

CITY OF SHELLEY
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

JULY 11, 2017

PRESENT: Mayor Stacy Pascoe

Council Members: Earl Beattie, Jeff Kelley, Kim Westergard, and Adam French

Police Chief: Rod Mohler

Public Wks Dir.: Justin Johnson

Recreation Dir.: Mikel Anderson

City Clerk/Treasurer: Sandy Gaydusek

City Attorney: BJ Driscoll (absent)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mikel Anderson

PRAYER: Jeff Kelley

Mayor Pascoe opened the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Kim moved, Adam seconded to approve the following consent agenda:

Minutes of Council Meeting on June 26, 2017

Building Permits: none

A roll call vote was taken: Kim – aye, Earl – aye, Jeff – aye, and Adam-aye.
Approved unanimously.

Josh Marlow addressed the Mayor and Council to discuss his idea for an Eagle Project. He said he would like to paint the City Park benches. He said he will ask several people to help him paint eleven benches and three bleachers. Josh said there are some boards that need to be replaced. He asked if the city has any paint they could provide for this project. Mayor Pascoe said typically an Eagle Scout will look for donations to fund the project, and if they cannot find any then the city will help out. The Mayor and Council gave Josh Marlow permission to proceed with painting the bleachers and benches at the City Park.

Jacqueline Witter discussed dog licensing with the Mayor and Council. She passed out documents regarding ADA regulations for service animals. Mrs. Witter said she currently has two therapy dogs and one service dog. She said the city ordinance only allows two dogs per household. Mrs. Wittwer said she can license two of her dogs, but has not been allowed to license her service dog as a third dog. She said she would like all the dogs in the city licensed. She said she would like an accommodation for a service dog to be licensed if there are more than two dogs in the household. Mrs. Wittwer said she was also surprised to discover that the city does not request proof of a current rabies vaccination. She discussed her daughter's disability and how a service animal has helped her. Kim said she has researched service dogs and thought you could not have a service dog if there are other dogs in the home. She said she understands this is a licensing issue and feels you can purchase tags at various stores to list the address

and phone number of the owner if the dog becomes lost. Mayor Pascoe's said he likes dogs, and he has a dog, however we only allow two dogs apart from a service dog. He said there are different standards for each type of animal. Mayor Pascoe said he is concerned about people who want three dogs that they will label one as a service dogs. He said we are only allowed to ask two questions; Is it a service dog and what service does it provide. Adam said maybe we need to consider this matter; we are in a changing world. Mrs. Wittwer said she would be willing to get a doctor's prescription if needed. Jeff said there has been issue with comfort animals, and he is concerned how many people will have comfort animals or service animals if we license all of them. He said everyone who wants four or five dogs will state they have service animals. Mrs. Wittwer said as a city council is there a reason that could be detrimental if the animal gets out; will they have to pay a fine? Jeff said service animals cannot be exempt from a dog at large law. Amy Goc said she has a neighbor that has six or eight Pomeranians that he claims are therapy dogs. She said Onnoca's dog provides a service; it speaks for her. Mr. Wittwer discussed two incidents that have happened to their children, and how the service and therapy animals have helped their family. Mayor Pascoe said as a Council they feel at this point there is not anything the city can do. He felt Legislature needs to address this matter. He said HUD, and different agencies have different standards. Mrs. Wittwer said she was told the same thing in 2014, but she will continue to ask the council every two years regarding this matter.

Mrs. Wittwer said she would like to discuss the Police Department. She said she is really bothered about only having four officers when we should have eight. She said in a small town it is a problem. She said she understands there are budget issues, etc. Mrs. Wittwer said she is concerned about having one officer on duty at night. She said they have no backup during the night; Bingham County officers are in Blackfoot. Mrs. Wittwer said she would like to understand why we are having such turnover in the department. She said she has talked to several officers who feel they need to do what's best for their families and move to other agencies that have higher wages and offer family insurance. Mrs. Wittwer said she has studied this matter, and presented some ideas for retention of police officers in Shelley: She said we could set up a Police Academy Family Mentors, also if you stay five years with the department you get a \$5000 bonus, and after another five years you get another \$5000 bonus. Mrs. Wittwer said the city could provide lateral training; cross train and provide training to other agencies. She said the Generation X and Y wants many type of specialized training; Homicide Investigation, Depression and Anxiety issues, etc. Mrs. Wittwer said she is very concerned and wants to know what the city is going to do about this problem. She said she wants two officers on duty at all times. Jeff said he feels our base pay is too low. He said the city froze wages a few years ago, for too long, and we didn't raise taxes by the allowed 3% to improve our streets. Jeff said the city is going to have to come up with some long-term goals, but it's not going to happen overnight. He said there is no easy solution, we just need to think outside the box. Earl said he and Rod have a lot of experience between the two of them and they are looking for a solution. He said we have the same problem that every other small town has. He said he feels some of Mrs. Wittwer's research is flawed, but it is very good information. Kim said the training cost for a new officer is a lot of money. She said the city invests a lot of money in its officers to train them. Mrs. Wittwer said they are grants available to help cities. Mayor Pascoe said a lot

