

RIGGINS CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 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 – Wilson, Sampson and Clay; Councilor Akins was absent.

Guests: Sherri Cereghino and Jeannie Fancher

Staff: Dan Wash, Savannah Hill, Cody Killmar and Paul Gatti

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT and BILLS FOR PAYMENT: The financial statement was read detailing \$122.05 was paid after the November meeting bringing the total November disbursements to \$97,292.85. Bills in the amount of \$83,279.53 were then presented for payment. Motion was made by Wilson to approve the financial statement and allow the bills for payment; seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried. A copy of the financial report is attached and hereby made a part of this record.

ACE'S PLACE PROJECT: Mayor McClure reported on a meeting held Monday, December 11th with Scott and Jake from Keller Associates, and Amanda from LHTAC. Also in attendance were Dan, Brenda, Savannah and Mayor McClure. Scott and Amanda indicated a TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) grant would be the best match for funding the sidewalk replacement; grant application is due January 18th and will be prepared by Keller. Amanda reported the LHRIP grant funding could be used for the TAP grant match.

Project was reviewed onsite. It was noted that the existing right-of-way line is located at the front edge of the existing sidewalk. Property owners along the sidewalk will need to be contacted to request they donate the right-of-way to the City to allow sufficient space for the new, wider sidewalk to be constructed without encroaching onto private property.

Councilor Clay stressed the need to get an agreement with Diane Thach to donate the right of way on School Road to the City; this area will be upgraded to improve stormwater runoff.

SYRINGA HOSPITAL & CLINICS: a meeting was held November 15th at the Heritage Center with Syringa Hospital officials to discuss what medical services are needed in Riggins. Those in attendance were Abner King, Laura Smith, Jerry Zumalt, Jonny Wilson, Brenda Tilley, Cody Killmar, Savannah Hill, and Tedi Ross. Council reviewed the notes from the meeting which centered around issues the community faces with healthcare. Clerk reported Syringa officials would like to present information to the City Council at a future meeting in 2024.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

LIBRARY - no report

AMBULANCE – Cody Killmar provided the following report:

- Cody attended the EMS Leadership Conference in Boise; a lot of good information was shared including the need for Policy and Procedure Manuals for ambulance crew. Cody started this through Lexipol; all ambulance staff are reviewing and acknowledging receipt of the policies.
- Starlink WIFI is now installed on Ambulance A.

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

- ✓ Not a lot of activity.
- ✓ Currently have 10 crew members, including our newest driver, Tim Chambless.
- ✓ Foam truck – foam unit is good; just need better vehicle.

- ✓ Fire Jeep – Councilor Sampson reported that the jeep is being refurbished by high school student, Cordell Bovey. He hopes to have it drivable by graduation with the goal of using it for parades and display.

PUBLIC WORKS – Dan Wash provided the following report:

- ◆ Street Signs – have had some stolen recently – Ace’s Place street and Berger Street stop sign.
- ◆ Rock cut – culvert installation on the schedule.
- ◆ City Park – new flag pole installed today. Dan indicated he would like to put in a display of sorts similar to what White Bird park has with the Veterans Memorial. The Chamber of Commerce president, Matt Partridge, would like to work on that as well. It was suggested that Matt come to a future City Council meeting to discuss ideas.
- ◆ Ace’s Place Project – the irrigation ditch culvert should be replaced sooner than the grant funding may come through; Kern Construction is in the process of preparing a bid to replace the culvert under the road.
- ◆ Sewer Jetter – the City paid \$32,000 to Sewer Equipment Company of Nevada last December for a sewer jetter to be built; the company is now out of business. The Clerk reported she filed a complaint with the Nevada Secretary of State’s Consumer Affairs Division. The City Attorney has indicated an attorney in Nevada will be required to go after this company. The Clerk contacted ICRMP who is researching the city’s policy for possible coverage; ICRMP representative reported that a quick search was done online for the owner of the company which resulted in current lawsuits against him in New York. Additional complaints will be filed with the Nevada Attorney General’s office and the Better Business Bureau. Information will be updated in the coming months.

