

City of Rigby
Council Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2015

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm Thursday, July 2, 2015. The pledge of allegiance was given by Mike Maloney and the prayer was offered by Douglas Burke.

The Mayor asked the clerk to call the roll.

Councilman Walker	Present
Councilman Maloney	Present
Councilman Simonson	Present
Councilman Olsen	Present
Councilman Burke	Present
Councilman Taylor	Absent

Also present: Keith Hammon, Attorney Robin Dunn

Amend Agenda:

Councilman Maloney moved that the agenda be amended to allow a certificate of achievement be awarded seconded by Councilman Walker.

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

Completion of Basic Certificate

Chief Hammon called Emerson Parsons to come forward and presented to him his certificate of completion of police basic standards certification. Mr. Parsons has completed his POST training and has also received his Level I Reserve Officer certification.

Public Hearing – Sign Height Variance:

The mayor informed the council that the planning and zoning commission had received a request from the property owner that fronts Farnsworth Way to have the thirty (30) foot sign height restriction be granted for a sixty (60) foot height. The planning and zoning commission had held a public hearing on the variance and had received public comment. The commission moved that the variance be granted. The council has their recommendation before it now. The council can accept the recommendation it received from the planning commission, amend it, or deny it.

Brent Wilson, representing the owner of the property, spoke in favor of the higher sign height. He presented the council with copies of other cities ordinances which fronts the interstate with heights from forty (40) feet to eighty (80) feet in height. The site in question is below road grade and need to have a sign higher than the allowed thirty (30) feet will not afford businesses visibility from the highway with only a thirty (30) foot sign. The difference between ground level and the frontage road is roughly nine (9) foot difference lower than the road. The sign would be placed closest to the road right-of-way as allowed but still on the deeded property.

No other person signed in for comment. The mayor closed the public hearing for public comment.

Councilman Walker moved to accept the recommendation from the planning commission and approve the sign height variance request of sixty (60) feet seconded by Councilman Olsen.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Walker	Yes

Councilman Simonson

Yes

Idaho Life Publication:

The mayor mentioned the question came up during the last council meeting about the authority of a city advertising in such a publication. The attorney noted there was not a restriction in the Idaho code against such a publication. He noted some cities around the state do and some don't. The city has funds available for promotion and the city is to decide what is in its best interest.

Councilman Olsen felt the chamber should take the lead and not the city. The mayor noted the chamber is sponsoring one page. The mayor felt anything smaller than four pages would not get anyone's attention to what the city is trying to promote with the city paying for three of the four pages.

The clerk asked if he could make a comment. He cited the community review that was completed last year and one of the comments coming from the report was the city needed to identify itself from Rexburg and Idaho Falls. The recently completed comprehensive plan has identified a section east of highway 20 that could be developed as commercial/light industrial zone. The city has a net tax base of 118 million versus Shelley which is the same in population but has a net tax base of 137 million. The city needs to expand its tax base away from residential homes and encourage businesses to locate in Rigby. The area has a good school system, low crime, with easy access to Highway 20 and land available for development. The clerk felt the city needed to promote Rigby as a good place in which to locate a business. The city has water, sewer services of sufficient size to handle any expansion. The east side of the city has natural gas and power available.

The mayor felt since the publication going up and down the valley. He noted that when the city changed its comp plan the city had two hits from businesses looking at the city. Although they didn't pan out they expressed a strong interest in locating here. He didn't know if this is the right way but it is one method of getting us out to people.

Councilman Olsen asked if the city has the ability to accommodate businesses or are we just going to be a bedroom community of Rexburg and Idaho Falls. Does the city want to see growth and can we handle it?

The mayor stated that every time government moves on an action there is question from the public. Councilman Simonson mentioned that if a business where to look at locating in Rigby where would they go? The mayor indicated John Bingham has contacted the state department of commerce of the services we offer and could offer.

Councilman Walker commented that there are some residents opposed to development and some supporting development. The council needs to decide if development should be encouraged or not encouraged.

The mayor noted the number of housing subdivision just outside of the city's impact zone. Growth is happening and that growth is availing themselves of the city's parks and roads. The mayor mentioned that he felt the city needed to increase its tax base. He concluded his remarks with saying this may or may not be the ideal media but until something else comes up should we avail ourselves of it?

