

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WALLACE, IDAHO
March 8, 2023

Mayor Mogensen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Roll Call: Council members present: Elmer Mattila; Heather Branstetter; Michele Bisconer and Rick Shaffer. Council members absent: Dave DeRoos and Dean Cooper.

Flag Salute

Council member Cooper joined the meeting.

Consent Agenda:

Council member Bisconer made the motion to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$44,901.73, transfers and the advanced payroll for March. Seconded by Council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Reports

Mayor:

Mayor Mogensen is waiting on a meeting with the Sheriff's office. Ski Jor was a success and their point of contact, Siobahn, is wonderful to work with. Dale Lavigne passed away recently. The Mayor stated he was a big part of Wallace and will be missed.

Sheriff:

Council member Shaffer called into the meeting. He asked the Mayor to list off who is in the audience. Mayor Mogensen stated the Fire Chief, Cindy Lien, Kimberley from the Stardust, Julie from the Chamber Council, Tamara from 6th and Cedar, Emma, Mr. Richardson and a high school student. Council member Shaffer stated that on the economic development side, few were as huge as Dale Lavigne in bringing positive economic development to the Silver Valley. Council member Shaffer read the Sheriff's report submitted by Sheriff Lindsey stating that during the month of February the Shoshone County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to 142 calls for service within the city of Wallace. A report was attached. Council member Mattila made the motion to approve the Sheriff's report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Fire:

Council member Cooper read the Fire report submitted by Fire Chief John Miller stating that Shoshone County Fire District One personnel responded 26 times for medical emergencies and 6 fire response in Wallace for February 2023. Fire Chief Miller was in attendance. He stated they are going to have a dumpster outside of city hall while they clean out the upstairs. Council member Bisconer made the motion to approve the Fire report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Shaffer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried.

Street:

Council member Shaffer stated the city received a letter from a concerned citizen regarding unshoveled sidewalks. Discussion held on sending out a generic letter to residence not maintaining their sidewalks and maintenance of hydrants. Council member Shaffer would like a letter sent out earlier this year to residence outlining what their responsibilities are when it comes to maintaining their sidewalks.

Finance:

Council member Bisconer read the Finance report submitted stating that the General fund has \$1,064,904.80; Street \$-4,824.23; Library \$30,619.86; Parks & Rec. \$16,964.99; Insurance \$6,629.39; Sewer \$210,263.37 for a total of \$1,261,201.18. Wells Fargo Savings \$353,158.18 and Wallace Inn UDAG \$195,025.60. Council member Cooper asked why there was a \$1,000,000 transfer and the clerk responded that funds were moved from US Bank to Mountain West. Council member Shaffer made a motion to approve the Finance report as submitted and read. Seconded by council member Branstetter. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried.

Library:

Council member Mattila submitted a report. He stated the basement is being utilized by many different groups and attendance is up.

Parks and Recreation:

Council member Bisconer submitted two grants to the Morbeck Foundation and reached out to Friends of the Pool to help with items for the lifeguards. Discussion held regarding putting lights on the Depot.

Housing:

Council member Branstetter stated she is working on an ordinance for short-term rentals. She is almost ready to send it to the city attorney for review. She stated the ordinance is two-fold - health and safety and protecting the integrity of our neighborhoods. Council member Branstetter is proposing the following: a business license fee of \$100 a year, they must disclose all places the vacation rental is advertised and there would be no grandfathering, but they will have 5-years to convert to the requirements. In the residential all of the previous listed requirements would apply in addition the owner must be living on the property or a fulltime resident living within city limits. Also, vacation rentals will have to be added to a conditional use in the zoning code. Council member Branstetter stated she would like to address parking in the ordinance as well. Discussion held on parking. Council member Shaffer stated parking is a hot issue within the residential district with ATV's, etc. Council member Bisconer stated she has many thoughts. One idea is people get stickers when they pay their property tax, and they get two stickers per household. Park trailers, atv, etc at the Visitor Center or out of town. Further discussion held on motor homes/trailers in residential areas. Council member Cooper would like Heather to distribute the draft to council before she sends it to the attorney.

Business:

Review/Discuss Huckleberry Festival Street Closure – Historic Wallace - (*Action Item*) – Emma Stayduhar was present. The schedule will be Saturday and Sunday, and will not include Friday. Sixth and Cedar will be the main intersection. They will begin setting up Friday night, and try to get cars moved. The race will be Sunday. Council member Cooper made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye. Carried.

The city clerk left the meeting at this time.

