

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 9, 2006
CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
420 NORTH BRIDGE, ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Beck, Councilmembers Garth Rose, Shawn Fransen, Darby Merrill, Cathy Koon, Matt Blanchard, and Dee Rausch.

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Jim Smith, City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard, concerned citizens, and newsmedia.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: Mayor Beck offered the Pledge.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY TRANSFER REQUEST: Mayor Beck explained the details of the request. The School District is asking the City to give them the property that has been leased to the Satellite Development Center. The Satellite Development group is dis-incorporating and is giving the building located at the property to the School District. The School District is currently using the building for a developmental pre-school. The City would be giving the District the full block of property and the alley, but would retain the streets on both sides to have full access into the skatepark. It will need to be advertised that the Council and School Board will be discussing the property transfer. Council discussed other uses the District might have for the property and concerns about any vehicle storage that may occur that could be addressed as part of the agreement. A motion to discuss at the next meeting if it meets publishing requirements or 1st meeting in September made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

WILSON VARIANCE: The Council considered a variance request by the Wilson's at 438 West 2nd North. They are requesting a two foot setback variance to allow them to build a covered front porch. Planning and Zoning conducted the appropriate hearing and recommends the Council approve the variance. A motion to approve made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

CHAMBER REQUEST – SUMMERFEST: The Chamber has made a request for additional streets they would like to close of for use at the Summerfest. They include the North side of East 1st North and South side of West 2nd North. A motion to proceed with those changes made by Rose. Rose also commented on need to better take care of garbage problems at the Summerfest. Motion received a 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

DOWNTOWN PARKING PERMITS: Mayor Beck explained that occasionally some of the downtown businesses do some remodeling and their contractors need more time to park. The Mayor has suggested they park in the alley, but there are concerns with equipment theft problems. They would need to come to City Hall to get a permit allowing them to park there. The Council discussed preparing this as an amendment to the two hour parking ordinance. Councilmember Blanchard suggested calling it a utility parking release. Mayor Beck will discuss the amendment with the City Attorney.

GARAGE SALE AND OTHER SIGN PERMITS: The Mayor explained that it is against the law to attach and signs to regulatory sign posts and to city light posts. They have to be removed. Any signs for garage sales need to be on their own support, and permission is needed from the property owner to put on the property. It is also technically illegal to put up “sandwich” board signs. The Council discussed the need to set some possible guidelines for these signs, or whether they should even be allowed. The Council will discussed the issue further at a future meeting.

SAND BAR: The Mayor explained he had been contacted by a family that spends time in St. Anthony in the summertime. They are concerned about condition of the cement at Sand Bar, but complimented the City for having the sand bar as swimming hole. The family would like to contribute substantially to a repair project. The Mayor has figures of about \$25,200 to fix the concrete. This would be to replace the retaining wall with footings underneath it. He has now asked a contractor to give a cost figure, but the family has committed \$20,000, and the City would either have get the price down or get more money. Cathy Koon suggested contacting the National Guard to see if they have some experienced people that could assist with the work.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Since the Economic Development Specialist resigned about the middle of May, the FEAC (Fremont Economic Adjustment Committee) members have tried to work out a partnership with MEDCO (Madison Economic Development Company), but the MEDCO board was not agreeable. It has been decided that a full time specialist will be hired for the County. They would be an employee of the county. The Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor would contribute at least ½ from specialist money that was shared with Clark County, and with funds from the City and other cities money they feel there is enough money to do that. The specialist would be supervised by the County Commissioners and FEAC. The salary may be \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year. The job will be advertised right away. Mayor Beck reported the City still has \$3,000 to give this year that has not been disbursed. He feels is it worth the money in order to promote the industrial park. A motion to continue with contributing \$3,000 towards economic development made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

CURFEW ORDINANCE: Chief Smith explained that other area cities (Ashton and Rexburg) have a curfew ordinance. He feels juveniles from other communities may be coming here because there is no curfew. Young people are coming to St. Anthony and partying, but the officers can’t do a lot because they are allowed to be out. Having a curfew would be an additional tool to be able to challenge them when they are out late at night. It would allow them to discuss whether they are out for legitimate. Ashton’s is ordinance is fairly liberal. Smith feels more tighter one would fit the City’s needs better. He has presented a proposed ordinance to the City Attorney, but is waiting for her opinion. He would like to see if this is something the council wants to pursue.

It was the general consensus of the Council that one needs to be established. Councilmember Koon discussed having an ordinance that would make the parents responsible. Rose commented he would like to see several cities ordinances and efforts.

He stated that a good ordinance was needed that doesn't create more problems. Chief Smith will bring more information before the Council at the next meeting.

HEARING FOR WASTEWATER PROJECT FINANCES: A motion to schedule a public hearing for project finances on the wastewater project made by Rose, 2nd, all in favor.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT: The Mayor and Police Chief brought to the Council's attention the need to enforce parking in the wrong direction. It is against City ordinance and State traffic code. The responsibility has been given to the compliance officer. He has already done some of those, and the Chief has been getting calls. They Mayor felt the Council should know that it was being enforced. Council agreed, and Councilmember Fransen stated he would like to see better enforcement of people parking too close to fire hydrants or to the curb.

MINUTES: Minutes were presented for Council approval. A motion to approve made by Koon, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

BILLS: Bills were presented for Council approval. Questions were answered and a motion to pay the bills was made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER FRANSEN

Fransen reported there is a group that wants to clean out Boys Town Park next Saturday, August 19th. They need some trucks there. He would like to have someone there who could cut stuff out for the group to remove. Koon suggested calling Lt. Woolf at the St. Anthony Work Camp to see if any inmates would volunteer as an inmate crew.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL

Merrill gave an update on the sewer project. The contractor is making progress in spite of continuing to find more lava rock. Councilmember Rose commented on the poor quality of some of the asphalt repair. The Mayor, Woody and the contractor are discussing the issue.

COUNCILMEMBER KOON

Koon discussed an estimate regarding some new power at the airport. It will cost \$5,000 for additional services. The Council and City Clerk discussed the possibility about asking to include these funds in the grant. City Clerk-Treasurer will follow up with ITD Aeronautics to see if that would be allowed.

MAYOR BECK

The Mayor updated the Council on the shelter at Keefer Park. The Rotary Club has committed \$14,000 and the Lions \$4,000. We now have funds to build a 24 foot by 60

foot shelter. The plans have been approved by the Rotary, and the contractor, Batton Construction will be starting soon. All the material bills will come through the City.

POLICE CHIEF SMITH

Smith reported the department had hired Tom Smith and he would be starting the following Monday.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN: Marla Vik, JUB Engineering, arrived at the meeting to meet with the Mayor and Council about the transportation plan. She gave out copies of the City's portion of the plan. JUB will meet with Fremont County on August 19th for any changes to the full plan. She discussed with the Mayor and Council having a sign inventory included. The Council agreed they would like to have that in the City's portion of the plan. Vik explained that the City needs to formally approve their portion of the plan. A motion was made by Merrill to approve the St. Anthony segment of the transportation plan, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. Vik also talked with the Council about the direction they needed to go to have some public meetings on pavement management and road conditions. A work meeting was scheduled for September 13, 2006, at 6:00 prior to the regular Council Meeting.

RURAL COMMUNITIES GROWTH MANAGEMENT GRANT: Vik also discussed with the Council if they wished to pursue getting funds to assist the City with land use planning issues. The grant requires a match of \$1 per capita. A motion was made by Merrill to approve matching funds and applying for the Grant, 2nd, all in favor. Vik will work with City Clerk-Treasurer Taci Stoddard to get the application completed.

2007 FISCAL YEAR PROPOSED BUDGET: The Council reviewed the budget proposal. They discussed the utility fund and rates and the need for increases in rates to cover costs. They will look the possibility of raising each utility 5% at the next meeting. A motion to adopt the tentative budget made by Merrill, 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Willard D. Beck, Mayor

Attest:

Taci Stoddard, City Clerk-Treasurer