of officers have left the city for other agencies; some have returned and some did not. He said Chief Mohler left the City and then returned. Rod said he left because he wanted to be in a bigger "playground". Mayor Pascoe said our city cannot provide that, and we don't have much room for advancement either. Jeff said we have been thinking about this for a long time, and he doesn't see an easy solution. Mrs. Wittwer said she appreciates our officers and would like this topic left on the table. Amy Goc said maybe they could talk to the Idaho Falls Mayor about their Citizens Patrol and how they help the city. Mr. Wittwer suggested that there may come a time when the city should offer a police officer an amount to be able to purchase their own insurance for themselves and their families.

Sandy presented the "Findings and Facts" she received from Bingham County regarding the City's request for a Conditional Use Permit to construct a new water tank. The CUP was approved.

Sandy asked the Mayor and Council if they would like to participate in the North Bingham County Guide and purchase an ad. The Council said they would look at this.

Sandy said the Bonneville County Driver Service Department will be closed on August 21st, the day of the Eclipse for safety reasons. She said they may get a large amount of people coming to our office since they will be closed.

Mikel said the promotion of the new Aqua Zip and Slide at the pool went very well. Over 200 hot dogs were given out. Mikel said Flag Football registration began and games will start in September.

Justin said the Highway 91 construction being done by ITD is project to be done before the week of August 21st. He said the crew will be replacing a hydrant on Highway 91 tomorrow.

Justin said Bannock County will be raising the tipping rate by \$4 per ton for everyone. He said we started using them about a year ago so we could save \$3 per ton instead of shipping the garbage to Bonneville County. Justin said this will go into effect on October 1st, and he will be looking at this during the budget process.

Justin said the Sunset Vista Subdivision is going very well. He said five manholes have been installed and testing is being done as the project progresses.

Rod said two new officers were just hired. He said one has started, and the other will start next Monday. Rod said he has a third new officer being interviewed. He said he will keep the Council updated.

Jeff said he met with Jan Rogers of REID. He said they have asked our city to be more active in the quarterly meetings. Jeff said he will start attending these meetings to represent our city. Jeff said he would like in the next few years to look at some ideas to get utilities to areas that could be sued for commercial development. He said he would like an approach near the former Kings building to the land on the east side of the Railroad tracks.

Earl said he is very proud of our police department. He said the officers signed on for the job, and they know what they're doing. Earl said when you work in a small department it is tough. He said he appreciates Jacqueline for her research she presented tonight and for her support of the Police Department. He said we have been working behind the scenes on insurance issues for a long time. He said insurance for dependents has to be offered to all of the city employees if there is a change, not just the police officers. Earl said we have a reserve program, but there are not reserves right now. He said this is a generation that does not volunteer due to everyone having such busy lives.

Mayor Pascoe said he appreciates Jacqueline for coming in tonight. He said he likes the ideas she has given to the city, and we can look at some of the ideas. He said he appreciates our Police Department and all they take care of.

Earl moved, Kim seconded to adjourn into executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206 (1) (a) to discuss hiring, disciplining, evaluating city personnel at 8:54 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: Jeff – aye, Adam – aye, Kim – aye, and Earl – aye. Approved unanimously.

Earl moved, Adam seconded to reconvene into regular session at 9:27 p.m. Approved unanimously.

During executive session personnel issues regarding hiring, evaluating, disciplining, etc. were discussed.

Adjourned: 9:28 p.m.

APPROVE:

 ATTEST: 