

MINUTES-CITY OF ASHTON

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (west entrance)

*The purpose of the Agenda is to assist the Council and interested citizens in the conduct of the public meeting. Careful review of the Agenda is encouraged. Testimony from the public will be solicited for any item or issue listed under the category of **Public Hearings**. Any individual who wishes to address the Council on any other subject should plan to speak when **Item 3- Public Comments** is identified by the Mayor. The Mayor will not normally allow audience participation at any other time. Idaho Law prohibits council action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance.*

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

PRAYER OFFERED BY: Linda Janssen
PLEDGE LED BY: Richard Huntsman

Mayor Stronks welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:03 PM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Teddy Stronks, Councilwoman Linda Janssen, Councilman Brett Pincock, Councilman Richard Huntsman, Councilman Matt Brady,

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Cathy Stegelmeier, City Attorney Joette Lookabaugh, Del Jensen, Lance Meccico, Bob Comstock, Peter Young, Bob Gaston, City P&Z Administrator Suzette Bollinger, and Steve Lookabaugh.

1. 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 November 14, 2007.
- B. **Treasurers Report & Financial Statement**– As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As Submitted

Councilwoman Brady made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Janssen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. PRESENTATIONS, CEREMONIES, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

3. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

- A. City of Ashton Resolution # 07-06 – 3% Increase in Water & Sewer Fees.
- B. City of Ashton Resolution # 07-07 – Deadline for Council & P&Z Committee Agenda.

Councilwoman Janssen made a motion to dispense with 1st & 2nd readings of each resolution and to read each resolution by title only. Councilman Huntsman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Councilwoman Janssen read both the Resolutions into the record.

Councilwoman Janssen made a motion to approve the resolutions. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:

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5. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Sign Ordinance – Peter Young. Peter thanked Mayor Stronks and the council for the opportunity to speak at council and for reading his letter sent to them to explain his views on the sign ordinance. He is thankful that the council is willing to listen to the citizens and he would be willing to help organize the meetings to work on the sign ordinance. He is looking forward to enhancing the level of trust between business owners and individuals. He feels that government needs to allow business owners to make decisions on their own business. Peter asked if the council is ready to set a date for the preliminary meeting on the sign ordinance. Wednesday the 23rd of January was set for a meeting at 7 PM at the Community Center. Councilman Pincock asked City Attorney Lookabaugh if she would let the mediator know the time and date of the meeting and let the council know if there is a conflict, etc. Mayor Stronks thanked Peter for his time and interest.
- B. City Building Entrance – Cathy Stegelmeier. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained to the council that there has been a holdup on moving the telephone pole by office door. Marty is hoping to start next week but it will depend on the pole.

6. STAFF AND COMMITTEE/SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee Report – Melodie Chriswell. Councilman Brady has met with the youth committee to discuss plans for youth room. Their biggest concern is how they are going to fund the project. They were talking about having a guitar hero tournament over Christmas holiday. They will be meeting again this Friday and he will have more information for us at the next meeting.
- B. Community Center Committee Report – Shirley Wilkinson, Sara Reinke. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that they committee had an individual who would be willing to remove the separating door in the meeting room if he could have the door for salvage. It was discussed that the cost of removal and the value of the door would be a wash. Councilwoman Janssen described the work that the work camp is doing at the gym. They are cleaning and painting. It will show that the city is serious about getting it cleaned up and ready to go. Councilwoman Janssen also explained that she can't say enough about the ladies on the committee and their commitment to the community center. They are working hard to help with the center. They meet each week at 10 am but try to meet once a month in the evening. Mayor Stronks announced that he received a letter that Rocky Mountain Power is awarding a grant for \$1,000 to the Community Center.

Councilman Janssen made a motion to let Brad Rankin remove the separator door in the meeting room and keep it for salvage. Councilman Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

- A. Mayor Stronks – City Christmas Party. Mayor Stronks reminded everyone about the city Christmas party on December 13th at 6 PM.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)

Peter Young asked the council about the resolution on the 3% raise in rates. The Council explained that they want to be responsible to make sure the rates will reflect inflation. It was also explained that the rates could be raised up to 5% without public hearings but the council wants to keep it to the least.

Mr. Bob Comstock asked about the Agenda deadline. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that the deadline helps so that all the information can be put in the council packets so the council can have time to study them.

Councilman Pincock has been helping with snow removal and Todd had talked to him about the Manitou needing some wings so that they can move more snow at a time with them. The council wondered if he couldn't get flat

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iron to bolt on the sides. Councilman Pincock explained that there would still need to be a blade on the bottom and that it would be \$2000 for materials plus then labor to get it made. Mayor Stronks asked what the cost of freight would be. The council agreed that they need a little more information prepared for them to know what to do. The council asked that the question be put on unfinished business for next month. City Attorney Lookabaugh reminded the council to be cautious about the potential liability if equipment is used for a purpose for which it was not intended.

Councilman Brady made a motion to authorize spending up to \$2100 but if steel comes in cheaper – go through that way. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. One abstained.

Lance Meccico from Envirolagoon was here to explain how things are going with the biological dredge on the lagoon. Lance is here every Friday to work on the Lagoon. The dredge is approximately halfway done. It is working like a dream. Del Jensen is happy with the work and explained that Lance is very thorough and prompt.

Councilwoman Janssen had a comment she wanted to read into the record. She served on the Planning and Zoning Committee for several years. There had been a situation similar to the sign ordinance situation and it almost stopped the committee in their tracks. Councilwoman Jansen then read the following:

The P & Z Commission is made up of a cross-section of the community; people appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. They are volunteer citizens who donate their time and energy for the good of this Ashton area.

As City Council we deeply appreciate their work and dedication. We support them in the work they do and will stand behind them when questions arise concerning ordinances and decisions that have gone through proper procedure in being established.

Councilwoman Jansen feels that the round table is going to be wonderful but wanted the council to be aware of the gravity of the situation.

City Clerk Stegelmeier explained to the council that the nativity scene has been vandalized. The Shepard and a sheep were vandalized today. Chief Mattingly suggested that we put reward out for information. If people feel like they can do whatever they want, and there is no punishment, then we will be working at this all season. The money can be gotten back at court. He suggested and City Attorney Lookabaugh agrees that a \$500 dollar reward to arrest and prosecution of the person would be reasonable.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to authorize \$500 dollar reward to arrest and prosecution of the person who vandalized the nativity. Councilman Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. One abstained.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Brady seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously

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9. 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.*

Advise Legal Counsel, Personnel Issues

Councilman Pincock made a motion to exit executive session. Councilman Janssen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Councilman Brady made a motion to accept payment from Paul Wynn as per the court ruling. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Councilman Brady made a motion to authorize audit transfers to balance funds. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Councilman Brady made a motion to pay out sick leave on next pay period. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Councilman Pincock made a motion to interview for custodians on 18th of December. Councilman Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

10.ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Brady made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, January 9, 2007 Council Chambers. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meeting should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk or call 208-652-3987.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest:

Cathy Stegelmeier
City Clerk

Theo R. Stronks
Mayor