



Unapproved Draft Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor, Bill Hill, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting **No one called in.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86589435487?pwd=ZlpFdE80czF5d1hVU0ZZSDFOKytYdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 8943 5487

Passcode: 655528

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Bill Hill; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Baldwin; Councilwoman Denis; Councilman Stack; City Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works- Anthony Brandt. City Attorney- Caitlin Kling-via zoom and City Planner- Rand Wichman. Not Present: n/a

REPORTS:

Treasurer Report & 1st Quarter Financial Statements Year to Date – Lori submitted the report and read the ending totals for each of the city accounts: STCU Checking = \$145,844.68; STCU Savings = \$61,826.40; LGIP = \$709,560.32. Lori also shared that she will be transferring \$75,000.00 from the STCU checking account to the STCU savings account.

Water Report – Lori submitted written report and read aloud. Dec usage = 2,650,479 gal. (haulers 204,300) and **Jan usage = 1,977,265 gal. (haulers 154,533); Billing in January was \$14,780.00 plus \$230.00 in late fees and collected was \$12,908.07.** Late fees this month: there are only 35, and 4 accounts to get shut-off letters.

Public Works Report- Anthony did not have anything to add, but Mayor Hill asked Anthony how the new back door is working. Anthony said all good.

Planner Report – Rand submitted a written report. Recapping: Two new permits approved. 1 for Sunshine Trust at 30420 Meadow Street (SDP21-03). They are requesting to do some site preparations for future commercial use on the site. An additional permit has been requested at 5405 E Grove Ave. (BLP21-04), for an 8' x 40' storage container in the residential zone. Idaho Forest Group annexation- nothing new this month; still waiting. Code enforcement: Timberlake Fire Department for the new parking area at 5959 E Hwy 54 is on tonight's agenda. Caitlin has talked with their attorney. They are opposed to having the notice to title recorded against the property. A new notice to violation was sent to John Carmack for an illegal junkyard at 6001 E Lorraine Drive. Cole Annexation – Nothing new to report; waiting for the applicant. Fast Subdivision- nothing new to report; waiting on applicant to demonstrate how he has complied with the conditions for approval of the final plat. Badger Annexation- A draft annexation agreement has been completed and comments on the agreement and proposed annexation have been solicited from the various agencies. Possible public hearing for this at the March 16th meeting. Colton Acres Subdivision – An application has been received for a new subdivision, initially called Forestbrook, now to be called Colton Acres. This subdivision includes 25 lots that are approximately 1/3 acre in size, and a large remainder lot of approximately 130 acres. This is located on the recently annexed property north of Northern Meadows (by DH Holdings), likely no public hearing until April or May. Code Amendments for Active West

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.

Development- An initial draft has been completed to allow for residential development in the commercial zone, as requested by Dennis Cunningham. Those amendments are being edited and may be ready for a public hearing at the March 16th meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1) Short presentation by Dr. Becky Meyer for the Lakeland School District on their Upcoming Replacement Levy (March 9, 2021) – 1) She didn't bring her whole presentation, as next week on the 24th there will be a public meeting with the presentation. A time to ask any questions you have, they are just trying to inform the community and encourage everyone, parents too, to get out and vote. 2) She also mentioned being the only local school district that has for this whole year, that has had, in person 5 days a week for the entire school year; and their COVID-19 rate is the same as CDA and PF school district rates. 3) Also, the district is #2 in the state for the highest graduation rate by cohort, and it was 96.7%, which is fantastic for a 3A and 4A size school. 4) Their biggest goal for the March 9th Replacement Levy is to increase voter turnout. Over the last 5 years parents have only made up about 17% of the voters. Regardless of how you vote, they are encouraging everyone to vote. She finished by summing up some basic information on the Levy and said she could provide the council with the presentation if they wanted a copy.
- ~~2) Discussion or inquiry regarding the Lot line adjustment for Mary Zichko and how the water lines might be best handled.— Mary Zichko Requested to reschedule until March 16th.~~

ACTION ITEMS:

1. APPROVAL OF THE January 19th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Denis, that we approve the regular meeting on the 19th, minutes without amendments.

