

RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL

May 11, 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, Cody Killmar, Fred Taylor

GUESTS: Jon Kittell, Gary Haueter, Sam Walker, Doug Ulmer, Mandy Mignerey, Pamela Bogan, Shirley Merritt, Patricia Pratt, Alan Yearsley, Melanie Yearsley

APRIL MINUTES: Council members were individually polled and all confirmed they had read the April meeting minutes. Motion was made by Sampson to approve the April 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 \$118,859.87 paid after the April meeting bringing the total April disbursements to \$174,294.29. Bills in the amount of \$53,949.00 were then presented for payment. Motion was made by Akins to approve the financial statement and allow the bills for payment; seconded by Wilson. 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.

RIGGINS COMMUNITY CENTER – PARKING LOT LIGHTING: Pamela Bogan requested that additional outside lighting for the community center parking lot be considered. Shirley Merritt stressed that it can be hazardous, especially in the winter, after dark. Discussed various options including solar floodlights; Dan indicated he would review the area and order additional lighting.

SENIOR CITIZEN MEAL SITE: Pamela Bogan reported that the Senior Citizens will receive \$15,000 from the State surplus for the meal site. She indicated they would like to pay for the carpet cleaning at the community center.

IDAHO COUNTY DISPATCH SERVICES: Sheriff Doug Ulmer was joined by Mandy Mignerey, Dispatch Supervisor, to propose cities pay for dispatch services in an effort to increase dispatchers pay, and reduce turnover. Ulmer stated there were 150,000 calls into dispatch last year. Dispatchers currently are paid \$16 per hour. He would like to implement a step program based on length of service to increase wages to \$20 per hour. They are proposing cities (Grangeville, Cottonwood, Kooskia and Riggins) pay \$1 per hour which calculates out to \$8,760 per year; this is 2% of their total budget; new fiscal year starts October 1st. Ulmer stated they are seeing an increase in the number of calls. The \$8,760 would cover ambulance, city fire, and Salmon River Rural Fire Department calls. Councilor Wilson asked if a contract between the City of Riggins and the Sheriff's Department was an option; Ulmer indicated it was, but would be based on actual costs, and went on to cite cost increases and the economy.

RADIO/REPEATER CONCERNS: Councilor Wilson expressed concern with the current reception problems that were identified at the meeting in Grangeville April 5th with County Commissioner Denis Duman. Ulmer stated this is not a Sheriff's Department issue, but that Jerry Zumalt is responsible, with repairs and upgrades made by Brian Davis (Davis Communications). Councilor Wilson shared a recorded dispatch call and the obvious difficulty in understanding what was being said, and questioned why a city would pay the County given the current reception problems. Councilor Wilson stressed the need to make this a priority to keep our citizens and First Responders safe. A lengthy discussion followed with Alan Yearsley, Salmon River Rural Fire Department Fire Chief, questioning why Idaho County is one of three counties in the State of Idaho that does not participate in the Emergency

Service Fee for 911 (included on phone billings) which covers the cost of local jurisdictions providing 911 emergency response services to citizens. Sheriff Ulmer indicated these funds can only be used for equipment, not wages. Chief Yearsley expressed concern about the radio issues putting volunteer firefighters in danger. Yearsley indicated the County Commissioners are not willing to listen or make this a priority; he has tried to get on the County Commissioner meeting agenda, but has been denied. He went on to state that SRRFD had 53 calls last year, with only 19 of those being structure fires which is what their department is designed for. 80% of their calls are wildland fires that should go to Idaho Department of Lands or the Forest Service... the system is broken. Mignerey reported the base station at Dispatch is being replaced; they are hopeful this will help reception issues.

