

## **RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL**

April 13, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

Riggins City Hall

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

Councilors present – Sampson, Akins, Clay and Wilson.

STAFF: Dan Wash, Jeff Joyce, Elly Elder, Fred Taylor

GUESTS: Sherri Cereghino, Jon Kittell, Bob Crump, Cindy Carlson, Brenda Lawler

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

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT and BILLS FOR PAYMENT:** The financial statement was read detailing \$75,108.26 paid after the March meeting bringing the total March disbursements to \$109,313.32. Bills in the amount of \$55,434.42 were then presented for payment. Wilson requested the Clerk research Fire and Ambulance billing for Ziply Fiber with detail on payments. Motion was made by Akins to approve the financial statement and allow the bills for payment; seconded by Sampson. 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.

**CINDY CARLSON – CANDIDATE:** Cindy Carlson distributed a brochure detailing her candidacy for Idaho Senate in District 7, stressing her conservative values. Redistricting briefly discussed; most populated area in District 7 is Lewiston. Carlson stressed the importance of the primary in May; winner will take the Senate seat. Council members thanked Carlson for attending the meeting.

**RADIO ISSUES – APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING:** Elly Elder and Fred Taylor with the Riggins Ambulance reported on the county-wide meeting held April 5<sup>th</sup> in Grangeville. City Council Member Sampson also attended and prepared a written report, including recommendations, which the Council received as well. Commissioner Dennis Duman chaired the meeting with representatives from various Idaho County First Responders. Fred indicated an audio recording of the 2-hour meeting is available. Issues focused on poor radio quality and what could be done to improve emergency communications throughout the County. Elly read a statement prepared by Cody Killmar detailing the radio problems over the past two years, indicating he had copies of communications with the County he would be happy to share detailing the issue with no resolution to date. Lengthy discussion from the meeting; Jerry Zumalt, Disaster Management Coordinator for Idaho County, expressed his anger about the letter which was signed by First Responders throughout the County which was sent to the Commissioners; Zumalt indicated the problem is geographical and the location of the radio towers is the main issue, and that First Responders have not been trained on operating a radio correctly. Zumalt stated the County will be moving to all digital which he claimed will make the issue worse. The batteries for the Riggins repeater are quite old. *[Cindy Carlson stated their helicopter service would be willing to fly equipment to the tower.]* Discussed who is responsible for emergency services communication in Idaho County? Answer: Idaho County Disaster Management. Jeff Joyce indicated that when he was operating his tow truck business, he had a private frequency that cost him \$25 per month. Jeff pointed out that the Riggins repeater tower is a 6 foot marine tower. Councilor Wilson recommended another meeting of the First Responders be scheduled.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**LIBRARY** – no report

**EMS** – Cody prepared a written report in his absence which was reviewed by the Council.

- ✓ Jet Boat Races – preparations have been made; will be staging at Time Zone Bridge and the station. Radios will be programmed to communicate with race safety crews; however, responses will be coordinated with 911.
- ✓ Rodeo weekend – still working out details.
- ✓ Ambulance District – election is May 17<sup>th</sup>. Signs have been posted in the canyon. Continuing to get positive community feedback.
- ✓ Billing company switch to SoleStone date is June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ Foundation for the Ambulance has been formed; will allow Ambulance to apply for grants including Stibnite, St. Luke's McCall Thrift Store, and Adams County Health Center. These organizations require a 501C3 designation to apply. Creating an Ambulance Foundation was suggested by the Auditor.
- ✓ Stibnite Foundation Grant – applying; hope to paint the exterior of the station with grant funds.
- ✓ Grant to fund new ambulance to replace B - \$185,000; should know by mid-June; hope to get identical ambulance to our new Ambulance A.

**FIRE** – Jeff Joyce reported the following:

- Preparations have been made for Fireworks at City Park for Jet Boat weekend; Dave Olson is providing his jet boat for the other side of the river.
- Cascade System – new valves are needed for 3 of the 5 bottles.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Dan Wash, PW Director, provided the following report, with pictures:

- ◆ Electrical outlet at the back of the Fire Bay in need of repairs; repairs completed.
- ◆ Photo showing the off color liquid coming into the system; lost all the biological activity as a result; not sure what caused it.
- ◆ Culvert on Ace's Place cleaned by Dr. Pipeline; culvert was nearly full with debris and buildup.
- ◆ City Park Restroom – waterline was in bad shape; appeared to be leaking a high amount of water for quite some time before it "surfaced". Repairs were made.
- ◆ Chlorine lines at plant replaced.
- ◆ Sand Beds building – roof has been replaced.
- ◆ Vehicle search – did bid on a pickup at an online auction site; outbid. Will continue to search for pickup; Idaho Power vehicles being auctioned at end of April.
- ◆ SEWER CAPACITY STUDY – Engineers are continuing to work on the study. It was noted that the City is over capacity at the treatment plant; when the capacity study is completed, will have the information required to address this.