**DISCUSSION All in favor-None opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM*

2. APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by McDaniel, to approve paying the

February/March bills and payment #3 to NNAC as submitted without amendments. **DISCUSSION- Lori shared this will be the 1st bill to run through the DEQ loan. The city has spent approximately \$350,000 so far of the committed \$399,000 for the Water Improvement Project. All in favor-None opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM*

3. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to consider not requiring any additional site improvements at 5959 E. Hwy 54 for the Timberlake Fire Department and to not file a Notice to Title. – City Attorney, Caitlin Kling, shared she had spoken with the fire district's attorney. He apologized for the lack of communication, but felt this is something they would fight, if need be. Their conversation further identified how the improvements to the lot are intended to be used, and offered to post it as such, so that it does not get used as a parking lot, but rather snow storage. After a short discussion the council made the following motion: **Motion by Denis to approve the request to allow for no additional site improvements, nor a notice to title at 5959 E Hwy 54; but allow a condition of posting a sign for the snow storage use and the occasional misc. training.** It should also be noted the council agreed to still allow for the parking on the pre-existing old road/parking area, which is the westside of the fire building. ** DISCUSSION Roll Call Vote: McDaniel-yes; Stack-yes; Baldwin-yes; Denis-yes. Motion Passed. ACTION ITEM*

4. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to consider the Annual renewal of the Athol/Spirit Lake Grandmothers Club contract for use of the community center in the 2021 year. Motion by Denis, to approve the Grandmothers contract as presented for the year 2021. **DISCUSSION Roll Call Vote: Stack-yes, Baldwin-yes, Denis-yes, McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM*

5. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Annual Renewal for City Beer, Wine and Liquor Licenses, as well as new license requests. Lori to discuss. Motion by Baldwin, to approve the list of renewals as presented for one year and the newly applied for as listed. *DISCUSSION- Roll Call Vote: Baldwin-yes, Denis-yes, Stack-yes, McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

6. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to purchase a new used truck for the Public Works/Water Operator position – Anthony to discuss. Motion by Stack, to approve the purchase of a truck as just discussed with Anthony, not to exceed \$36,000.00. *DISCUSSION – Anthony explained the several options he provided and shared his first choice was the Ram 3500. We get the great rate due to piggybacking on the state rate. After a short discussion the council made the following motion: **Roll Call Vote:** Denis-yes, Stack-yes, McDaniel-yes, Baldwin-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

7. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to amend the Panhandle Area Council’s two Contracts. Specifically, the end dates & contract amount for the Labor Monitoring for the Water Improvements. Lori reminded council this is what was discussed at the last meeting regarding the labor monitoring and problems PAC has been having with the various contractors. She reminded them of the additional measures all are doing to lower the number of hours; but that these amendments are still necessary at this time. Motion by Stack, to approve the Mayor’s signature on both of the PAC contracts, that extend the ending dates on both and increase the dollar amount for the Labor Monitoring. * DISCUSSION - **Roll Call Vote:** Stack-yes, McDaniel-yes, Baldwin-yes, Denis-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

DISCUSSION ITEMS CONTINUED:

- 3) **Discussions on the Use of Shipping Containers in a Residential Zone** –Mayor Hill wanted to ask how the council is feeling about the growing number of shipping/cargo type containers being placed in the residential zone. There are a large handful now and are unsightly. He wondered, maybe the city should consider only allowing in the light industrial zone and not residential. There was a conversation in which the city planner added that he would have to draft up some language as to be careful to not set the city up for a lawsuit, but specific. Something that limits the number of units or requires enhanced screening similar to the counties. The council thought it worth him drafting up a few language options for them to consider.
- 4) **Discussions on the consideration of an Ordinance to address Broadband Service planning in sub-divisions or new developments.** – Lori is a part of a peer learning network and the latest topic was broadband, and she wanted to share a few things for the council to begin thinking about in the future. With the recent coronavirus circumstances, broadband and fiber have become an important part to serving the community. Lori is hearing of more places using language to include running conduit for dark fiber in new subdivisions to lessen the costs down the road. The city just put in the infrastructure through the broadband grant, and so have the library and the schools. It is something to consider moving forward. Let us be ahead of the curve not behind, as technology is the way of the future. The City of Sun Valley has already incorporated the changes in an ordinance and the city of Bonners Ferry is in the process of working jointly with Avista to establish their own broadband as a utility. Planner, Rand, did add that currently cable, even electricity and other utilities are not required by cities in subdivisions, but it is something to think about moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **City Council-**None / **Mayor-**None / **Staff-** **Lori** 1) Anderson Bros has just about completed the city’s FY2020 audit. Lori wanted to know if they wanted the auditors to come and present the full audit like they do every year, or might they just be ok with Lori pointing out the normal things and if they have additional questions or concerns, then bring them in. Council agreed to just have Lori review it

with them and see if that is good enough. 2) Lori gave a brief update on several legislative bills and reminded the council that the AIC website is a great resource with a bill tracker. There are several that could directly impact the city. (HB53; SB1048; SB1048; HB66; HB73; HB87; HB124; HB125) **Anthony**- none.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:43pm

ATTEST:

Bill Hill, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on