

RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 14, 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, Clay, Sampson and Wilson.

Guests: Sherri Cereghino, Samantha Stults, David Young, Scott Linja, Kerry Brennan, Sheriff Doug Ulmer, Jon Kittell, Terry Stewart, Sharon Walker, Marily Kerr

Staff: Shane Harper, Eric Coates, Cody Killmar, Dan Wash

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT and BILLS FOR PAYMENT: The financial statement was read detailing \$42,623.00 was paid after the May meeting bringing the total May disbursements to \$115,372.52. Bills in the amount of \$43,910.30 were then presented for payment. Motion was made by Clay 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.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA: Mayor McClure requested an addition to the agenda for the City Park Boat Ramp Project Grant from Idaho Parks and Recreation. Motion was made by Sampson to amend the agenda to include the IDPR Grant for the Boat Ramp Project; motion was seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

SPECIAL EVENTS – LAW ENFORCEMENT: Idaho County Sheriff, Doug Ulmer, thanked the city for requesting his attendance to provide feedback to some of the business owners in town. Sheriff Ulmer provided a rundown on what transpired over the Riggins Rodeo weekend – assault, disorderly, DUI, sex offense, open container, possession of controlled substance, and pedestrian under the influence. Sheriff stressed that Idaho State Police and the BLM are separate entities from the Sheriff's office and that he does not have any control over how many officers they schedule. He indicated that the Cowboys Association had requested more presence at the rodeo after the problems they experienced a few years ago (girl was killed when drove into river, and the previous sheriff had people trying to get his weapon away from him). Sheriff indicated he has a limited number of officers to cover the entire County; 4 are on during the day and 8 at night for the rodeo stressing officer safety is a priority. The issue of enforcing city ordinances was discussed; Sheriff indicated the Sheriff's office does not have a contract with the City of Riggins and therefore cannot enforce city ordinances. Several guests voiced their concern about the increased police presence hurting their business and tourism for the area. Others expressed their appreciation for the work the ICSO does keeping families safe. Sheriff Ulmer stated his priority is getting illegal drugs off the street and stopping drunk drivers. He reported that ICSO has more drug arrests than any other county in the State due to the use of their K9's. He requested that whenever anyone has a question or problem to reach out to him and he'll be happy to discuss the issue. Mayor McClure thanked Sheriff Ulmer for taking the time to attend the meeting.

LAKE SHORE DISPOSAL – FY24 RATE INCREASE: Terry Stewart, Operations Manager, requested an 8% increase for next fiscal year as per the Consumer Price Index. The issue of providing service to the Cemetery Road residents during the winter was discussed. Stewart indicated the problem is pushing and sliding on corners up the road. In the past, Lake Shore was able to utilize a smaller truck, but they have experienced mechanical issues over an extended amount of time. Stewart reminded the Council that they did bring extra cans down for the residences when they were unable to get up the road. Cemetery Road residents were not billed for garbage service in February and April this year because of Lake Shore's inability to provide service. Stewart reported that the company is focusing on employee retention and better pay to have better quality employees and improve their safety. Mayor McClure thanked Stewart for attending the meeting.

ACE'S PLACE PROJECT: Scott Linja, Engineer with Keller Associates, provided a Scope of Work for the project. He recapped the walk-through that was held April 21st to help identify specific areas of concern and issues; those attending were Eric, Shane, Trenton, Brenda, Councilor Clay, Mayor McClure, Charlie Shepherd (School District), Linja and Gentry Jesson (Keller Associates). The project involves multiple areas: reconstructing and re-grading Ace's Place, establishing stormwater drainage, replacement of culverts and other utilities, ADA compliant sidewalk and pedestrian ramps, water system evaluation for potential future development, the design of water and wastewater utilities along the corridor, and assistance with finding grant and project funding through funding applications and coordination with funding agencies.

The project is located near the Salmon River High School, and the Thach residence on School Drive. Councilor Clay reported the school district, and Thach are willing to work with the City on making needed drainage improvements to the road in order to make this a viable project.

Linja indicated the Scope of Work document contains the "ideal" project. The City will need to prioritize and determine budgetary constraints in moving forward. Briefly discussed the Letter of Intent that was provided to DEQ for water system improvements; Linja will get the information on this and provide an update to the City.

Reviewed next steps – 1) topographic survey (\$15,000), 2) geotechnical analysis (\$8,000), 3) basic design drawings (\$7,000), and funding assistance. Linja will update the Scope of Work for the Council to review and consider for agreement.

