



Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

7:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Zichko called the meeting to order: 7:00 P.M She asked visitors please sign in.

The Mayor wanted to first acknowledge the celebration of our city employees on their years of service. Lori Yarbrough, our City Clerk Treasurer, has now been with the city for 5 years and Anthony Brandt our Public Works and Deputy Clerk, Tanya Ziegler have both been with the city for 1 full year now. Help me thank them for all they do for our city, she personally appreciates all Lori's help. *(Everyone applauded)*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Hill; Councilman Spencer; Councilwoman Denis; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough. Not Present: Planner & Attorney and Public Works-Anthony Brandt.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1) **Dr. Becky Meyer- Lakeland Joint School District** introduced herself and wanted to apologize for not getting to a council meeting here sooner, been to long. But very busy with the long-range facility planning meetings; where happening on the same nights each month. She wanted to share a few things first starting with the positive; two very exciting things for the district. 1st) The Idaho Teacher of the Year was just announced, and it was Stacie Lawler of Timberlake Junior High in Spirit Lake. Happy that it was from our district, the first she believes. 2nd) was the Idaho State Councilor of the Year was also from our district, from the Twin Lakes Elementary; so very proud of that. Lastly, she wanted to acknowledge the school bond did not pass, as clearly its not what the public wants; they are in the process of sending out a survey to parents and everyone in the school district to help them better prioritize what voters will approve. Watch for those surveys and they are also planning on hosting several community input meetings, hoping to have one here at the Athol Community center later this month, so talk with people and answer any questions or concerns and an opportunity for them to complete the survey then too. Locally, she also shared that the total enrollment for the whole district is at 4600 students; and that Athol elementary enrollment is at 382 students the second highest enrollment/crowded school for our district. Spirit Lake elementary, the first crowded, kindergarteners had to put together a 3 class and moved into the music room for a classroom, and music got moved into the gym. The school might have to start thinking about portable classrooms for next year, and our district needs are still our needs, so they are trying to find the best ways to meet them, even when bonds don't pass. Hence, why they are doing the survey and having some public meetings. You may have heard that Athol is down 11 students from last year, but now we are up 13 new, just from the start of the year (one month) within the Athol area. The 11 change in students are reflective of the what was done about in district transfers and how the class sizes do go up based upon the age of the students. Meaning kindergarten class sizes are preferred to be lower than say 4, 5, and 6th grade classes. Athol's average is 26.02. She also provided a brief clarification in how the state laws had changed, basically preventing her from fully advocating as she would like to do and only allowing for educating the public; and that for this last bond

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.

they tried using the community group they put together to help get the information out, but it didn't work out like they had hoped.

- 2) **Presentation by Gary with Panhandle Health District-** Shared some results regarding the Age Friendly Park survey that he and a few community members gathered, they had a booth at Athol Daze as well as reached out to the community in general. He provided the council copies of the actual survey so they can see what questions were asked; and then ran through highlighting some of the results. The number one reason for coming to the park was community events, as it was Athol Daze. #2 was to bring children, then spend time with family-friends. Best features of the park were listed as: Playgrounds and social gathering areas, picnic areas and shelters, and cleanliness. There was a question on a tobacco free park that had about 59% supported. He then showed the priorities listed for Athol park against the public ideal and there were a lot of similarities, with only 2 big differences which were: lacking public restrooms and no dogs- off lease areas. He summed up the open question of survey answers of a wish list for the park to which walk paths, restrooms, social events, splash pad, and a pickleball court were among them. Gary then shared an avenue for the city to work with the help of Panhandle Health District for a small amount of grant funding, generally up to \$5,000, if they wanted to work towards any improvements in their parks. There was a brief discussion of possible ideas and restrictions on the types of improvements. The council agreed there were some interest and thought they may have to have another meeting for some further conversation as to what a bigger plan might be. The city will be in touch with PHD.
- 3) **Review of the FY2020 upcoming Meeting Calendar Dates** – Lori shared a 4-month calendar of the various upcoming meetings to be aware of; election date, and other community holiday events. Lori talked a little about the PRIMA training which is a public risk management training program.
- 4) **Public Works Report-** Anthony had submitted a written report and was not present tonight.
- 5) **City Elections “Meet the Candidate Night”** – Lori just gave a reminder of the date being Tuesday October 15th at 5:30pm in the gym. There was a brief discussion as to how the event will be laid out. Which resulted in each candidate will plan to speak to the whole group for about 3-5 minutes; they will open it up for questions and after that just mingle and chat as desired. We will plan for cookies and coffee.