**CITY PARK BOAT RAMP PROJECT:** Clerk provided a written report from Nate with Welch-Comer Engineers. Nate has been in contact with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the status of the permit; still waiting for final approval. Nate has also reached out to Idaho Parks & Recreation to request a grant extension based on the permit delay. In addition, Nate is working with the Contractor to extend their contract in order to get construction completed this fall/winter. Requesting approval for the following: Change Order #1 for \$28,334.58 to address some modifications to the footings on the ramp; and Contractor Partial Payment Request #1 for \$81,018.80. After review, motion was made by Akins to approve CO#1 and Contractor Pay Request #1; motion was seconded by Wilson. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

**RIGGINS HOUSING TASK FORCE Report:** Councilor Clay reported that a conference call was held 4/11 with the Clerk, Erin Anderson (The Housing Company), Angela Edwards (CEDA), and Jerry Miller, Karen Applegren and Jenny Nordin Henley (Idaho Department of Commerce). Discussed GEM Grants; maximum funding of \$50,000; deadline is 6/20; does require a 20% match; a Letter of Intent from the property owner would be required. Land could be considered match. Survey estimate is \$7,000.

American Rescue Plan Act funding for workforce housing - \$50 million with 20% of that to rural communities; \$50,000 per unit. No rules have been released on the use of these funds. Project cost: \$1,225,000 for loan at 1% interest fully amortized over 30 years; Housing Trust Fund \$200,000 resulting in a funding gap of \$1,389,554 = total project \$2,849,554. Gap Funding – ARPA; IHSA equity; or GEM grant for utilities, engineering, land survey and design. A Community Block Grant Development (CDGD) grant is not typically used for housing. Department of Commerce has a Business Development Grant program with funding of \$10-15K. When project is completed, property will be owned by a non-profit LLC. Erin has met with a contractor from New Meadows who is interested in the project; looking at cost estimates. It was noted that construction cost estimates have increased 12-30%. Salmon River Heritage Center – briefly discussed the possibility of converting this facility back to workforce housing. Grant funding was used to complete the renovation in 2001; Clerk is researching with CEDA on grant requirements.

**ARBOR DAY GRANT & CLEANUP WEEK:** Clerk received notice that the Arbor Day Grant of \$300 was approved; Arbor Day Proclamation stated Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> is Arbor Day. In addition, City-Wide Cleanup is scheduled for May 9-12; Lake Shore Disposal is providing a roll-off dumpster at the upper Park parking lot. As usual, Main Street will be cleaned on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> following the Rodeo Parade; students from the high school will be helping again.

**2022 STUDENT VOLUNTEER:** Councilor Akins requested the Council consider restructuring this selection going forward by choosing an 11<sup>th</sup> grade student; this would allow the student to be able to include this in any applications, etc. they may be sending off their Senior year. Akins presented three individuals for consideration; after discussion, Mortaki Ceglia-Klaudt was nominated; motion was made by Wilson to name Mortaki the 2022 Student Volunteer; motion was seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Wilson, Akins, Sampson and Clay. No nays; motion carried.

**BIG EDDY RV PARK – ENCROACHMENT:** Tabled until May meeting.

**BROWN INDUSTRIES:** Briefly reviewed water/sewer services issues to Brown Industries property. Councilor Clay clarified that stubouts are available on the north side of the Big Salmon Road. Additional research will be completed.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW:** Work is continuing; May 11<sup>th</sup> is next meeting.

**PAST DUE WSG ACCOUNTS/UTILITY CHANGES:** reviewed

**FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS:**

6/18/22 – Elly Elder for the RCC lower level w/o Kitchen

**MUNICIPAL CODE – UPDATE/REVISION:** Briefly reviewed Section 12 of the Sewer Ordinance before lengthy discussion revolving around researching other city ordinances occurred, and the process to review and update. It was decided that Councilors will read the water and sewer ordinances in preparation to discuss at the May meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Brenda Tilley,*  
City Clerk-Treasurer