

March 6, 2024

APPROVED

CITY GRACE, IDAHO
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD AT CITY HALL
MARCH 6, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor: Jackie Barthlome
Council Members: Larry Allen, Kathy Tillotson, Colleen Fluckiger, Curtis Toone
Superintendent: Riley Crookston
Clerk: Shelley Reeves

OTHERS PRESENT: Zoning Commission Member Mark Crabb, Jake Wright, Loy Raye Phillips, Kent Loosle, Cathy Rasmussen, Fire Chief Curtis Peck, Dusty Edwards, Dana McCurdy, Allyson Younger, Matt Loertscher, Nate Holbrook, Brett Smith

Mayor Barthlome called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Fluckiger gave the invocation.

Clerk Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on February 21, 2024, were discussed. Motion to accept the minutes as written for 2/21/2024 was made by Councilmember Allen. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Bills in the amount of \$36,147.19 and payroll in the amount of \$10,451.48 were reviewed for payment approval. Councilmember Tillotson moved that the bills be approved as reviewed. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Curtis Peck reported that the fire department escorted the championship wrestlers and girls' basketball team through town. He reported there had been a house fire in town. Chief Peck wasn't able to respond to the fire but there were 9 firemen that responded, and they did very well. The home was a complete loss, but Chief Peck helped the homeowners get in touch with the Red Cross, and there have been many people in the community donating clothing, food, and money to help them. Chief Peck also reported that the insurance rating process has begun, and they will be here in person in March or April.

Zoning Commission Member Mark Crabb gave a follow-up report on the cars at Kelly Anderson's property in the industrial zone. Most of the vehicles have been removed from the property.

Kent Loosle the CEO of Caribou Medical Center (CMC) gave an update on some changes coming to the hospital. He reported that there were 5 new physicians available to see at CMC. One is a back pain physician who will be available once a week. Two are family practice/sports medicine, orthopedic physicians available once a week. There is a urologist that CMC is sharing with Franklin County Medical Center and a family practice/OB that will be coming in August. He stated that compared to all the medical facilities close by, according to patient surveys, CMC ranked highest and was tied with Bear Lake hospital in nursing. He stated that 33 people who live in Grace work at CMC. He reported that they have a robotic surgery machine that is used for urology, gynecology, and general surgery

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procedures. He stated that it shortens healing time and is easier for the patients. He stated that a small hospital is very lucky to have it, and to have physicians that have the skills to use it. Councilmember Toone asked him to talk about Dr. Jensen, who works in the Emergency Room. Mr. Loosle explained that Dr. Jensen is double board certified in emergency medicine and internal medicine. Mr. Loosle stated that there have been questions about building a new hospital. He said that right now they are trying to build services and see what the level of volume is before deciding to build a new hospital.

Councilmember Allen moved to approve the contract with the Southeast Idaho Council of Government to administer the Community Development Block Grant for the wastewater treatment plant project. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The request for proposals for the engineer for the Center Street Bridge project was opened. There was only one proposal from Keller Associates. Councilmember Allen moved to approve Keller Associates as the engineer for the Center Street Bridge project. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Reeves was able to get two bids for a new auditor. Quest CPAs was \$10,000.00 plus \$2,300.00 for a single audit if over \$750,000.00 is spent in federal funds and one from Poulsen, VanLeuven & Catmull for between \$17,000.00 and \$18,000.00 including the single audit. Councilmember Toone moved to approve Quest CPAs as the new auditor. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Spring clean-up was discussed. The landfill has made some changes. They won't allow the City of Grace to dump for free for a second week since none of the other cities in the county have a two-week spring clean-up. The city can still hold a two-week spring clean-up, but the second week of dumping would be charged to the city. The city will also need to have citizens who borrow the truck or have the city pick up big or things with freon in them sign a release form stating that they are allowing the city to dump their stuff but there may be a charge from the landfill, and they agree to pay it. They will also be required to sort their trash, or they will be charged a fee from the landfill. After discussion Councilmember Tillotson moved to change spring clean-up to one week. Councilmember Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A contract with the sheriff's office was discussed. The sheriff can't enforce city codes but is willing to help the city enforce anything that is related to a state statute. Sheriff Mabey wasn't at the meeting so a contract will need to be discussed at a future meeting when he is able to attend.

Attorney Doug Wood sent a contract for him to be able to do criminal prosecution for the city. There was a discussion at the last meeting about finding a new attorney. Mayor Barthlome explained that after talking with Attorney Wood, he explained to her that the city had a civil contract with him and had never needed a criminal contract in the 11 years that he had been the attorney. He explained that any attorney working for the city would need both a civil contract and a criminal contract in order to prosecute a criminal offense, the city has just usually been able to work out solutions to most problems before they get to the point where criminal prosecution is necessary. Mayor Barthlome suggested that the city sign the contract with Attorney Wood and give him the chance to get the problem with the storage container cleared up. The contract that Attorney Wood sent left the amount per hour blank allowing the city council to decide what they were willing to pay. The city council decided that \$250.00 per hour would be fair. Councilmember Fluckiger moved to approve the criminal

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contract with Attorney Doug Wood for \$250.00 per hour. Councilmember Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Toone moved to approve that the personnel policy be changed to allow the City Superintendent earn comp time at time and a half rate rather than hour for hour. Councilmember Fluckiger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Crookston reported that they are working on getting the sweeper ready for spring. The clarifier froze up and they are trying to get it defrosted. There is a free lead copper training in Pocatello from the Department of Environmental Quality on April 16th that Superintendent Crookston would like to take. The employees have been revamping the shop and need a new welding table, this will need to be approved at the next meeting.

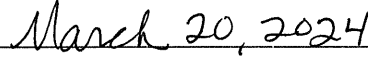
There was a discussion about snow removal on Main Street. No solution was reached and the discussion was tabled.

Mayor Barthlome thanked the employees for their hard work.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.


CLERK


MAYOR


DATE