ACTION ITEMS:

6) APPROVAL OF THE September 17th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Denis that we approve the last regular meeting on the 17th, minutes without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor- Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

- 7) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Spencer, seconded by Hill that we approve paying September/October bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION Councilman Spencer wanted to follow-up on their inquiry for last meeting on the DEQ invoice and appreciated Antony's quick follow-up. Lori added this is an annual fee based upon the number of connections in the water cities water system. All in favor- Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

8) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Grant options w/ the Local Highway Technical Asst. Council

(LHTAC) - Keller Associates, Stillman Norton here to discuss various funding option/timelines to help towards various city street improvements, as per the Transportation Plan. Stillman briefly reviewed the type of grants and walked the council through each type. Then there was a brief discussion the city moving forward with a LRHIP grant for some of the top items on the Capital Improvement plan for streets.

Motion by Denis, second by McDaniel to proceed with Keller for funding LRHIP construction grant federal match 7.34%. Anthony will be the contact for Keller, and it should only cost the city about \$500 to have Keller help the city application, he will keep the council in the loop with the process and share as well as further define the projects to work on first. ***DISCUSSION- Councilman Spencer** has been approached numerous times with concerns from Mike the elementary armed guard and really wants to see the city help them come up with some solutions as to how we can address some of these concerns. Lori shared that Anthony is working with them and

painting the crosswalks tomorrow. Staff will try and work out a plan and get back with council with some ideas. **Roll Call: Denis-yes; Hill-yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

9) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL for City Resolution 2020-01 to Transfer \$7,700 Street Fund, Street Maint. FY2019 to General Fund, Street Maint. FY2020 – Lori Motion by Spencer, second by Hill to approve Resolution 2020-01 a one-time transfer of \$7,700 from the Street Fund, Street Maint, FY2019 to General Fund, Street Maint. FY 2020 for the upcoming repairs of potholes in the streets. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Hill-yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

10) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of possible attendance at the 1st Annual Transportation Planning Conference in Boise Tuesday October 29th.** - Mayor and Lori **Motion by Hill, seconded by Denis to authorize to attend the Transportation Conference.** *DISCUSSION this is the first time they are offering this, and both the Mayor and the clerk are interested in attending, it should cost less than \$600 to send both staying one night. There could be a lot to learn in light of our recent interest in pedestrian and bike route and grant funding options for it. **Roll Call: Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes; Hill-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

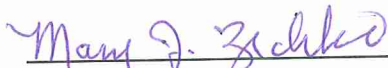
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE- No one present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

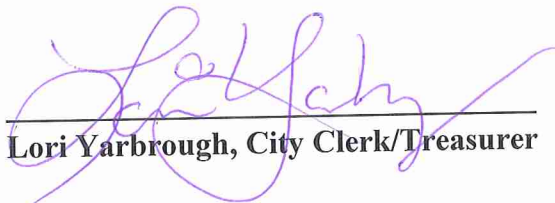
ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council- Councilman Spencer- shared the Farmer's Market Fall Festival I was a success probably over 1,000 -1,500 people were in attendance even though there was lots of rain. They hope to do it again next year. **Councilwoman Denis-** suggested of what about putting "speed bumps" in the school zone, might that help? / **Mayor –** none. / **Staff Lori-** 1) wanted to share the city does have one avenue to lower their ICRMP premiums by 5%. It is a risk management on-line training that you need to have 80% or greater completion rates; but that does include all of the city council and mayor. 2) shared the documents on the Garwood project and the article about the trial being paved up to Athol.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:46pm

ATTEST:



Mary J. Zichko, Mayor



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on 10/15/19