2024 JET BOAT RACES FIREWORKS: Mayor McClure requested Fire Chief Gatti’s approval for the fireworks display at City Park at the races; Gatti indicated approval. Motion was made by Wilson to approve the fireworks display in City Park Saturday evening at the 2024 Jet Boat Races; motion was seconded by Clay. Voting yea, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

SURPLUS PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLE: Dan requested approval to declare the 2000 Chevrolet pickup surplus. It has been stripped of all usable equipment. After discussion, a motion was made by Clay to approve the 2000 Chevrolet pickup as surplus; motion was seconded by Sampson. Voting yea, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried. Information will be put in the next City Newsletter.

CITY PARK BOAT RAMP PROJECT: Council reviewed specs on the metal stairway design from Welch-Comer Engineers. The stairs will be galvanized grated metal with six concrete landings. After discussion, a motion was made by Sampson to approve the metal stairway design; motion was seconded by Wilson. Voting yea, Clay, Wilson and Sampson. No nays; motion carried.

RIGGINS COMMUNITY CENTER – LOWER LEVEL CARPET REPLACEMENT: Jeannie Fancher reported to the Council that the Salmon River Senior Citizens received a grant for \$10,000 to make improvements at the Community Center. They have received a bid to replace the carpet with vinyl plank flooring (including pad) - \$4,218 and \$4,000 labor. Briefly discussed sound abatement concerns for the room. The seniors would like to get another grant in the future for countertops. After discussion, a motion was made by Sampson to approve the senior citizens organization providing funding for the installation of new flooring in the community center; motion was seconded by Wilson. Voting yea, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

STIBNITE ADVISORY COUNCIL & STIBNITE FOUNDATION: The Council discussed appointing a Riggins representative to the Council and Foundation. Clerk indicated Robert Crump has agreed to serve in both for another year. Motion was made by Clay to appoint Robert Crump to both the Stibnite Advisory Council and Foundation; motion was seconded by Wilson. Voting yea, Clay, Sampson and Wilson. No nays; motion carried.

RESORT CITIES COALITION: 2024 Coalition Membership dues are \$275. Council reviewed the information provided by the Coalition; the primary objective is to make sure the legislators don't decide to repeal or revise the Resort Cities statute and create barriers to our ability to ask the voters to approve local option taxes as designed locally. Wilson noted that one of the priorities is to make sure the legislature does not amend the short term rental (STR) statute and create obstacles that prevent us from managing the local STRs; he requested clarification on what that means and what statute is involved. Clerk indicated the group meets every Friday during the winter via ZOOM; Sampson would like to participate. After discussion, motion was made by Sampson to approve membership in the Resort Cities Coalition; motion was seconded by Wilson. Voting yea, Clay, Wilson and Sampson. No nays; motion carried.

HOUSING/SCHOOL EFFORTS: Cody reported there is a group working on getting more affordable housing options in town. Trisha Simonson, Sherri Cereghino, Councilor Clay and Cody are a part of the group. The school owns 38 acres in the city; there may be a possibility of using some of that property under a 99 year lease. There was a recent meeting with Erin Anderson from the Housing Company; trying to determine a location, costs, and developing some options. In terms of water/sewer hookup fees, the group would like the City Council to consider waiving these fees in the future. Mayor McClure indicated this is the first the Council has heard of this recent effort; she stressed that in order for the Council to make informed decisions, more details must be provided. Councilor Clay requested confirmation from the City Council that ordinances would not be enacted in the future that would prohibit mobile homes in the city. After an exchange of opinions, Mayor McClure ended the discussion and indicated the issue would be revisited in the future.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL – ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CATERING PERMITS: Mayor McClure reported a request was sent out to all cities regarding the process requirements for Alcohol Catering Permits for off-site catering; Council reviewed the letter and revised catering permit application. Specifically, cities and counties require a review of the application and approval by the Fire Chief, County Sheriff, and Mayor or City Clerk before being e-mailed to ABC. Mayor McClure indicated our City Council will also review each application. The Chamber of Commerce acquires a non-profit beer and wine license which exempts them from the need to get a catering permit.

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

FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATIONS:

12/14/23 – Sonia Coates – Heritage Center

12/21/23 – St. Luke's Hospice – Heritage Center for Memorial Event

12/27/23 – Wendy Hook – Community Center lower level w/kitchen

3/2/24 – Republican Presidential Primary Caucus – Community Center upper level

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Tilley, City Clerk-Treasurer