

RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 11, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Riggins City Council was called to order by Council President, Roy Akins.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call – Sampson, Wilson and Clay. Mayor McClure was absent.

Guests: Jerry Wolcott, Sherri Cereghino, Ethan Olson, Steven Crump, Trisha Simonson, Cindy Carlson, Gail Carlson, Eric Hook, Megan Houser, Cody Williams, Travis Hollon, Shoshonah Hollon, Bruce Bovey, Cordell Bovey and Bob Crump

Staff: Dan Wash, Shane Harper, Cody Killmar and Paul Gatti

SEPTEMBER MINUTES: Council members were individually polled and all confirmed they had read the September meeting minutes. Motion was made by Sampson to approve the September 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 \$3,846.07 was paid after the September meeting bringing the total September disbursements to \$284,804.74. Bills in the amount of \$62,814.00 were then presented for payment. Motion was made by Clay 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.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION: Akins presented Shane Harper with a Certificate of Appreciation for 5 years of service with the City Public Works Department.

LETTER TO PROPERTY OWNERS – OBSCENE MATERIALS SIGNS: Akins recapped the issue stating the City Council had received comments from business owners concerned about the signs reflecting badly on our community and negatively impacting our business community. The Council then sent a letter to property owners in the City who were displaying the "*Get Porn Out of Riggins Schools*" signs in an effort to better understand what it's going to take to have the signs removed. Cindy Carlson presented several books for the Council to look at; of these, only one Water for Elephants is in the Riggins school library. Carlson stated having pornographic materials in school is an Idaho issue as well as a nationwide issue, not just a Riggins issue. After a lengthy discussion, the question was posed to Carlson, "*what has to happen to have the signs removed?*". Carlson stated the school has to repair and cleanup their policy and develop a community standard. Carlson indicated that communication between herself and Superintendent Simonson has stopped. Councilor Wilson questioned if another town hall meeting was needed to resolve the issue, to which Carlson agreed to, if there was a mediator. At 7:25 p.m., Akins closed the discussion.

BARKING DOG COMPLAINT: Akins reported that Mayor McClure had sent a letter to the property owner, Cody Williams, and his renters, informing them that the City did have a Municipal Code pertaining to Disturbing the Peace, and that the City had been contacted by residents in the area wanting something done about the barking dog. Mr. Williams stated he wanted to hear the complaints now. Akins indicated he had talked to a neighbor who reported the dog had not been barking recently. Megan Houser, the dog's owner, addressed the Council stating she had received a

warning from the Sheriff's office; she also reported that the neighbor had been feeding the dog over the fence and had received a no trespass order as a result. Akins stated he would talk with other neighbors and try to bring an end to the dispute between them.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – ID TRANSPORTATION DEPT & FIRE DEPT:

Council reviewed the draft MOU and changes from the 2018 agreement providing fire protection for vehicle fires within the ITD Right-of-Way between US Hwy 95 milepost 185 to 207. Of note was the additional training required by fire department personnel, and the requirement to provide copies of paid invoices for foam and absorbent materials. Chief Gatti will research the training requirements including Incident Response Training. Council indicated approval to proceed with the MOU.

ACE'S PLACE PROJECT UPDATE: Council reviewed a written report from Keller Associates which included a Geotechnical Survey that was completed the end of September; this will allow the engineers to design a new roadway for Ace's Place. In addition, a Topographic Survey was completed last week with surveyors on site collecting data which they are using to create a basemap of the area in order to design ADA sidewalks and ramps, and tie everything together with new grading and drainage in the future design. Next steps are for Keller Associates to develop some concept alternatives to review, and to work with the City and LHTAC for the upcoming funding applications due the end of the year.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

LIBRARY - no report

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

- ✓ Firefighter I is done; just testing to complete.
- ✓ Crew will be participating in the Emergency Medical Responders training in the future.
- ✓ Elementary and Pre-School kids will be at the station later this week for Fire Prevention activities.
- ✓ 29 smoke detectors and 9 carbon monoxide alarms have been installed.
- ✓ City crew and Salmon River Rural Fire Department crew will hold a group training on October 21.
- ✓ New member on the crew, Megan Thompson; she will be able to assist with grant applications and traffic control.
- ✓ Trunk or Treat on October 31st – will be taking fire truck.
- ✓ Would like to remind folks that it's time to sweep out chimneys; Paul is available to assist.
- ✓ Red Sticker Program – Paul would like to bring this back with the purpose to place a sticker on a child's window to alert fire personnel if there is a fire.

AMBULANCE – Cody Killmar provided the following report:

- 28 calls in September
- New billing company is great; very professional and good to work with.
- New ambulance has been pushed back to April 2024; Powerload has been received and will be stored until then at the Heritage Center.
- Cody will be attending a 3-day State Conference on EMS Leadership next week.
- The Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation is donating \$1,500 to help fund the StarLink for the ambulance.
- Radio communication has been problematic; testing was done today and they were not working. Jerry Zumalt with Idaho County has been contacted and has been responsive in working with the county contractor.
- Fred Taylor has passed the Advanced EMT test.

- Agreement with Idaho County Dispatch Services terminated September 30th. Clerk will contact County for new agreement.

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Wash provided the following report:

- ◆ Manhole in front of Seven Devils will be rehabbed tomorrow.
- ◆ New flag pole base at City Park will also be poured tomorrow.
- ◆ Irrigation culvert replacement is next.
- ◆ Street Lights – are only replaced when there are several needing done; an electrician is required and a lift truck. Dan stated the City does not have the capability to maintain these LED street lights and it was a poor decision to start putting these in.

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

FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS

RCC – both levels without Kitchen - November 25 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Joni Shepherd for Bazaar.

Heritage Center – October 15 – 5 – 7 p.m. Abby Jones for 4H meeting.

Idaho County Free Press Correspondent – Dana Greig introduced herself to the Council; she will be attending Council meetings in the future to report on in the Free Press.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Tilley, City Clerk-Treasurer