

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

Presiding: Mayor Glenn W. Dalling
Meeting Convened at 6:30 p.m.
Prayer: Bruce King
Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Dalling; Sharon L. Bell, Clerk; Marcie A. Smith, Treasurer; Councilmembers Bruce King, Lamont Merrill, Vaun Waddell and Burch Drake; Steve Hawkes, Planning & Zoning Commission; and Jodi Parker. Councilmember Merrill was excused for part of the meeting.

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 8, 2012. Each councilmember had a copy of said minutes prior to the meeting. It was moved by Councilmember Waddell and seconded by Councilmember Drake to accept said minutes; motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT: P&Z Chairman Steve Hawkes addressed the council.

Private cemeteries: P&Z is against allowing private cemeteries in the city or in the impact area.

Comprehensive plan updates: P&Z plans to have the comprehensive plan updates completed within two months. Commissioners would like to finish the sign code first.

Code correlation – sign code update: P&Z has two pages left to discuss on code correlation and plans to finish it on April 5. Steve will email the revised sign code to everyone and would also like the city attorney to review it. Councilmember Waddell said the sign code is not a land use matter and doesn't feel there needs to be a public hearing on it.

Lot by Moon Park: Lamont Merrill doesn't want to purchase the lot until he finds out if he will be allowed to put a duplex on it. The lot, which is zoned R-2, has a 75-foot frontage rather than the required 80 feet. Councilmember Waddell read section 9-3-8(C)(4) of the Sugar City Code as follows: "Lots Not Meeting Zoning District Requirements: Any lot or parcel of land, which was of record in the Madison County recorder's office at the time its zoning district was determined but does not meet the requirements of the zoning district in which it is located for minimum lot width and/or area, may be utilized if all requirements of this title are met other than for minimum lot width and/or area." Mayor Dalling contacted Attorney Forsberg, who approved the sale of the lot to Lamont Merrill.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLY DECISION ON DISALLOWING PRIVATE

CEMETERIES: Councilmember King reported that he has not yet prepared an ordinance on disallowing private cemeteries. He believes this is a land use matter for the Planning and Zoning Commission to consider and make recommendation to the council. Bruce already presented the commission with his draft of suggested changes to title 9.

DISCUSSION ON NORTH LEG OF EAST PARKWAY CORRIDOR: A discussion was held on the county's inclination to run the northern leg of the East Parkway Corridor along 7th East (Digger Drive) rather than through the field east of Digger Drive as proposed by its engineering consultant Keller Associates. Councilmember King presented some information related to that inclination (see "Northern Leg of East Parkway Corridor" attached hereto marked "Attachment 1"). Bruce feels we should turn this matter over to P&Z for their evaluation and recommendation. Steve Hawkes, Chairman of P&Z, will report commission findings to the council on April 12, if ready.

DISCUSSION ON THIRD SOUTH: Councilmember King reported that he visited with Planning and Public Involvement Supervisor Bill Shaw of the Idaho Transportation Department's District 6 Office south of Rigby to discuss whether 3rd South should be reclassified from a minor to a major collector. After discussion, it was felt that this likely could not be done, since the road serves mostly as a city street.

NO SOLICITING AND U.S. 20 SIGNS: Councilmember King reported that the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) will install three additional guide signs through Sugar City, helping northbound motorists find their way back to U.S. 20. ITD also authorizes Sugar City to install on Idaho 33 the no-soliciting signs it had produced. City personnel should place the signs inside city limits approximately 50 feet from any ITD sign and 14 feet from the edge of the pavement, with the bottom of the sign at least 7 feet above the highway surface.

7:40 p.m. Councilmember Merrill arrived.

RECOMMENDATION ON INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, 2009 EDITION:

Councilmember Merrill reported that on March 21 he met with Fire Chief Corey Child and Fire Inspector Dale Pickering to have some questions answered. Only commercial buildings would be required to meet the code. The city would not be responsible for any cost, and Cliff Morris, city building inspector, will not be involved at all. There seems to be no advantage or reason not to adopt it. Lamont's recommendation is to adopt it.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Merrill and seconded by Councilmember Drake to move forward as a city to adopt the International Fire Code, 2009 Edition, for the City of Sugar City, including some of the clarifications Lamont had with the fire chief; motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

Feedback on Web site: Bruce reported that a man from Florida wrote to say he enjoyed the good fries made from potatoes raised at Klingler Farms in our community.

COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL:

LEPC training exercise: The training will be a mock major earthquake on the Snake River Fault (Grand Valley Fault). On April 9 there will be a full-scale exercise: emergency excavation (Police and Fire EMTs); medical and hospital involvement; technical search and rescue; and damage assessment. On April 10, evacuation – housing and food; public information. On April 11, mass care: live exercise with college students; feeding and housing –

medical care – pets. None of these exercises will be in Sugar City. The entire training exercise will be at the university.

