

# **MINUTES - CITY OF ASHTON**

## **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**February 9, 2005 - 7:00 PM**  
**ASHTON CITY HALL**  
**714 MAIN STREET, ASHTON, IDAHO**

**PRAYER OFFERED BY: Jerry Funke**

**PRESENT:** Mayor -Teddy Stronks, Council Members –Jerry Funke, Richard Huntsman, Linda Janssen; and Brett Pincock

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk- Joni Amen, Public Works- Delray Jensen, Rhonda Bell Casper, Kevin Casper, Tyler Baum- Standard Journal, Lacey Ekberg- Fremont Ec Dev, Lynn Seymour- Targhee Regional Public Transit Service, Linda Graham- Cart, Carol Marotz, Bob Comstock Sr., Susan Steinman, Bryon Hatton, and other concerned citizens

### **1. PRESENTATIONS, CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Economic Development Director-Lacy Ekberg reported that she currently has no projects for Ashton. She stressed that she is here to help and wants to get something going for Ashton. She is interested in saving the old high school and is looking into the possibility for a project in the future.
- B. The Scott Kidd family has announced that they would like to donate a concrete bench in memory of Scott Kidd. Jerry Funke said it would be a nice addition to the Park close to the playground so that people could sit and watch their children while they play. The City is very happy to memorialize Scott- he truly had a heart for our town and we miss him.
- C. Susan Steinman presentation moved to #4-Public Comments.

### **2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

*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 Regular Council Meeting January 12, 2005**
- B. **Treasurers Report & Financial Statement– As Submitted**
- C. **Payables – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures**
- D. **Employee Expenses – As Submitted**

Motion by Funke, seconded by Pincock to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL: Huntsman Y; Janssen Y; Pincock Y; Funke Y; Motion carried.

### **3. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None**

### **4. Public Comments** (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)

- A. **Susan Steinman, Vice President of Chamber of Commerce**, presented and facilitated a discussion on forum for sharing ideas. Susan showed the Chamber Website that she has built, including the new Municipal Services page. The Chamber concerns are communication and that is one of the topics that they are working on. She has the minutes and agenda listed on the site. She has also incorporated a subscription based chat room for a discussion group on the page and would like participation of the City. She said that it could be moderated by Clerk before posting any messages. The Council will take it under advisement. She would like feed back in the near future. They will be trying it at the Chamber.

### **5. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS: NONE**

### **6. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:**

- A. **Jan Barber**, Methodist Minister- discuss mass transit/transportation. Jan is concerned with the lack of public transportation in Ashton for all, not just seniors.
- B. **Rhonda Bell** – Is also concerned about public transportation and has a list of 21 names of seniors who would like to see CART come to Ashton. She said that any effort that CART made to come to town would be greatly appreciated. She talked with Mel Atwood of the Senior Center and he said that they

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provide rides with the bus that they have.

- C. **CART-** Executive Director –Linda Graham explained that they currently have offices in Salmon, Idaho Falls, Driggs and Rexburg, and went on to explain the local routes- Driggs to Rexburg is 2 times a day. They also go to St Anthony 2 times a day. They provide over 200,000 rides a year in our area. They have a 32 vehicle fleet all but 3 equipped with lifts for the disabled. They have 3 separate grants that help fund CART that are specifically for rural areas (53-11 funds, ITD). They advertise on their buses to help with the matching funds. They have several contracts such as Head Start, Foster Grandparents, etc. They are agents for Rimrock Trailways as well. Hours are Mon thru Fri 7-5:30. They could expand to include Ashton with funding from our city. They could also dedicate a vehicle to service the Ashton area (with additional funding). Funke asked what the cost would be for tickets- she stated that it depends on the distance. Linda said that the fares do not cover the costs for expenses.

Mayor Stronks asked how much of a commitment it would take from the City. Linda stated that it would be approximately 25% match or around \$12,000 to purchase a bus and get service started in Ashton. Rexburg is not helping with funding currently, nor is St Anthony.

Bryon Hatton commented that he commutes to I.F. everyday and wondered if they could provide services for someone like him. She said that they could provide a van for people who commute. She said there is money available for that. Lacy Ekberg said that ITD has money available for small towns to buy a van if there is a need.

Linda said that if there were any questions we should call her at 522-2278. The Mayor thanked Ms. Graham for her time and wished her a safe trip back to Pocatello.

- D. **Lynn Seymour** – Executive Director, Targhee Regional Pubic Transit Services. She provided the Idaho Code and a letter to the Mayor and Council inviting area elected officials to a meeting that they will be having on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be a planning session for the future and to decide what kind of regional transportation program they want. Lynn explained that the CART program is a non-profit corporation. TRPTS is a government entity with a board of directors. She operates with 53-07 (Federal money) so her funds don't go through the same funding as CART. They are not competing with CART, they currently have a lot of money (over 1 million dollars) that they are sitting on, but can't come up with local matching funds. They are a service that works with urban funds. They could provide service as long as the destination was Idaho Falls - an urban area. They have bought the property at Doug Andrus' in I.F., they could work with other transportation company's and work with Cities, and Counties to plan into the future. She said they will loose the grant money if they can't pull it together. The Council thanked Ms. Seymour for her time.

### **7. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Audit approval

Motion by Janssen to approve the Audit for fiscal year 2003-2004 as presented, seconded by Pincock. Motion carried.

### **8. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Ila Marotz- Sewer issue- Jerry Funke said that he would like to discuss the sewer line, being that the house will be installed in a couple of weeks. They will be installing sewer line down the alley. Linda reported that they met with Dick Dyer and that they decided that this line will be in the projected improvement plan and that it is a priority.

### **9. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

- A. Police have made a drug arrest and Mr. Pincock will go into detail later, after the court has ruled on the case.
- B. Linda reported that they will be meeting to discuss the city chlorination system tomorrow.

### **10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*I.C. 67-2345 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.*

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**11. Adjournment**

That there being no further business, motion to adjourn made by Pincock, seconded by Janssen, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joni Amen, City Clerk.

Attest:

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Joni Amen  
City Clerk/Treasurer

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Theo R. Stronks  
Mayor