing, there was only one comment and the concern raised was that the building would be made into apartments. The Stronks' have assured the City in their application that the property will be a single-family dwelling. Even if they did decide to make another living space – they would be limited to two as the Low-Density Residential Zone only allows for 2 living spaces per lot. The P&Z Commission voted unanimously to approve this application. P&Z Administrator Bowersox said that it is also her recommendation that the application be approved. Rather than something sitting empty there. Councilman Funke asked P&Z Administrator Bowersox if the zone of the property could be changed back in 10 years from now. Administrator Bowersox explained that with the current code it could be changed through the same process. Councilman Kaelberer asked if it is a family home or if they are using it for an Air B&B. Administrator Bowersox said there is no rule that an Air B&B could not be built/rented in the Low-Density Residential Zone. City Attorney Angell invited the applicant, if Katherine Stronks, if she would like to give a statement. Katherine explained that she and Billy would like to change the building into their home. They have a lot on their plate and would want to just have it for home. The event center idea would work but it would really upset the neighborhood. This change is more logical for the area and for them. Their hope is that it will be approved and they can start renovation. City Attorney Angell asked if there was anyone in attendance who would like to comment as there was no one on the sign-up sheet. There were no comments. City Attorney Angell closed the public comment on this application. He explained that it is now up to the Council although they do have 60 days to decide.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to approve a zone change for the property at 82 N. 7th from Community Core Zone to Low Density Residential Zone. Councilman Atchley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Ashton Chamber 4th of July – Rachel Hatton

Mayor Mattingly explained that Rachel Hatton is here to explain the Chamber of Commerce's plan for the 4th of July. Rachel explained that the Chamber met and made a plan in lieu of traditional parade. It will be similar to a parade of homes. It will start July 1st and go to July 4th. It will include Ashton and Marysville. Those wishing to participate can register their property by visiting 511 Main or Stronks & Sons. They then will decorate their property to the theme of the parade – 2020 Vision – Parade in our Past and Faith in Our Future. There is a committee to vote the winners and prizes will be given. Maps will then be given out to those wanting to take the tour. There is no fee but there is a limit on how far out of town someone's property is so that it is not too long of a parade. Councilwoman Hansen felt that because it is the Ashton Area Chamber – anyone should be able to participate. Rachel will see how registration goes. Councilwoman Hansen asked if there was a fee to register and Rachel replied that there is not. Mayor Mattingly expressed his thanks to Rachel and asked her to convey his thanks to the rest of the Chamber.

5. Ball Field Discussion – Byron Stutzman *ACTION ITEM*

Superintendent Stutzman is here to discuss the City's ballfield. Byron had been to City Council last year and the plan was to work out a way for the School District to update and use the field for girls' softball. With the COVID-19 situation – the plan will have to wait. Right now, the plan is to go on as it has in the past but hopefully there can be a change later on. Councilman Funke explained that maybe we should have a Memorandum of Understanding to make sure everyone knows their part. Superintendent Stutzman agreed that it would be a good idea. Mayor Mattingly explained that the field would be there when the School District is ready to discuss the project again.

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

Jaden explained that the test will cost \$10,000 and it will come out of the current project budget. It is

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required by the DEQ. Councilwoman Hansen would like the DEQ to really come and look at the lagoons. It is unique and they should cut the City a break.

7. Wastewater Project Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Jaden Jackson, Rick Miller

ACTION ITEM

Jaden and Rick are here to speak with the Council about the overages due to rock removal. Right now, there is an overage due to the imported fill that has had to be brought in to bed the pipes correctly. The overage is at \$18,738. The rock quantities are at 1,222 linear feet @ \$115. It is at \$140,000 overage. If the rest of the project has rock removal the overage will be approximately \$ 187,910. They are asking the Council if the Council would like to leave the project no and finish it at a later date. Councilman Funke asked if there is another place to get the money. This is not anticipated stuff. After the project started – Army Corps gave some additional grants. There has been some extra grant money through the corps of engineers but there are no other grants available at this time. Rick Miller went over the numbers with the Council. The Council talked about wanting to get the project done and that going out to bid again would just cost more. Councilman Funke said it would be a real shame. Councilwoman Hansen said it would cost more to rebid. Mayor Mattingly noted that the funding agencies have been helpful with over 2 million in grants.

Councilman Atchley made a motion to give the Mayor approval to exceed the accepted bid for Phase II of the sewer system collection project up to \$190,000. Councilman Funke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

P&Z Administrator Bowersox said that the P&Z work has been kind of quiet through this COVID-19 time. She is starting to focus again on comprehensive plan. She has developed a questionnaire and would like the Mayor & Council to fill them out and put them in her City mailbox. These will be used at the round table discussions she will be working on. She is trying to get a sense of what they would like to see changed from what it is today. Mayor Mattingly thanked Sara for her time.

9. Pool, Visitor and Tennis Court Information – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the pool is slated to be opened the 17th of June. The training for the lifeguards is happening now. The hours for this summer will be extended into the morning. Open swim will start at 10 am and close at 5 pm. They will be limiting the swimmers to 30, taking temperatures at the gate and asking everyone to use social distancing. The Visitor Center was flooded from a frozen pipe to the drinking fountain. Disaster Restoration was called in and is working on getting everything dried out. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she has asked that the drinking fountain be taken out and that the storage room be expanded. She has given the Council a copy of the bid for reconstruction from Disaster Restoration. Councilman Atchley asked about flooring. Councilman Kaelberer explained that he and Hayley Ford (the Visitor Center Director) had looked through the options from Home Depot that they were directed to by Disaster Restoration and have chosen a vinyl plank flooring. Some audience members were disturbed by the use of out of town vendors. City Clerk Stegelmeier said that it was an insurance fix – it is not up to the City to choose businesses vendors. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the tennis court will not be put in until late July at the earliest as they are behind due to COVID-19.

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

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the Council has some budget items in their packet but that a budget workshop is needed. The date for the workshop was set for June 24th.

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Councilman Funke asked if there was any work done yet to get homeowners to clean up their property. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that there have been some abandoned vehicle letters sent out but no weed letters have been sent.

11.ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 8:23 pm.

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, July 8, 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