

MINUTES–CITY OF ASHTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

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 COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing will be required which may impact the amount of people able to attend the meeting.

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

PRAYER OFFERED BY: John Kaelberer
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME
PLEDGE LED BY: Teresa Hansen

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

Also, in attendance: City Clerk Stegelmeier, City Attorney Angell, Deputy Clerk Warnke, Chief Griffel, Suzanne Nielsen, Sterling Nielsen, John Scafe and Rachel Hatton.

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 Special Meeting Minutes 4-14-2021
- 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. Councilman Kaelberer 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. **City of Ashton Resolution 21-03 – Visitor Center Fee Increase ACTION ITEM**

The Council discussed the fees at the Visitor Center. Councilwoman Hansen reported that the fee should raise to help alleviate some of the sewer treatment costs. Councilman Kaelberer agrees and thought that \$10 was a fair price. Councilman Funke feels like it is still low but it is a start. Councilman Atchley thinks the fee is good as it is but if it does get raised, he wants the raise to go to the sewer fund. Discussion turned to city residents and that their fee could be refunded to their city bill with proof of payment. City Clerk Stegelmeier will work on a way have sufficient proof for the auditor.

Councilwoman Hansen made a motion to raise the rate to dump trailers at the Visitor Center to \$10 per dump with \$5 staying in the Visitor Center fund and \$5 going to the sewer fund. Those who pay a city bill will receive a credit on their city account with proof of payment. Councilman Kaelberer seconded the motion. The motion passed with only Councilman Atchley voting nay.

3. **Wastewater Facility Fee Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the first payment on the completed wastewater improvements will be

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due in July with the second payment due in January 2022. The Council has had the original fee study done with the project study, suggestions from the City's auditor and recommendations from City Clerk Stegelmeier to discuss. The council talked about the amount of a raise and thought a compromise of lowering the water rate by \$10 due to a paid off bond and then raising the sewer rate by \$30 would result in a \$20 overall rise in rates. City Clerk Stegelmeier will prepare a fee raise resolution and set a public hearing for the June Council meeting. She will also call Adrianna Hummer who works with the Idaho Rural Water Association to come and speak at an open forum meeting. Adrianna had given such a good presentation in April that the Council thinks that it will help the sewer users understand the reasons for the need for a raise in rates.

4. Visitor Center Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier, Sterling Nielson **ACTION ITEM**

Sterling came to council to talk about the possibility to help at visitor enter. He proposes that he would be willing to open and run the Visitor Center for 4 to 5 days a week. In speaking with City Clerk Stegelmeier, he had learned that the hours at the Center had been 10am to 5 pm and that would work for his business. He would like to have the City help to upgrade the information in the Kiosks as it is very dated. He would like to advertise Ashton businesses more. He would like to capture the visitor traffic and get them to purchase here in Ashton. He would also like to propose that he hold events – getting musicians and possibly movies in the Visitor Center Park. Maybe the Farmer's Market and other craft fairs, etc. City Clerk Stegelmeier suggested speaking with the Chamber about help at the Center and to the Visitor Center adjoining property owners about additional parking. Sterling will be serving lunch and dinner. The Council asked that he staff the Center and give out information. Rachel Hatton asked Sterling to come to the next Chamber meeting for assistance. City Attorney Angell and City Clerk Stegelmeier will get an agreement that will protect both the City and Sterling. Mayor Mattingly asked Councilmen Kaelberer and Atchley to meet in the next little while with him and Sterling to go over details.

5. P&Z Report – P&Z Administrator Bowersox **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the information for the public hearing the following Wednesday was in their packets. P&Z Administrator Bowersox will be attending by zoom. City Attorney Angell will be available by zoom if needed.

6. Pool Discussion – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

The Council discussed the pool and the opening date. It has been a difficult task finding lifeguards this season. The Council discussed wages and personnel retention. The pool is scheduled to open on June 19th.

7. Scheduling – City Clerk Stegelmeier **ACTION ITEM**

City Clerk Stegelmeier went over the upcoming schedule with the Council. Se reminded them of the AIC Conference coming up in June. She also asked about whether they would ride in the 4th of July parade. It was decided that they would not ride in the parade.

8. Executive Session – City Attorney Angell

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.

(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. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement.

City Attorney Angell had no information for an executive session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

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unanimously.

The meeting ended at 8:53 pm.

NEXT MEETING

- ◆ City Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, June 9, 2021 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