Discussion on what would be highlighted in the pages? The mayor mentioned the golf course as well as Jefferson Lake.

Councilman Olsen moved to proceed with the publication for three pages in conjunction with the chamber sponsoring the fourth page seconded by Councilman Maloney.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes

Preliminary Review of 2015 Budgets:

The clerk reviewed the preliminary revenue forecasts for the governmental funds arising from property tax and other revenues. The library, park and capital improvement fund are being limited by state statute to maximum mills that can be levied. He also reviewed the funds other sources of revenues projections.

He then reviewed the general fund that had projected gross receipts of \$1,283,483 and expenditures of \$1,239,435 for a net surplus of \$44,048. The road fund has a significant increase in revenues from property taxes and highway user revenue. Total receipts total \$423,596 and expenditures of \$373,596. Various changes were made for snow removal being decreased and increase in chip sealing and power. The fund has a net surplus of \$50,000 which the clerk noted is being used to begin building a “saving account” for future road improvement.

The park fund has receipts totaling \$81,800 and expenditures of \$93,800 for a net use of savings of \$12,000. The cause for the decrease is in the upgrading planned on the ball field score board which has an estimated cost of \$12,000 to repair. The park has \$60,000 in carryover fund from which the \$12,000 will be used.

The capital improvement fund is going to become the fund with the most demand on its resources. Referring to the five year capital facility forecast amount of “needs” will total \$850,000 over the next four years. Revenues from property taxes will provide \$50,000 per year or \$200,000 of the needed \$850,000. The clerk reviewed the major needs coming from public works, police and others. The need for the street sweeper was discussed over the needs of police cars. Council will need to begin prioritizing the list to match funds available.

The other funds along with the enterprise funds budget will be presented over the next council meetings.

Review and Approval of Bills:

Councilman Walker moved to pay the bills of July 2, 2015 seconded by Councilman Simonson.

The mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes

Approval of Minutes:

Councilman Simonson moved to approve the minutes of June 18, 2015 seconded by Councilman Burke.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed with Councilman Maloney abstaining.

Other Council Business:

Change of Council Meeting Dates: The mayor stated that he would not be able to attend the regularly scheduled council meeting of August 6, 2015. Councilman Simonson moved that the August 6, 2015 meeting be rescheduled to July 30, 2015 seconded by Councilman Walker.

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

Executive Sessions: The mayor indicated the new law effective July 1, 2015 limits the circumstance when a municipality can enter into executive sessions regarding labor negotiations. The council has held executive sessions this past year for labor negotiations but under the new code and law, he does not see Rigby entering into executive sessions for labor negotiations.

Economic Summit: The mayor commented on the economic summit held this week. He said Bob Ziel and Paula Gilbert are doing a fantastic job in following up on the community review. The summit was well attended for the first such meeting.

Fybercom: The mayor indicated that he had heard that the city service with Fybercom internet provider has been having trouble. He asked the clerk to comment. The clerk indicated that the service is hit and miss and has at times created problems. One such instance was when the deputy clerk was transmitting bills to the 3rd party the internet went down and it was not detected. At the time only about 1/3 of the customers' bills were sent which created issues next month. Other times the service is as the mayor stated hit and miss. Councilman Olsen made the same observation with his service also provided by Fybercom. The contract will be coming up for renewal and that would be the time to discuss the service.

Car Show:

Chief Hammon commented that the council of the upcoming car show and the monster car and tractor pull being held July 11.

Weeds:

Councilman Maloney inquired if the weeds expressed by Mr. Clark had been resolved. The chief indicated that they had been addressed.

Parks:

Councilman Maloney noted that the city crews had done a commendable job with the parks and getting the south park back in order after the construction. The crew needed to be complemented.

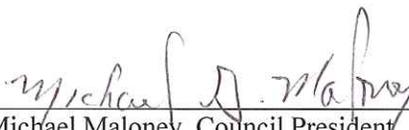
Adjournment:

Councilman Simonson moved the council adjourn seconded by Councilman Olsen.

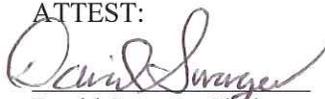
The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed

Meeting adjourned: 8:20pm.

CITY OF RIGBY


Michael Maloney, Council President

ATTEST:


David Swager, Clerk