

**RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
September 13, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Riggins City Council was called to order by Mayor Glenna McClure.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Roll Call – Akins, Sampson, Wilson and Clay.

Guests: Jerry Wolcott, Gary Haueter, Shawnetta Cluck, Sherri Cereghino, Kelsey Gatti, and Bob Crump

Staff: Dan Wash, Cody Killmar and Paul Gatti

**AUGUST MINUTES:** Council members were individually polled and all confirmed they had read the August meeting minutes. Motion was made by Sampson to approve the August meeting minutes as presented; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Clay, Wilson, Sampson, and Akins. No nays; motion carried.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT and BILLS FOR PAYMENT:** The financial statement was read detailing \$2,960.65 was paid after the August meeting bringing the total August disbursements to \$80,389.27. Bills in the amount of \$239,025.94 were then presented for payment. Motion was made by Clay to approve the financial statement and allow the bills for payment; seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Wilson, Clay, Sampson and Akins. No nays; motion carried. A copy of the financial report is attached and hereby made a part of this record.

**FIRE CHIEF APPOINTMENT:** At this time, Mayor McClure requested the Council consider appointing Paul Gatti as the new City Fire Chief. Motion was made by Wilson to appoint Paul Gatti Fire Chief; motion was seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Wilson, Clay, Sampson and Akins. No nays; motion carried. Mayor McClure thanked Paul for stepping up to the challenge.

**SURPLUS FIRE EQUIPMENT:** Chief Gatti provided the Council with an inventory of Fire Equipment. Paul has been working off the Auditor's Asset Management List and has found a number of things that need to be deleted from the list.

Following is the list of items that are out of date and need to be declared surplus:

18 helmets	3 Scott Air Tanks	8 pairs Turnout Pants
7 Turnout Jackets	Desk – training room	9 pairs of Boots

After review, a motion was made by Sampson to declare the identified fire equipment as surplus; motion was seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

**AMBULANCE – NITROUS OXIDE BLENDER:** Killmar reviewed the benefits of this equipment for pain control. Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen are mixed (blended) 50/50; this is often used in dental offices for pain control. Our ambulance service is now an Intermediate Life Support (ILS) with Advanced EMT's on our crew; only Advanced EMT's are allowed to use this equipment. Guidelines on its use is very specific, and can be used on patients of all ages and is patient administered. Patients with abdominal pain are ruled out for use. Killmar indicated it's a more holistic approach to pain control and can be utilized in place of morphine or fentanyl for children. Councilor Akins stated this would be beneficial with the lengthy ride to a hospital. Killmar reported the equipment is \$3,750; would go into the primary ambulance. He requested the Council consider approving this



purchase and using Resort Tax funds for this expense. After discussion, a motion was made by Wilson to approve the purchase of a Nitrous Oxide Blender using Resort Tax funds; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**LIBRARY** - no report

**FIRE** – Fire Chief, Paul Gatti, provided the following report:

- ✓ Department is going to start using the same inventory system as the ambulance (Operative IQ); this system can also be used to maintain service records.
- ✓ Hazmat Grant application for \$10,000 has been submitted; this is a nationwide grant with only 5 recipients. Councilor Akins expressed his concern about the lack of a Hazmat response team in our area. Case in point, the propane truck accident earlier this year; it took nearly 6 hours to get the first hazmat team here; then another team had to come due to the severity of the situation. State Representative, Charlie Shepherd, is on the Transportation Committee; Akins indicated the City needs to reach out to Shepherd about the need. Briefly discussed the loads of antimony that will be coming through our area from the proposed Stibnite Mine. Clerk will connect Belinda Provancher with Chief Gatti.
- ✓ Fire Prevention Week starts October 8<sup>th</sup>. Paul is scheduling an event with elementary students on Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Paislie Program – one of our local youngsters, Paislie, setup a lemonade stand this summer and raised \$1,200 for smoke detectors for the community. Paul is getting the word out that these smoke detectors, as well as carbon monoxide detectors, are available to the community at no cost. In addition, the Red Cross is partnering on this effort and will be donating smoke detectors on an ongoing basis.
- ✓ Red Cross Disaster Response Volunteers – Paul and his wife, Kelsey, have volunteered to be the Idaho County volunteers with the Red Cross Disaster Response program.
- ✓ Firefighter I has been completed; practical exams are being scheduled to finish that up.
- ✓ Firefighter II will start once the practical exams on FFI are done.
- ✓ Electric Car Fires – Paul is researching training on how to deal with these.

**AMBULANCE** – Cody Killmar provided the following report:

- Congratulations to Fred Taylor who passed the Advanced EMT test. Only two EMT's are left to complete this – Ashley and Elly.
- Calls in September – 13 to date. Had 34 calls in August. Will have over 300 calls in FY23.
- Non-transport calls are increasing.
- From 2017 to date, calls in the city versus in the county are consistent with 78% of calls for local residents.
- With the Advanced EMT's, licensure has been upgraded to Intermediate Life Support.
- New ambulance delivery has been pushed out to April 2024.
- New billing system, Systems Design, is working very well.
- Five AED devices have been received. One will go in each ambulance, fire truck, and two Public Works vehicles.
- Ambulance and Fire department received grant funding for swag to be distributed for Fire Prevention Week events, as well as a new printer.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Dan Wash provided the following report:

- ◆ Manhole cover project delayed; Kern is very busy. A temporary solution will be to pave over the manhole in front of Seven Devils.