Discuss pub crawl - Wallace Chamber of Commerce - (*Action Item*) – Julie George was present. She is proposing a pub crawl on April 29th. Starts at Wallace Brewing and there is list of different venues. They are unsure of a street closure. Right now they want to “cone off” a few parking spots in front of 6th and Cedar because that is where the raffle will be held. Discussion held on putting vendors on sidewalks or in parking spaces in front of businesses. Council member Bisconer is concerned with vendors on sidewalks

and feels they should apply for street closures. There will be six vendors and no live music. Discussion held on what street to close down, where to put vendors, providing trash and bathrooms, and providing an insurance policy to the city for the event. The group will come back in April for a street closure. Discussion on whether they should provide a waiver for the event. Council member Cooper suggested they check with their insurance company on this issue.

Discuss organizing field days – Panhandle Health (*Action Item*) – No one was present from Panhandle. This item was not discussed.


Reappointment of Scott Lewis and Sarah Murphy to Planning and Zoning and Historic Preservation (*Action Item*) – Council member Bisconer asked if Scott had attended all required meetings. Emma Stayduhar, Chair, stated he has been in attendance the majority of the time. Council member Branstetter stated it was her understanding that Ed Chilgren was interested in being on P&Z. She asked if there is a vacant seat. Ms. Stayduhar said the minimum seats on P&Z is five, and that is the number they currently have. One reason they like to keep the number at five is that they only need three for a quorum. Council member Bisconer made a motion to reappoint Scott Lewis to Wallace Planning and Zoning. Seconded by Council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried. Council member Bisconer asked about Ms. Murphy's attendance and whether she is still interested in the position. Ms. Stayduhar stated she has good attendance and was just voted in a vice-chair. Council member Cooper made a motion to reaffirm the appointment of Sarah Murphy to Wallace Planning and Zoning. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried.

Discuss revisions to the history section of the comprehensive plan (*Action Item*) – Emma Stayduhar, Chair of Planning and Zoning was present. In 2020, there was a Historic Preservation Plan (HPP) done and it makes recommendation on how to update the city code and comprehensive plan to move forward with the goals of historic preservation. The plan lays out short-term and long-term goals. The City has been working on the short-term goals. Some of these items include updating the website, having documentation available at city hall for the public, updating binders and a trifold. One recommendation in the HPP is revision of the history section of the comprehensive plan. Ms. Stayduhar walked the council through where to find the recommendation in the preservation plan. She stated that P&Z did a workshop relating to the history section, and they would like to move forward with updating the comprehensive plan. She asked if the council has a vision for how they would like to update the comprehensive plan? Should it be taken in parts or overhauled all at once? Ms. Stayduhar feels updating the history section will cost between \$3,000-\$5,000. This would include legal, administrative cost and postage. Discussion held on updating individual portions versus the entire plan. Council member Bisconer stated she wants to make sure that updating the history section of the comprehensive plan will not affect the other historic building codes that are in our current code. Ms. Stayduhar stated updating the comprehensive plan does not impact the code. The comprehensive plan is not laws it is a vision statement. Council member Bisconer asked if it wise/necessary to change now due to litigation? Ben Allen, city attorney, stated he is not in a position to answer that question. Discussion held on how updating the history section of the comp plan will benefit the city and capture the changes to the city over the last 40 years. Council member Bisconer asked what pages of the preservation plan Ms. Stayduhar would like to incorporate? Ms. Stayduhar stated she would like to include page 11 to 24. The process going forward would include more workshops held by P&Z, a public hearing and it would come back to council. Council member Mattila would like to review these sections and address

this topic at the next meeting. Council member Bisconer agreed. Further discussion held on what Planning and Zoning has accomplished per the preservation plan. Mr. Allen stated that P&Z needs guidance from council regarding budgeting for this project. Under Idaho Code P&Z has a duty to proactively engage in the comprehensive planning process. P&Z is asking city council if they support the research that is needed to update the comprehensive plan, which would require a monetary commitment. Council member Shaffer stated taking the plan in one chunk is not viable and it looks good to make continuous progress on updating the plan and the city needs to be fiscally responsible. Further discussion held on putting together a long-term plan, so city council knows how much to budget each year. Council member Branstetter stated the work has been done for the history section and the city should move forward. This could be a model moving forward. Further discussion. Mayor Mogensen stated she agrees with council member Shaffer and thinks they need to prioritize and then put a monetary value to the different items. Council member Cooper made a motion to table this item. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Nay; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried.

Approve revised personnel policy - (*Action Item*) – Discussion held on what days employees are paid on. Council member Cooper stated that it is either every two weeks or the 15th and last day, but it cannot be both. He also suggested that language be added regarding payday that fall on the weekends. Council member Bisconer stated all previously discussed changes have been made, but paydays need to be clarified with the clerk. Mr. Allen, brought up the question at what rate is compensatory time paid out? Further discussion held on language pertaining to PTO and putting a limit on sick leave. Council member Cooper made a motion to table this item. Seconded by council member Shaffer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; Bisconer Aye and Cooper Aye; Carried.

There being no further business to come before the council, Council member Cooper made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Council member Mattila. All in favor.


Lynn Mogensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristina Larson, City Clerk/Treasurer