CITY PARK BOAT RAMP PROJECT: the Clerk reported that notification of the Phase 3 grant award from Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation has been received. IDPR will provide funding for \$308,500 to complete the access road and metal stairway parts of the project. Match funds equal \$38,500. Council reviewed the Change Order #2 (Feb 2023) from Cook & Sons Construction indicating the construction of the asphalt, base rock, and curbing shall be put on hold until the city hears about additional funding no later than June 30, 2023. Motion was made by Akins to proceed with Cook and Sons Construction for Phase 3; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried. Clerk will advise Cook and Sons and Welch Comer to proceed with Phase 3.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

LIBRARY - no report

FIRE – no report

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan provided the following report:

- ◆ Chukar Point Subdivision – valve has been located; was not all the way open; flow increased.
- ◆ Treatment Plant – blower for aeration/digester – pipe installed in 1972 is under concrete and is failing; has a 50 year life expectancy. Need to replace with above ground components.
- ◆ Ditch – running ok; Little Salmon flow is fluctuating.
- ◆ Skid-Steer – had hydraulics repaired; back in service.

AMBULANCE - Cody provided the following report:

- Year-to-date, there have been 11 more calls than last year.
- Cody and Fred are progressing with Paramedic school.
- Currently have three paramedics who are filling in when needed – Vivian, Neil and Karley.
- Difficult call last weekend with family going into the river. A Critical Incident Stress Debriefing was held Sunday afternoon with 19 in attendance. Councilor Akins commended both the Ambulance crew and Fire volunteers for their professionalism on the call, and their support of the family members at the scene.

IRRIGATION DITCH CONCERNS: Councilor Sampson reported he has received some complaints about the ditch; seems to boil down to user knowledge on pump installation, and user's ability to physically get to the ditch. It was noted that the \$500 Lateral Maintenance Fee needs to be enforced when a user does not maintain the lateral to their property. Shane voiced concern about the high water usage and the impact on well equipment. Council discussed the benefits of alternate watering days, and making this a full season requirement every year going forward. As part of the budget process, it was noted the Irrigation ditch user fees do not cover the cost of ditch maintenance. After discussion, motion was made by Akins to approve implementing alternate day watering as a standard practice for the full season into future years; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Wilson and Sampson. No nays; motion carried. Discussed putting information in the City Newsletter on the need to alternate watering and reduce the impact on city equipment; also, the importance of using the ditch if accessible.

SURPLUS EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT: Council reviewed the list of surplus extrication equipment: 1) Holmatro/Honda Hydraulic Pump System; 2) Holmatro Spreader; 3) Holmatro Cutter; 4) Holmatro Ram; and 5) four Holmatro Hydraulic Hoses. Motion was made by Wilson to approve declaring this equipment surplus; motion was seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Akins, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Clerk reported CEDA is in the process of making grammatical corrections to the document, and believes the document can be considered final. A motion was made by Akins to accept the City of Riggins Comprehensive Plan 2023-2033 with the corrections as noted; motion was seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Sampson, Akins, Wilson and Clay. No nays; motion carried.

At this time, Ordinance #229 was presented:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIGGINS, IDAHO, ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RIGGINS, IDAHO; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Wilson to suspend further reading of the Ordinance #229; seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Wilson, Akins, Clay and Sampson. No nays; motion carried.

At this time, a motion was made by Akins to accept Ordinance #229, and to publish the Ordinance in the Idaho County Free Press; seconded by Sampson. Mayor McClure conducted a roll call vote – yea, Sampson, Akins, Clay and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

AMBULANCE BILLING POLICY REVIEW: Cody presented two new policy documents that have been required by the new ambulance billing contractor, Systems Design West. 1) Individual Written Notice of Financial Assistance – based on family's annual income (must be below national poverty guidelines for this area), and must be granted financial assistance by the hospital where they were transported before application will be considered. After discussion, motion was made by Wilson to approve the Financial Assistance policy as presented; motion was seconded by Akins. Voting yea, Akins, Sampson, Clay and Wilson. No nays; motion carried. 2) Ambulance Billing and Collections Procedures – outlines the purpose, policy, procedure, collections, ambulance membership program, and treatment and transport fee schedules.

ITD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: Council reviewed the agreement dated April 21, 1999. After discussion, it was decided to schedule a meeting with ITD officials to update the agreement and clarify responsibilities. Dan indicated he would make contact to schedule the meeting.

IDAHO DEQ WASTEWATER PLANNING GRANT – STATUS UPDATE: no response to date.

ACE'S PLACE COMPLAINT: Sherri Cereghino voiced her concern on the dangerousness of pulling out from Ace's Place onto Main due to the increased number of vehicles parking on Main Street. After discussion, Dan indicated he would extend the red no parking zones on both corners.

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

ORDINANCE REVISION: briefly discussed Water Ordinance revision; rates will be reviewed and considered at the June 26th Budget meeting. Sewer Ordinance revision is in the works; will be reviewed in depth August 22nd at 5:30 p.m. When these two ordinances are completed, start process of obsolete and outdated ordinances; consider repealing.

FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS

RIGGINS COMMUNITY CENTER – Upper Level

August 19 – Geological Society of America Penrose Conference – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CITY PARK:

June 17 – Crossroads Church Picnic – 5:30 to 9:30 pm; non-profit status

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Tilley, City Clerk-Treasurer