

City of Rigby
Council Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2015

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015. The pledge of allegiance was given by Michael 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	Present

Also present: Keith Hammon, Attorney Dunn

Report on Rigby Senior Citizen Center:

Wayne Parnell representing the senior center came forward and presented the council with a statement of income and expense for the center. In addition to the profit/loss statement, Mr. Parnell stated that roughly 110 families per month are served of which one-half to two-thirds are Rigby residents. They serve 940 meals a month on the meals-on-wheels program. He recapped the receipts from the city, county and United Way. They receive proceeds from the summer car show. The payroll averages \$3,400 per month. Food costs averages \$800 month along with insurance of \$330 and gas for the vehicle \$450 month. Food from the food bank costs around \$1,250 month. They do not charge a fee for the meals served but do accept donations. Utilities costs \$700 a month. They did receive donations for a new van from CHC and others which assisted in the purchase of a new van. Expenses average \$7,000 per month.

Meals for the congregate meals have been decreasing but the meals on wheels are increasing. They are delivered three times per week.

Mr. Parnell recapped the grant used last year on the major upgrades of the building which included an air conditioner, heating system, new carpet tiles, freezer unit and flooring in the kitchen.

Historical Museum:

Gary Spaulding, president of the museum board, recapped the expenses of the museum average \$5,000-\$7,000 per year. Their income from donations and city support total \$9,000. They are saving funds for future needs. The last major purchase was the carpet in the center. The building does need work on the upper portion and made inquiry as to who is responsible for the up keep. They do accommodate visitors and open the building at times other than the posted hours. They have a large number of visitors from people outside the state who stop in about the television artifacts and history. They are looking at a new marquee that has an electronic display. He noted that school groups have been told not to visit the museum for some unknown reason. Mr. Spaulding would encourage students to visit the museum.

Public Hearings:

Amending Codes:

Lewis Hamblin came forward and expressed concern with the code relating to fire arms and discharge projectiles. He stated that under the definition being proposed a carpenter's nail gun and stapler could be a firearm being that the projectile is propelled by compressed air. He also expressed concern with two sections: discharge of a firearm in city limits and the protection of life and property. He stated that if a rodent is destroying his property under the one code section he would be within his rights to protect his property even though protecting it with a firearm is a violation of the discharge ordinance. He felt the code needed to exclude nail guns and staplers.

After council discussion the council discussed adding to the list of exclusions "construction related tools".

Councilman Simonson moved to add to the exclusion list construction equipment and tools seconded by Councilman Walker.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council.

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

Councilman Taylor moved to adopt the various code revisions as amended seconded by Councilman Walker.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council.

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

Sewer Fee Increase:

Mayor Richardson explained the reason and need for the sewer fund fee increase due to increasing costs in maintaining the wastewater treatment plant. The proposed increase is \$2.75 per month for residential users.

No one came forward to speak for or in opposition to the fee increase.

Councilman Olsen moved to approve the sewer fee increase of \$2.75 per month for residential users seconded by Councilman Simonson.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council.

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes

Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

2015 Operating Budget:

In Favor of the Budget:

Jennifer Evans:

Spoke of the consideration that the council had given in the way public funds are being spent. She supported the increase in funding for the library and sees it as an investment. Her family uses the library all the time and feel it is an investment in our youth. She discussed the issues that occurred in St. Anthony and the small and ineffective that library has become due to limited funding.

In Opposition to the Budget:

Richard Datwyler:

He commented on the increase the library in the 2013 year (23%) and less the 3% for the current year's budget. He sees a growth in the library as an asset of the city. The library was one of the factors he looked at prior to moving into the city. A library is an important asset to his family where even his two year old uses it. The library needs help both from the community but from the city as well. He supports increasing the funding to the library. He noted the budget item for computer software is zero. He supports the \$10,000 but is looking for more funding to assist the library.

In Favor of the Budget:

Marilynn Kamoe:

As library director she noted that the library board is conservative in its purchasing. The library is growing and the numbers are up over last year. Purchases for e-books are in high demand and use. Story time is done four times a week. The staff does a lot of repairs and maintenance without having to go outside. They want to keep up the programs currently in place without having to cut back services. They would like to expand the hours of operation. Generally the library is the first place visitors' visit when visiting the city and make inquiry about other services offered in the city.

Councilman Simonson:

Commented on the source of funding for the library and the limitation placed on the tax levy. His concern was the split use between city residents and non-city residents. Has the board considered raising fees offset non-city residents? Mrs. Kamoe said yes but with any increase in fees use decreases. Councilman Simonson also said last year's increase in funding was to be a one-time event and not an ongoing source of funds for everyday expenses. He wanted the library board to consider other sources to raise the funds.

Mayor Richardson commented that the city is picking up the expense for the \$4,000 for the air conditioner from the capital improvement fund. Being that Mrs. Kamoe did not attend last council meeting he also noted that the board has been requested to submit a list of needs of its capital items. He also noted the library is receiving 10% of its tax revenues. Last year the city donated an additional 6% in funding yet this year with a 3% increase in funding the library was looking at cutting operations by 20%. The library had in past years operated on 10% tax receipts yet this year they want to cut operations by 20% if they didn't receive the \$10,000 or 2% additional revenues. Yet in prior years the library had been able to operate on the 10% tax levy but now they can't without cutting services and in this case by 20% for an additional 2% of receipts. He didn't feel the two balanced.

Councilman Olsen:

Councilman Olsen asked about the status with the library computers. He noted when he first came on the council there was a lot of discussion about the computers in the library not being current. He asked if the computers are being updated. Mrs. Kamoe said there are two computers that need to be updated. The mayor said this needed to be brought to the council with the capital facility budget so items like this can be updated before the need arise.

