



Unapproved Minutes Draft

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting
Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, March 6, 2018
7:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Wachter called meeting to order: 7:00 P.M Visitors please sign in.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Wachter; Councilwoman Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Hill;
Councilman Spencer; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough and visiting attorney, Danielle Quade, and Public
Works-Mark Mitchell; Not present: City Planner, Rand Wichman; & City Attorney, J. Cafferty;

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH (February 20th) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Spencer that we approve last month's regular meeting minutes (2/20/18) without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor- **Motion passed.**

APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Zichko, seconded by Spencer that we approve paying Feb/March's bills as submitted without amendments, \$3,661.10. *DISCUSSION-All in favor- **Motion passed.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. Approval for Annual Review of Lease Contract with the ABC Farmer's Market-** They are asking to renew their current agreement for use of the building/outside. No changes, other than dates/times. Starting May 11th through Oct. 2018.

Motion by Zichko, seconded by McDaniel, to accept as is, the proposed renewal for ABC Farmers Market, changing only the dates, as well as authorize the Mayors signature on the agreement. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Hill-yes; Spencer -yes; McDaniel -yes; Zichko- yes. Motion passed.

- 2. Review/Approval for the monthly meeting of the Seniors-** Mary Zichko spoke and has been getting 14- 19 each month. The interest is there so she would like to ask the city to continue to allow for the usage for a year.

Motion by Spencer, seconded by Hill to allow for the continued use at no charge for the senior citizens to meet monthly at the community center for a year. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Zichko-yes; Hill- yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; - Motion passed.

- 3. Annual City Beer, Wine & Liquor Licenses** – Lori updated council that all current licenses were renewed. At this time only Super 1 Foods- has not yet come in for their 1st license but anticipates it to be soon.

***NOTE:** The City will make reasonable accommodations for anyone attending this meeting who require special assistance for hearing, physical or other impairments. Please contact the City Clerk at (208) 683-2101 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date and time.*

4. Approval to authorize Mayor's signature on the Statement of Agreement recognizing IRWA Support, Diane Sauer, as the party to conduct a Utility Rate Review and Analysis

Motion by McDaniel, second by Zichko, to authorize the Mayor's signature on the Agreement for Operations Services with IRWA Support. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Zichko -yes; Hill -yes ; Spencer-yes; McDaniel -yes. - **Motion passed.**

5. Review and Adoption of Ordinance #417 Bond Ordinance calling a Special Municipal

Revenue Bond Election in May 2018. DISCUSSION (Danielle with Hawley Troxell was present to answer questions) Danielle **worked with city staff** and the engineer to create the draft ORD being presented today. This is an ordinance to call an election on a Revenue Bond this May, which means its based upon fees and not taxes. She explained a revenue bond requires a 50% majority plus one, of those who turn out to vote is needed for this bond to pass. And will be repaid solely from the water system fees collected. She continued to explain section one has a description of the project, as provided by the city engineer. Section two talks about the costs and then there is a draft of the official ballot that is sent to the county clerks office which has a more general description to accommodate for the changes that may happen. This is an estimated figure and will provide for the side rails, giving the parameters for the council to spend not more than. It has not yet been determined the exact costs since we also do not yet know what funding sources we will get for sure. **Engineer Stillman Norton**, with Keller, spoke briefly on the reasoning for the amounts listed. There are different project levels and different funding scenarios. The amount listed will give the ability to go up to the maximum amount or do a lesser amount and there is always the ability to break it up into stages. Stillman then was asked to briefly recap the funding priority options: **Priority 1** included the water storage tank improvements (replacing the 2 cemetery tanks with a stand pipe storage), and elevating the exiting elevated storage tank higher, to increase the pressures throughout the system. It also includes transmission line upgrades on numerous streets. **Priority 2** includes upgrades to the Grove and Bennett wells that need upgrades. Also includes a few 8inch transmission line upgrades. Often when you ask for more your grant given in more, sometime making better deals to get more done and while paying less. Once we know what they offer then you can make decisions on what to do or if you have to scale back. Councilman Spencer is concerned with the scare of the number being so high and not asking for what we really need, even if it means delaying this decision now. Reducing the borrowing amount in the resolution once we know the grants amounts is an option per Danielle. Stillman shared that inflation and interest is also taken in account for the amount listed in comparison to the amounts listed in the master plan. We should know about the funding offered (draft results) by DEQ in about 2- 3 weeks. There will be a town hall public meeting in late April but before the May election to help educate the public with some more realistic numbers. This is a time to share water rate study information as well.

Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Hill to place proposed ORD #417 which is calling a special municipal revenue bond election to be held in May to finance the design, acquisition and construction of improvements to the water system, on its first and only reading by title only while under suspension of the rules.

*DISCUSSION **Roll Call: Zichko-yes; Hill- yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed.**

The Mayor then read the proposed ordinance by title aloud.

ADOPT ORDINANCE #417,

Motion by Hill, seconded by McDaniel to approve the passing of Ordinance #417, which calls for a Special Municipal Revenue Bond Election in May for City Water Improvements, and direct city clerk to publish by summary only incorporating the title as to body of the summary. *DISCUSSION

Roll Call: Zichko -yes; Hill -yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. - Motion passed.

Mayor Opened it up for Public Comments: Ryan Swensen, Athol, ID- 1) Wanted to know about the \$3.9 million bond and what it is for. Councilman Spencer encouraged him and everyone to do some research and ask questions now, so you know before going to vote. Stillman gave a little more explanation on how principle forgiveness works. 2) Also stated he doesn't want to pay more for less. Dan Holmes, Athol, ID – Had a question on what this will fix in the water system, referring to the bond for water system improvements. Stillman summed up the descriptions replacing the water tanks, improving well and line pressure, raising the tower etc. Mayor also added that we are having a rate study done to best determine what rates will need to be set at. Mr. Holmes asked about can we deal with this in pieces rather than all at once, to lessen the amount needed all at once; Stillman explained the city generally get a better deal by doing more and still carry them out in projects. He was again encouraged to please attend and read the information we give out once its prepared and available. Janet Ellis, Athol, ID- 1) Question on if connection fees are being considered, will all citizen benefit or just some. Stillman shared that the city's situation is that these are not repairs we'd just like to do, rather they are severely needed, and the system is currently deficient to standards today. So, everyone's pressures and quality will improve. This lead to a short discussion on weather or not the City is interested in an Equity-Buy in. Its always an option for the council to pass an ordinance to do so, but it does require a study to be done on finding those numbers. Stillman also shared a reminder that with Super 1 Foods coming in, they (the developers) are putting in a new well for the city and this is a \$600,000.00 bonus to the system and thus repairs that the city will no longer have to pay for but an asset of the city once its on-line. 2) Shared after attending the Senior lunch last week, the Fire Department was there discussing home safety and smoke detectors and such. It was noted then that the community center may not have enough in the building. The Mayor said, no problem we will look into it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) “to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.” - Annual employee reviews.

MOTION by McDaniel, second by Hill to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) “to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.” -Annual employee reviews. **Roll Call: Zichko-yes; Hill- yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed.**

(Session Began at 8:05pm and Ended at 8:47pm.)

6. Approval of annual/merit increases for City employees, Lori Yarbrough and Mark Mitchell.

MOTION by Councilman Spencer, second by Hill to approve the annual increases of 5% for Lori Yarbrough and a onetime \$1.00 increase for Mark Mitchell -based upon his attaining his water Operator license he's taking this week and no cola increases, this is effective pay period beginning March 1st 2018.

***DISCUSSION- *this is based upon the previously determined chart and discussed today.* Roll Call: Councilman Spencer - yes; Councilman Hill - yes; Councilman McDaniel - yes; and Councilwoman Zichko - yes; Motion Passed**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Council – nothing; **Mayor Wachter-** nothing; **City Staff- Lori** – 1) Reminded the next Athol Daze and Beautification Planning meeting will be Thursday, April 5th at 1:00pm here at city hall; Athol Daze is Saturday August 11, 2018 and Beautification will be Saturday May 19, 2018 as well as the city-wide yard sales. She also wanted to share with the council and mayor that we have a local citizen who is interested in the Little Miss Athol Program and maybe changing it to a little something different and calling it the Athol Ambassadors Program, which could involve both girls and boys and possible run- year-round. 2) The flyer in your packets regarding the ITD Long Range Plan- looking to have Athol represented, if anyone is interested. Shane and Mark agreed to attend, and Mary is considering. First meeting is 4/25/18.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:15pm

ATTEST:

Bob Wachter, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on