STATECOMM REPORT REVIEW: Cody Killmar participated in a radio test with the Idaho State Communications Center (aka StateComm) on April 28th; a report was provided and reviewed by the Council. Testing was completed on repeaters from Coldsprings, Brundage, Iron Mountain, Teaken, Castle and Woodrat from Hwy 95 milepost 179 to 212, and up the Main Salmon Road to milepost 14.5, with transmissions loud and clear for the entire radio test process. StateComm will not dispatch fire calls (EMS and ITD only). Cody reported he will be meeting with StateComm staff next Monday in Boise, and will report on that at the June Council meeting.

RIGGINS HOUSING TASK FORCE Report: Councilor Clay reported that a GEM Grant application with Department of Commerce will be completed to cover design services; maximum grant is \$50,000. There is a 20% match required; City utility hookup fees can be used for this match. There have been three contractors review the build site; all will be submitting a bid for the project.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

LIBRARY – no report

FIRE – Jeff Joyce reported the following:

- Jet Boat Race Fireworks went off without any issues.
- Extrication training will be held later this month.
- Salmon Rapids Lodge – fire crew will train at this facility covering alarms, sprinkler system, etc. Of note is the sprinkler system which is operated using tanks of water in the building, not city water.
- Received a donation of 10 vests and 5 magnetic lights.
- Auction sites are being researched for pumper truck.
- Jeff has a contact with Spokane County; may have surplus engine they would be willing to donate.
- House Fire in White Bird yesterday; White Bird's Fire Department volunteers were unable to get their equipment to operate; SRRFD was called to respond. Jeff indicated this can happen to any department, but proper maintenance is a must.

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

- ◆ Wastewater Capacity Analysis – HMM Engineering report reviewed.
 - a) Recommendations:
 - i) It is imperative that the facility plan is updated for the following reasons:
 - (1) Seasonally high demands exceed 85% of capacity.
 - (2) Seasonally high peak flows have exceeded the design capacity.
 - (3) The current facility plan was completed in 2006 with a 2007 acceptance date by DEQ. The plan is now 16 years old pushing it past the expected updating timeframe of 10-15 years.
 - ii) Record hourly flow data in preparation for the facility plan update.
 - iii) Determine if a facility plan grant through DEQ is appropriate by reviewing grant information on DEQ's website.
 - iv) Plan for construction costs to upgrade the wastewater system to provide more capacity.

- ◆ Sewerline Cleaning Project Report – April 7-8: Cleaned 2,490 feet of 10" A/C mainline, 1,399 feet of 8" PVC lateral lines, with 3,889 total feet cleaned and videoed. The main collection line is 10" Asbestos Concrete pipe (A/C); this is deteriorating due to age and harsh conditions. Two options to fix this – Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP), and pipe bursting (a method of installing new HDPE pipe through existing pipe. Both options are very expensive.

There is significant root intrusion observed in both main and laterals. Laterals include School Street, Church Lane, Orchard and Cherry Lanes. Church Lane was essentially blocked by roots, with Cherry and Orchard about 80% obstructed. We've been dealing with periodic backups on Cherry Lane managed by flushing line. All lateral lines have "sags" or "bellies" which cause solids to drop out and accumulate where they start to decompose which in turn creates odor issues. The estimated lifespan of A/C pipe is 70 years which seems appropriate when used as a potable water line. When A/C is used for wastewater, the lifespan is reduced due to corrosive atmosphere. The Riggins system was installed in 1972-73... 50 years ago.

Deterioration of A/C pipe was made worse by the sealing of manhole vents in the past. When these are sealed, gases cannot escape increasing the corrosive effect thereby reducing lifespan of all components.

