

City of Rigby  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 2017

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm Thursday, February 16, 2017. The pledge of allegiance was given Benson Taylor and the prayer given by Kirk Olsen.

The mayor asked the clerk to call the roll:

Councilman Burke	Present
Councilman Datwyler	Present
Councilwoman Weight	Present
Councilwoman Thomas	Present
Councilman Taylor	Present
Councilman Olsen	Present

Also present: Chief Tower, Attorney Dunn

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Ordinance #2017-587:

The mayor asked the attorney to read the summary of ordinance #2017-587. After the attorney read the summary of the ordinance, Councilman Taylor asked if the council could suspend with the three readings. The mayor said yes they could be suspended however he would like to continue with the readings depending on how everything else goes with the project. The clerk indicated the ordinance requires three publications and the first of the three was published February 16, 2017.

Purchase of Police Vehicle:

The police chief came forward and explained that the city has established a rotation program to replace the city police fleet with one car every year. The car is similar to the one purchased last year: equipped as a police vehicle; with lights/siren, passenger cage, and wiring for computer and radar. The mayor explained that the city established the policy last year wherein a police vehicle would be replaced once a year so at the end of six or seven year the fleet will have been rotated. The salesman from the dealership came forward and explained the vehicle has a 5 year, 60,000 mile warranty from the manufacture. The car has 26,698 miles on it.

Councilman Burke moved to authorize the purchase of the police vehicle seconded by Councilwoman Weight.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Datwyler	Yes
Councilwoman Weight	Yes

Councilwoman Thomas            Yes  
 Councilman Taylor                Yes  
 Councilman Olsen                 Yes

Discussion on allowing overnight camping in the city parks:

The mayor explained the upcoming total solar eclipse occurring August 21, 2017. The area is expecting a large number of visitors to the area being the eclipse’s path is over the city. Currently the city prohibits overnight camping in the parks and what the city is looking for a modification in the ordinance to allow for special events similar to this where the city could declare a “special event” which allows for overnight camping. The parks the city is looking at are the south and central park. One problem is the lack of restroom facilities to accommodate the influx of visitors. Discussion on opening it up to RV, motorhomes and tent camping. The draft copy allows for camping with a sunset clause ending after the solar eclipse. Council discussed allowing for other special events subject to council’s approval with no sunset per se. Any fee to be charged would be set by city resolution. The mayor wanted to restrict camping to the south park only. The weekend of August 18-20 includes the county fair and the Early Iron Car Show which complicates the ability to park visitors’ campers the evening of August 20. Discussion on the fee to be charged was discussed and what other comparable camping fees in the area are being charged. The need for security and patrolling the park was discussed. The police chief commented Main Street is being closed from noon to 3:00pm on August 21 for vendors’ sales. His force will be up and ready to handle the event.

The mayor would like the draft copy amended to allow camping with council approval on special events without a sunset and opening central park as the need arise. The benefit of a sunset is future councils will not having to address the every special event that may come up. Councilwoman Weight liked the sunset clause. The disadvantage of having a sunset will be the time and cost involved in having to amend the ordinance whenever similar events occur. Eliminating the sunset clause will do away with having to review this process each and every time. Councilman Taylor would like the mayor to have the opening of the central park to camping at the mayor’s discretion.

Discussion of what fees should be charged. Due to the lack of information concerning fees the council will address the fees at the next council meeting when more information is known.

Budgeted Transfers:

The mayor asked the treasurer to come forward and explain the transfers he was requesting. The treasurer indicated the following transfers were set in the budget and felt they needed to be made at this time.

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
General Fund	Capital Improvement Fund	\$175,000
General Fund	Parks	\$ 11,525
General Fund	Jefferson Historical Museum	\$ 2,500
General Fund	Airport Board	\$ 3,000
General Fund	Senior Citizens	\$ 4,500

Councilman Taylor moved to authorize the transfers seconded by Councilman Olsen.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Datwyler	Yes
Councilwoman Weight	Yes
Councilwoman Thomas	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes

Nomination of Library Board Member:

The mayor stated that he had spoken with Stacey Grant and asked her if she would like to serve on the library board, which she said she would like to serve. She will replace Kimber Tower. Also at this time Anna Bidwell's term is due and she has indicated she would like to serve a second term.

Councilwoman Weight moved that Stacey Grant be appointed to the library board and Anna Bidwell be reappointed for a second term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Thomas.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Additional Information – Water Grant:

Rick Miller from the Development Company came forward and reviewed with the council the letter they received from the Idaho Department of Commerce. The city's application has been approved to move to the addendum stage. That process indicated the department was looking favorably at the city's application but needed additional information. Since the city does not meter it's water they were asking why the city had not installed meters; how the city is managing its consumption of water; what measures beyond the current project is the city planning to do or has in place; and does the city plan to install meters in the future.

Mr. Miller stated the department has in the past not rated a city on whether or not they have water meters. USDA typically does not loan to municipal entities that do not meter. DEQ will loan. However do to the water shortage and concern of future water curtailment in central Idaho, the Department of Commerce will in the future begin to rate cities if they do or do not have meters.

The mayor explained the steps the city is currently doing to lower consumption: changing the south park from culinary water to surface water; restriction on day time watering; purchasing timers that homeowners can use to turn water off; possibility of partnering with the school district to put their grounds under surface water along with the central park; and the requirement that new construction include a meter basin; and the city is metering new commercial businesses.

Councilman Burke stated that he hoped water basin would be installed on the LID project on Claremore. Water basins were installed on the Dove Ave. project. Councilman Burke stated that in time the city may have to meter. When that time would come is uncertain.

The mayor stated in response to Mr. Miller, without hesitation and with polite firmness, the city has no plans on installing water meters.

Final approval of the grant will be known in March.

Approval of Minutes:

The clerk stated he needed to make a verb change on page two of the minutes. Councilwoman Weight moved to approve the minutes as corrected by the clerk seconded by Councilwoman Thomas.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Approval of Bills:

Councilman Olsen moved to approve the bills seconded by Councilman Datwyler.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Datwyler	Yes
Councilwoman Weight	Yes
Councilwoman Thomas	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes

Other Council Business:

Councilman Taylor: Asked for clarification that being a member of the council can a councilman write a letter to the editor? He stated it may state an opinion outside of council, is that permitted? The letter is expressing his opinion on a past council decision or future decision, is that prohibited? The attorney said he could being it was open to all citizens as long as it was legislative in nature and didn't involve his opinion on land use or where he as a councilmember would be deciding an issue in a quasi-judicial role. The attorney stated there cannot be "hidden" communication where the topic is circulated among the council. Ordinances are legislative and can be expressed but a zone change should not outside council.

Councilwoman Thomas: Asked if the senior citizen building was owned by the city. The clerk stated no, the senior citizen center hold title to the building. Councilwoman Thomas stated Sue Kinny would like to address the council with several issues the building has: handicapped access and lighting in the parking lot.

Councilman Burke: The Chamber will hold their annual banquet March 9. The city has in the past purchased the tickets for the employee of the year and officer of the year. If any councilmember wants to attend they should let the clerk know so he can obtain the tickets. The city will also donate an item for the silent auction.

Public Comment:

Bronner Addison: Mrs. Addison came forward and she is representing the "Relay for Life". The program supports cancer victims and there will be a relay on Friday June23, 2017. On March 9 at 7:00pm there will be a kickoff event held at the Americinn Lodge in Rexburg which all the council is invited to.


Adjournment:

Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn seconded by Councilman Burke.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.


Meeting adjourned: 8:20pm

CITY OF RIGBY



Douglas Burke, Council President

ATTEST:



David Swager, Clerk