COUNCILMEMBER WADDELL:

Easter Egg Hunt: The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 7, at 9:00 a.m. in Smith Park.

Pioneer Community Breakfast: The breakfast will be Saturday, July 28, the same day as the St. Anthony Parade.

Teton Dam Marathon: Vaun will send a draft to the mayor of a letter addressed to Mayor Woodland regarding the half marathon coming through Sugar City.

Comprehensive plan amendments: Vaun prepared a draft of the comprehensive plan amendments regarding water rights on city and annexed property where development is planned.

COUNCILMEMBER DRAKE:

Third South parking south of high school: Burch met with Sugar-Salem High School Principal Jenks, who will talk to his coaches and have them notify parents and fans not to park there anymore. He feels we need no-parking signs in the area.

Third South homeowners and road advisory group: Burch reported that a group of 13 homeowners attended a meeting. They had a good discussion about 3rd South and there was general acceptance of his presented plan. Cost was discussed and how to finance it. A citywide LID was passed ten years ago, but nothing was done on 3rd South. The city needs an engineer to give the estimated cost and also to check the road slope and water runoff. After Burch gets some figures, he will hold a second meeting.

7th East (Digger Drive) grant: Burch recommends that seal coating be done on the road, but that no turn lane be added for buses and other traffic. A discussion was had about engineering costs. Forsgen Associates are asking \$9,900 to do the engineering. Burch suggested that we get moving and get the project done. Marcie reminded the council that the \$100,000 grant needs to be used by September 30. The funds cannot be applied to engineering costs. The plan would be to obtain cost estimates from Forsgren Associates, and their recommendation of what needs to be done.

Appointment of possible grant writers: Burch reported he has an appointment with possible grant writers on Monday.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS:

Sign in front of city building: The mayor suggested putting a sign where the old city marquee is located that says, "City Offices and Information," patterned after our park signs.

The mayor entertained a motion to go into executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

8:50 p.m. It was moved by Councilmember King and seconded by Councilmember Merrill pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345(1)(d) to move into executive session to discuss records exempt from disclosure. The mayor called for a roll call vote:

Those voting aye: Councilmembers King, Merrill, Waddell and Drake

Those voting nay: None

Thereupon, the mayor declared the motion passed.

9:32 p.m. The executive session ended. No decisions were made and there was no deliberation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Signed: _____
Glenn W. Dalling, Mayor

Attested: _____
Sharon L. Bell, Clerk

Northern Leg of East Parkway Corridor

With the support of Rexburg and Sugar City, Madison County has approved the route for the proposed East Parkway Corridor recommended by its engineering consultant Keller Associates, with the exception that county commissioners now recommend the northern leg run along 2000 East (Digger Drive in Sugar City) to Idaho 33 rather than through the field east of Digger Drive as originally proposed (see map).

At its regular meeting March 12, the commission invited Sugar City to weigh in on the route of the northern leg and suggested an inclination to accept the city's preference. Digger Drive falls under the municipality's jurisdiction.

The final location of the proposed five-lane corridor obviously will affect future traffic flow, not to mention safety. The route also will influence commercial and residential development, and affect school access.

In making a decision, Sugar City may want to consider these points:

1. The Idaho Transportation Department plans eventually to close direct access to U.S. 20 from 2000 East.
2. Running the parkway along Digger Drive on Idaho 33 will stir the transportation department's interest in transferring to Madison County, Rexburg and Sugar City the four-mile stretch of Idaho 33 between Rexburg and Sugar City. The department believes that, since the stretch is now mostly a city street, Idaho 33 should be rerouted along U.S. 20 between the Rexburg interchange (Exit 333) and the Driggs-Jackson interchange (Exit 339).
3. Land-use planning precedes transportation planning – or should. Local government in Madison County needs to identify where future traffic will come from and where it will go. This is a question for planning and zoning commissions.
4. The transportation department will help when local *needs* are clear and documented. The department matches road needs against available and projected funding, which presently is in short supply.
5. The parkway will cost roughly \$1.5 million per mile.
6. Settling on a route for the corridor, drawing it on transportation maps, reserving needed right of way, and showing real need for the parkway to accommodate future growth invites federal aid.
7. The county plans to first construct the southern legs of the parkway. Construction of the northern leg likely is a decade or two away, perhaps longer. Its construction should serve long-term needs.
8. In its documentation, Keller Associates recommended the parkway run east of Digger Drive to "...avoid safety and local circulation conflicts at Sugar-Salem High School." Typically, you do

not build an arterial against a school, especially on a road containing a number of existing access points and a power substation.

9. Normally, you don't separate your town from your schools with a five-lane arterial, which you have to cross.

10. Digger Drive isn't compatible with a corridor intended to provide cross-county connection.

11. If the high school eventually becomes a junior high school, proximity to an adjacent arterial becomes even more problematic.