- ◆ SCAT – in operation for the season.
- ◆ Ditch Crew – Connie and Ellen have indicated this is their last year on the ditch.
- ◆ Ditch Repairs – 24" x 20' pipe has been installed in the section on south side of Seven Devils Road. In addition, a local mini-excavator operator with a narrower machine was hired to clean out rocks and debris in ditch.
- ◆ Shoemaker water service – completed last week; food truck operation; water hookup fee paid.
- ◆ Water Rate Analysis – data is being provided to IRWA to complete this analysis; Dan thanked Brenda and Susan for their assistance.
- ◆ Retirement - Dan reported he hopes to retire in 13 months; has begun the planning process. Briefly discussed current employees; Eric has indicated an interest.
- ◆ Certifications – Dan reported he has submitted his application for examination for licensure; has not heard back on scheduling. He has urged Eric and Shane to complete the testing for licensure.
- ◆ Trenton Thompson – Dan requested the Council consider a wage increase to \$16 for Trenton; he is a hard worker and good addition. Motion was made by Sampson to increase Trenton's hourly wage to \$16; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Akins, Sampson, Clay and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

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

- ◆ Riggins Ambulance Foundation was formed and is a non-profit 501c3. This will enable grants to be awarded as a 501c3 status is required.
- ◆ Grant Applications:
 - 1) Stibnite – to paint building
 - 2) License Plate – TV for classroom
 - 3) DHW – Automated CPR device
 - 4) DHW – Ambulance to replace B
- ◆ EMS Training – Cody and Fred attended training in Post Falls last night focused on Time-Sensitive Emergency protocols. The process to become certified in TSE takes about 3 months.
- ◆ Dr. Jonathan Currey started May 1st as the new Medical Director.
- ◆ American Legion – proceeds from Rodeo weekend this year are being donated to Riggins Ambulance.

AMBULANCE DISTRICT: Election is Tuesday, May 17th. Community support has been positive.

ICRMP – CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS: Clerk reported that ICRMP has requested a written consent to send out invoices, notices, policies, etc. either by e-mail or make them available on the member portal with notification via e-mail. Motion was made by Wilson to approve the ICRMP Consent to Electronic Communications; motion was seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Wilson, Sampson, Akins and Clay. No nays; motion carried.

PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENT: Consideration of adding June 19th as a new legal holiday. Council reviewed information on "Juneteenth" National Independence Day Act which was signed into law by President Biden in June 2021, and by Governor Little as well. Motion was made by Wilson to approve the addition of June 19th as an official Holiday to the City Personnel Policy; motion was seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Akins and Wilson; voting nay, Clay and Sampson. Due to the tie vote, Mayor McClure was required to vote to break the tie; Mayor McClure voting yea. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMPLAINT PROCESS: Councilor Akins requested clarification on how citizen complaints are to be handled in the future in an effort to reduce confrontations and misinformation. The Mayor is in charge of personnel matters. When there is a complaint about an employee to a Council member:

1. Mayor is immediately contacted.
2. Mayor consults employee's supervisor and the employee
3. If the matter warrants further discipline or action, an Executive Session will be scheduled with the City Council.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW: Work is continuing; May 25th is next meeting.

PAST DUE WSG ACCOUNTS/UTILITY CHANGES: reviewed

FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS

PARK: 6/18 – Cathy Moulton for Celebration of Life; catered by Salmon River Catering
8/15 – Jim Martin – Wedding
8/19 – Rubicon Outfitters – rafting group from 3-10 pm
RCC: 7/29-7/31 – Michele Leavitt – Bedard Memorial Dinner (both levels w/Kitchen)
8/15 – Jim Martin – Tables and Chairs offsite rental

SEWER ORDINANCE REVIEW: tabled

CLERK'S REPORT: Adam Green, City Attorney, is a candidate for Judge. If elected, City will need to secure a new City Attorney.

FY22-23 BUDGET SCHEDULE: Council reviewed a draft budget schedule. Clerk indicated a date for a Public Works walk through also needs scheduled.

CITY WEBSITE – ORDINANCES: Councilor Sampson voiced concern about the sortability of the ordinances on the website. He would also like to see any ordinances that are not current be removed from the website. He noted he was unable to locate the Utility Hookup Application form, and that the ordinances did not have the current fees included.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Tilley,
City Clerk-Treasurer