

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023

Presiding: Council President Catherine Nielsen
Meeting Via Internet and at City Hall Convened at 6:30 p.m.
Prayer: Councilman Baird
Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Dayley

Present at City Hall and Online: Council President Catherine Nielsen; Councilors Joy M. Ball, Daniel Baird, and Glenn Dayley; City Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Building Inspector Quinton Owens; Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson; Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert; City Attorney Chase Hendricks; Madison County Fire Department Lieutenant Stan Crittenden; Citizens Becky Bates, Dane Bohman, Steve and Marlene Webster, and others who may have joined electronically or otherwise but not identified. Mayor Adams was excused.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Ball and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the Consent Agenda; motion carried.

DISC GOLF: Dane Bohman addressed the council about some complaints of errant frisbees being retrieved from backyards without permission from the homeowner. Mr. Bohman explained that the course is designed to move frisbees away from homes and personal property but wind and player error can interfere. Rules of the game will be posted to include contact information on discs and homeowner permission. A “Lost and Found” box could also be provided. Homeowners are encouraged to post “No Trespassing” signs.

CHILD SAFETY GRANT WALKING PATH: Arlynn Jacobson suggested that it may be less expensive, more attractive, and less intrusive to homeowners to put a 5-foot sidewalk in instead of an 8-foot asphalt path as planned. The grant will allow the use of different materials as long as the proposed “walking path” is completed as planned. He plans to use the same contractor that did the school sidewalks. They will be available in September.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Summarized below:

Marlene Webster (225 S Park): She and her husband have maintained the city right-of-way for many years and have a pet cemetery where the proposed walking path will go. She wondered why she was given a fence permit. She likes the idea of a 5-foot sidewalk best.

Becky Bates (224 S Park): She thanked Mr. Jacobson for the information requested from the last meeting. She supports cement sidewalks.

CITY IMPACT FEES: The council wants to continue to review the information on impact fees and why or why not it would be a good idea. Some feel it is “robbing Peter to pay Paul” and affects home buyers and creates “flight and blight”. Impact fees do not cover utilities but “buy in” fees do. Developers like to help with city plans. A good future plan could help with future growth.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT:

Planning and Zoning Administrator and City Planner Kurt Hibbert reported on the following item:

Impact Area: The proposed impact area is on hold until the County can amend their ordinance. Mr. Hibbert recommended an ordinance that meets all goals of the state statute and is simpler – going from 18 pages to 4 pages. The County likes the recommendations.

Zoning Improvements: the zoning process needs improvement. Allowance for accessory dwelling units in all residential zones could help address the housing issue. A “Tiny Home” ordinance may also be considered. A broad spectrum of housing types would help the city be more inclusive instead of exclusive.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson reported on the following items.

Water Tank: the vault and outlet pipe have been sealed. New poly urea spray coat has been applied over weak all spots. The tank is ready to be filled and tested next week.

Sweeper Truck: BYUI has a newer used sweeper truck the city could purchase for \$100,000. The truck will not be available until next January and could be purchased within two years. The BYUI mechanics offered to go through the city sweeper and fix the problems until the new sweeper can be purchased. Otherwise, the closest repair shop is in Salt Lake City Utah.

Teton Island Lift Station: No subwater was hit while digging the lift station which was surprising. Work is going forward on 5th South.

Memorial Garden: Mr. Jacobson has been working with Lynsey Bean on purchasing landscaping items for the Memorial Garden.

Old Farm Park: the park will go in on percentage of build out.

FIBER BACKBONE REPORT: Dave Thompson reported he is working three different grant applications for the fiber backbone. Fiber survey results help grant applicants earn points. Letters of support from the Health Department, Fire Department, and Sheriff’s office are also recommended. An information booth at Sugar Days could be helpful. The grant applications are due Saturday, June 24. The backbone is designed to:

- Reduce costs
- Provide better service
- Include miles outside the “middle mile”
- Serve the “underserved” population

Other grants through Imagine Idaho can help make up some of the cost difference that the grants don’t cover.

GENERAL BUSINESS (Discussion Only):

RV Park Code: Mr. Hibbert will communicate with the Council for their desires as the code is reviewed in Planning and Zoning and readied for a public hearing.

Delinquent Utility Accounts Fees and Process: The process is working well. There have been no “green notice letters” or “door knockers” sent out and none, have been shut off.

Budget: The council was given a proposed budget for the coming year. They will take the next several weeks to review and ask questions. A work meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 27 at 5:00 pm.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Sugar Salem Flyer: Work in progress. Needing to simplify the flyer and make it clearer to it intent to provide a strong union between Sugar City and Salem. A name change may be considered later.

Re-Zoning Process and Notification: Councilman Baird had questions regarding the city’s zoning process and what is required by the state. There are many discrepancies with the city code that are being cleaned up.

CALENDARED ITEMS:

Third Review:

Fire District Code: Madison County Fire Lieutenant Stan Crittenden objected to the city adopting the proposed Fire District Code stating that it did not include Madison Fire District’s amendment to the International Fire Code requiring a stricter standard for sprinkler system requirements in certain buildings. City Building Inspector Quinton Owens believes the extra requirement is unnecessary and creates an undue hardship and that the required firewall is sufficient for certain buildings.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilman Baird and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to table the adoption of the proposed Sugar City Fire District Code for further review and clarification.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Sugar Days: Plans are well underway for Saturday, June 17, 2023. Stone’s Town & Country will sponsor the breakfast as usual moved to 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. with the Sugar Days event following right after. A live band will perform Friday evening and at the event following the talent show. A dunk tank will not be done this year. Sponsorship signs, booth applications and volunteers are still needed.

4th of July Parade: “Heroes of Freedom” is the theme for this year’s parade. The council would like to participate again this year.

Annual AIC Conference: June 21 – 23 in Boise.

Tree and Beautification: June yard awards to go:

- Marvin & Kristi Gonzalez – 124 S Front
- Clansy & Alexa Allen – 377 Buckskin
- Gary & Rhea Michaelson – 240 W 5th S
- Randy & Holly Batton – 113 Michelle Drive

Historic Preservation Commission: Will meet on the 15th. They have set a goal of \$50,000 in donations. They will have a booth at the Sugar Days Celebration.

Motion was made for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Signed: _____
Council President Catherine Nielsen

Attested: _____
Wendy McLaughlin, Clerk-Treasurer