- ◆ Crew will receive training on AED's from Cody.
- ◆ Forest Service recently held an online auction for vehicles. City placed a bid for a 2010 Chevrolet 1500 with 4-wheel drive; our \$12,053 bid was successful. Dan picked up the truck in Orofino today.
- ◆ Aeration Basin Air Leak – cut out a section of the sidewalk at the plant and was able to repair the joint with the bad gasket; used lead wire to apply liquid metal to complete the repair. Pipe was still good and does not need replaced.

**RIGGINS BOAT RAMP PROJECT – PHASE 3:** Nate with Welch-Comer provided the Clerk with a report - Cook & Sons is putting together a cost estimate to complete the asphalt and curbing associated with the road portion of the project. Council reviewed the Welch-Comer preliminary design for the stairway from the upper parking area to the boat ramp; structural and geotechnical engineers are designing the support and foundation system for the stairs. Cook & Sons schedule won't open up until later this fall; therefore the asphalt won't be able to be done until Spring 2024 when temperatures allow.

**SMALL FRY DAYCARE – 501c3 STATUS – GRANT APPLICATION:** Shawnetta Cluck and Cody Killmar provided the Council with information on the daycare's grant application for \$180,000; the grant is through the Department of Labor. The grant requires community partnerships with both entities giving and receiving something. Cluck is requesting that the City consider a partnership agreement which will waive the increase in water, sewer and garbage fees on the Salmon River Community Church utility billing (base rate will continue to be billed) in exchange for City employees receiving priority on the enrollment waiting list, and setting aside a portion of new child care seats for City employees. Cluck reported the number of children will be 15 with a focus on 0 to 3 years of age. The grant funding mandates they operate for at least one year. Goal is to have partnerships with school and city. Councilor Akins stated childcare in Riggins has been an ongoing problem, and this program will benefit the community. Councilors reviewed the draft agreement; after discussion, it was determined the City Attorney will need to review the agreement. At this time, a motion was made by Wilson to approve the agreement with Small Fry Daycare with the approval of the City Attorney; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried. Clerk will contact the City Attorney for review.

**ABANDONED VEHICLES ON CITY PROPERTY:** Clerk reported a Resolution is not required as the City has a parking Ordinance 142 – which states in section F that, *"The City Council is hereby authorized, in addition to any penalty that may be provided therefore, to have removed or towed an unidentified, abandoned, stolen, or wrecked motor vehicle as herein defined from any public street, alley or other municipal property. The actual cost of removal, tow-in, and any related storage expenses shall be the responsibility of the owner of such vehicles."* Section I stating, *"Any vehicle towing, removal and subsequent storage charges shall be the responsibility of the owner of such vehicle. Thereafter, any lien against such charges shall be the responsibility of the company, business, or individual who removed, towed, and stored said vehicle and to also ascertain ownership of said vehicle. All such liens shall be in accordance with State law and no responsibility shall be held by the Police Department, City Council, or municipality."* Councilor Clay stressed the need to enforce this ordinance equally. After discussion regarding the vehicle in the upper Park parking lot, the Clerk was directed to research filing a lien and charging storage fees for the time the abandoned vehicle has been in the parking lot (vehicle does not need to be towed to file lien).



**BUSINESS OWNER COMPLAINTS – OBSCENE MATERIALS IN SCHOOL SIGNS:** A lengthy discussion regarding the yellow signs declaring the need to remove obscene materials in Riggins school was held. Councilor Akins comments focused on the damage these signs are doing to our local businesses, and that our local businesses rely on tourism, and the need to find a new way to approach the issue; also stated, if we care about our residents, we need to address this issue... it's a community mental health concern. Councilor Wilson stressed that this issue is no different than the junky, nuisance property complaints, and that the City cannot dictate what can and can't be on private property. Mayor McClure read the draft letter to property owners displaying the signs, and indicated the property owners can tear up the letter if they want but that the City needs to do its part to address the issue. Jerry Wolcott voiced his support of the letter stating it's important to have unity, but that doesn't mean sameness; there needs to be civility in our city. Mayor McClure stressed the need to develop a sign ordinance in the future. Councilor Clay stated he is not in favor of sending the letter and made a motion to not send the letter to property owners. At this time, a motion was made by Sampson to approve the letter to property owners; motion was seconded by Akins. Mayor McClure held a roll call vote – Sampson – yes; Akins – yes; Clay – no; Wilson – abstained. Motion carried.

PERPETUA RESOURCES – Bob Crump: Bob provided a brief report on the status of the Stibnite Mine. Things are on schedule; a draft Record of Decision should be available November 2023, with construction beginning in 2024. Funding from the Department of Defense for a \$25 million contract to provide antimony for the military should be finalized in a few months. DOD provided \$14 million recently to get things moving since the antimony is in demand.

PAST DUE UTILITY BILLS/UTILITY UPDATE REPORTS: Council reviewed the August services past due report, and utility update report.

#### FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS

RCC – Lower Level w/Kitchen - November 23 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Alan Lavoie for Thanksgiving Dinner.

Heritage Center – October 23 – 9 a.m. to noon. Syringa Hospital & Clinic for Community Flu Shot Clinic. Clerk waived rental fee.

#### CLERK REPORT

Comprehensive Plan – August meeting: Clerk determined the Area of Impact did not change in the new plan. A letter was sent to Mr. Boggan detailing this.

City Clerk-Treasurer Interviews: Currently have received 5 resumes. Closing date for resumes is 9/15. One applicant is related to Councilor Clay who stated he would be willing to resign from the Council if that person were hired for the best interest of the City. Interviews will be scheduled next week.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Brenda Tilley*, City Clerk-Treasurer