In Favor:

Nichole Weight:

She supports what has been stated earlier and supports the added funding for the library. She is a strong supporter of the summer reading program and feels it needs to be continued.

In Favor:

Mondy Young:

Lives within walking distance of the library and as a single parent she relies on the library. She uses the library two or three times a week. The library needs e books and audio books. Books give a family equal opportunity to low income families and Hispanic community.

In Favor:

Kelly McCain:

Use to live on Annis Hwy but currently lives in Rexburg. He suggested having the library use a pay to use fee. Those that use the library should pay to use the library. He also mentioned using the urban renewal district to support the library.

Mayor closes public comment at 8:15pm and opened the discussion to the council.

Councilman Simonson:

Councilman Simonson noted that several years ago the city was not budgeting correctly and the funds of the city came to near zero. He supports the library but feels the best way forward would be the creation of a library district. Feels the city taxpayers are subsidizing county residents who use the library. Thought the library should be self-supporting and budget based on their tax levy. The library should expand its fund raising efforts and not keep looking at the general fund for additional funding. Once subsidiary begins they tend to continue.

Councilman Taylor:

Users fees not appropriate for the library. They looked into users fees when they looked at forming a district but found out users fees for the library was not allowed.

Mayor Richardson agrees but stated some programs could charge a user fee where it's not library related and requires additional supplies to be consumed by the user. He mentioned the mother-daughter program where a use fee could be charged.

Councilman Olsen:

Has somewhat changed his view point and feels the \$10,000 is an investment and necessary for the city.

Councilman Walker:

Stated the library is becoming dependent on the additional support. Last year they requested \$30,000 and got reduced to \$15,000. Feels the same argument happened this year. This year they came in requesting \$25,000. Any reduction from their request is going to be viewed as a cut.

Councilman Taylor:

Would like to see the library as being self-supporting like the rodeo is, but they can't put on a rodeo to raise income. The city is supporting the park/rodeo by \$16,000.

The mayor said the support going to the rodeo committee is a capital expenditure and as he sees the council as not being opposed to supporting capital expenditures.

The mayor then went on to explain what is happening in the police department with increases due to increase health insurance being set aside, they are seeking more support over the 3%. They are becoming more dependent on additional support. To continue supporting the library out of the general fund other departments will feel animosity as they seek increase funding and seeing funds taken away.

Councilman Taylor:

Wanted to discuss other items in the budget. They have not discussed salary increases for the employees. If we don't give a salary increase then the library board said they would match what the city does. If we don't give salary increases the library board will not give any increases and there could be an additional \$6,000 that currently in the library salary budget.

The mayor said he has approved some increase with the department heads for a number of reasons. While an across the board could be done, he feels as the department heads review the employees it could be done on a case by case basis. And if Councilman Taylor had concerns he needed to discuss those concerns.

Councilman Maloney:

Wanted clarification on the amount of contingency in the general fund. The mayor said that if the council approved the budget as presented, the library would receive the \$10,000 from the general fund along with the 10% tax levy. The clerk said the \$10,000 has been taken out of the contingency fund and the balance currently in the budget is \$15,000 over and above the \$10,000 being discussed.

Councilman Walker moved to adopt the budget as presented seconded by Councilman Taylor.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council.

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	No
Councilman Simonson	No
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

The mayor requested a 5 minute break.

Councilman Taylor moved that the council take a 5 minute break seconded by Councilman Simonson. The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Councilman Walker exit meeting at 8:45pm

Non-Commercial Kennel License:

Cancelled for no show and lack of information.

Treasurer's Report on July 2015:

The treasurer reviewed the overview of the financial statements. He indicated all funds were tracking with budget and in most cases were staying under budgeted expenditures and with actual revenues exceeding budget. He forecasted the remaining two months net revenues over expenditures based on 2014 actual. Using these estimates he forecasted most of the funds would exceed budget with positive year end results. Those funds that had budgeted a negative year end result would likely end the year with less of a negative amount.

The treasurer again pointed out to the council the need to have an ongoing capital facility budget. The city has implemented a partial capital facility budget for the equipment but items such as the museum and library still needs to be added. The city will hear a report from Keller Engineering next council which they have been working on for two years. The treasurer said he has been pointing the need for a capital facility for five years and he will continue to harp on the need of implementing a capital facility budget.

He reviewed the worksheet on the equipment capital facility budget and noted that after 2017 the expenditures needs total \$583,000 but the cash and tax levy will only total \$240,000 leaving the funding short by \$340,000.

The city needs projection for infrastructure needs for sewer, water and roads. Other than the projected need of \$17 million shown in the last report issued by Keller there is no item by item discussion of project to begin working on. The treasurer's main concern was short term budgeting without consideration of long term needs which could and in all likelihood result in insufficient cash reserves being available when a need arise due to short term budgeting. The plan needs to be updated year by year and a critical review of the upcoming project measured against the revenue projection.

The treasurer also reviewed the journal entries indicating they were routine entries for interest and internal service funds.

Review of Bills:

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

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council.

Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Minutes:

Councilman Olsen moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2015 seconded by Councilman Simonson.

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

Other Council Business:

Mayor Richardson:

The mayor commented that the city had received the capital facility report issued by Keller Engineering and they will present the report at the next council meeting.

The mayor also said that he had been contacted by an individual in the Ammon area who would like to sell the city ground water permits. The item will be discussed on the council agenda. The mayor feels the city should look at improving the city's water holding by around 8 percent.

Councilman Maloney:

Councilman Maloney inquired about a summer picnic or appreciation dinner for the employees and other volunteers of the city. The mayor indicated the volunteers of the city do a great service to the city and should be considered. