



Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021
6:00pm Regular Council Meeting**

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Hill; Councilwoman Denis; Councilman Cutaiar; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Kramer; Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works-Anthony Brandt; Caitlin Kling, Attorney; and Rand Wichman, City Planner.

REPORTS:

Treasurer Report – Lori submitted September written report and read aloud the bank account balances. Checking was \$121,225.63; Savings/MM was \$217,034.86; and LGIP was \$834,516.63.

Water Report – Lori submitted September written report and read the totals aloud. September usage was 6,119,516 gallons and coin haulers were 400,600 gallons. There are 45 Accounts getting a late fee and 7 letters going out for shut off's.

Public Works – Anthony submitted September written report. No comments or questions.

Planner Report – Rand submitted written report and briefly ran through it by subject matter: Rand briefly shared the changes amongst staff for who and how basic building location permits, and some code enforcement will now be handled and listed for council. He will still be available and involved but more as support to the city staff doing the work and heavy lifting in paperwork. Colton Acres- applicant has completed most of their infrastructure plans and they have been approved. They are permitted to begin road, water and sewer construction at the property. They have not yet provided for the secondary access to Sheep Springs Road (or another acceptable alternative), but that will be required prior to the final plat approval. Pastime/Freemont Street Improvements – No new updates from the Hester's. Idaho Forest Group – nothing new to report. Cole Annexation- A letter was sent to the Cole's terminating their 2016 annexation application (expired due to lack of activity, etc.). We have not heard anything back from them. Fast Subdivision – Consultants for Gary Fast are working towards finalization of the Fast Subdivision. They have recently submitted a revised plat that will be reviewed in the coming days. Active West Development – Has submitted a PUD and a Subdivision application for 35 residential units on 4.38 acres on Lot 22 at the Crossings. Staff will begin processing this application in the next couple weeks, with a council public hearing anticipated in December or January. Road Improvements on 2nd Street – Levi Thomason has purchased several parcels on the unimproved portion of 2nd Street between Menser and Hill Ave. He intends to work with adjacent landowners Shane McDaniel, to re-align the intersection of 2nd Street on the south side of Menser. This will involve a right of way vacation, dedication of new road right of way, road improvements, and extension of the water main in the area. There was a brief conversation on the current roads in that area and where the water runs near it. Rand said in sum this will be similar to what Hester is doing on Pastime and Freemont Street. Dan Holmes RV

***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.*

Park – Has requested an amendment to the compliance agreement that was negotiated with the city for the RV Park at 6330 E Bertsch Ave. This item is on tonight’s agenda to discuss further.

DISCUSSION:

1. Dr. Becky Meyer Superintendent of Lakeland School District – First apologized for it having been a while since she last attended. She is aware that the right of way ownership has changed so today she is wanting to come before the council to discuss getting together for a meeting or a sub-committee of some sort to talk about any possible better ways to improve traffic around the school and lessen the risk to children walking between the busses. She also shared Athol Elementary is up in enrollment, and they have more staffing and reasonable class sizes. They plan on opening an elementary life skills program for disabled and delayed kids to be integrated into the programs with one-on-one help in Athol. Timberlake High School is for the second year in a row being named one of the top 3 schools in the state. **Lori will get a meeting planned with representatives Dr. Meyer, Ramona Grissom and others from the Lakeland School District as well as City representatives Shane, Lori and Anthony to discuss some options for bus traffic.**

2. Stillman Norton of Keller Associates – Updated the council regarding Water Improvement Project, specifically the Raising of the Water Tower and why it is being delayed. A combination of contractor, Shearer Tank, being behind schedule for the cemetery tank, as it is still not ready, and now the contractor, Phoenix, for the water tower raising is not able to wait, as they have other projects. And lastly, he shared that another issue was the current elevations for the water tower is not what they thought they were, and now as a whole it appears that the raising of the tower will still result in a 3’3” shortage of height because the design doesn’t match what is there. This basically will result in 3 different options for the council to consider. We don’t have any costs yet. But this does mean that the raising of the water tank will not happen until sometime this spring. After a further conversation of the three options in a little more detail, Stillman said he will bring it back to the council once we know the costs for them to decide on where to go from there. He also shared that all three of the options presented do still meet or get the city additional gallons that helps accommodate future growth. More to come once he gets numbers from the contractor, but he thinks the city still has approximately \$140,000 left in contingency funds. Also, the Lorraine Drive Loop is on hold until next spring because they cannot get the parts. There was also a brief conversation on potentially giving substantial completion for some of the project like the cemetery tank and the Grove Street well house. The City Attorney, Cailin, and the engineer didn’t really agree on how that part should be handled or if the city should even consider issuing substantial completion on any part of the project. It will be further discussed at a future meeting when/as more information becomes available.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) **APPROVAL OF THE October 5th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Motion by McDaniel, that we approve the last regular meeting on the 5th, minutes without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM****

2) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by McDaniel, that we approve paying September/October bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-- Lori explained the bills briefly regarding which bills are related to the DEQ loan. All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM****

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL for Review of a Proposed Subdivision in the Area of City Impact. (Approx. 27 new homes on 5-acre parcels located along Howard Rd.) – Rand gave the council a reference point for the location of this subdivision application, that it is located just outside of the city limits on the other side of Howard Road. After a brief discussion the following motion was made: **Motion by Cutaiar to respond to the county with a “no comment” on this Ranch 54 subdivision.** *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Councilwoman Kramer-yes; Councilman McDaniel-yes; Councilman Cutaiar-yes; Councilwoman Denis-yes; **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of an Amendment request regarding the Compliance Agreement by Dan Holmes for the Country Corner RV Park on Bertsch and 7th Street. – Rand addressed the council with a brief history of events (staff considering a conditional use permit verses an amendment to the compliance plan) and then got into what Mr. Holmes is currently requesting today, which is a one-time extension to allow for year-round use through this winter. Mr. Holmes then shared why he is asking for this exception to allow just this once, for the current tenants in his RV park to stay through the winter, sharing he will not ask for this again in the future. Just tough circumstances for each and he wanted to help them out the best way he knew he could. He knows that some tenants may even find a place and move out before spring and may not even be there the whole winter. He agreed to also not bring in any additional tenants. After a further discussion and Mrs. Holmes briefly sharing their rules they have in place for the tenants, the following motion was made: **Motion by Denis to approve the Amendment Request with the additional language that once a space is vacated, he will not re-rent to a new tenant until after May 1, 2022 and authorize the Mayor’s signature.** *DISCUSSION Roll Call Vote: Councilman McDaniel-no; Councilman Cutaiar-no; Councilwoman Denis-yes; Councilwoman Kramer-yes. With a tied VOTE the Mayor then needed to break the tie and Mayor Hill voted- yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Applying for the Children Pedestrian Safety Program 2021 Application, with the help of Scott from Keller Associates. (application deadline is 12/16/21) – Lori shared that we have applied for this grant in past years and that last year it was not offered. She would like to work with Keller to apply for this grant again. It would be for Rapid Flashing Beacons for 3 crossings along Hwy 54, as well as possibly something to get a Safe Routes to School Program from the Transportation Plan. The grant could be awarded up to \$250,000.00. **Motion by McDaniel, that we approve using Keller Associates to help complete this year’s LHTAC Grant Funding Applications for the Children Pedestrian Safety Program, not to exceed \$500.** *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Councilwoman Denis-yes; Councilwoman Kramer-yes; Councilman McDaniel-yes; Councilman Cutaiar-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1) Mary Zichko (city resident) – 1) wanted to know if we had a date for when the new meters would be in? Anthony responded he just found this morning that they have been delayed for two more months. 2) Does not having the meters in affect her in selling off her lot? She was told no, it does not. Mayor- thanks Ted and Renee for attending and sitting through the whole meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **City Council-** none. **Mayor Hill** –none / **Staff-** Lori -1) Discussed with the council the new fiscal year dates for the regularly scheduled council meetings. Staff brought forward three dates for the council to discuss. After a brief discussion only 2 dates were cancelled due to the closeness of a holiday. Lori will get the updated annual schedule posted on the website and in the building. 2) Lori wanted to share that we are now down to 20 cemetery plots left for sale, of those 11 of them are singles. Many people buy 2 side by side. She gave the council a list of the number of plots sold

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in past years and how they compare to this last year. We just sold 15 plots for last year, which is a very high year. But we have also already sold 4 this month and we are only 2 weeks into this year. Council had a brief discussion and then directed staff to work on a plan and get some costs. Feeling like we will have to get surveying done and legal descriptions and mapping all done in addition to clearing the land.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:22pm

ATTEST:

Bill Hill, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on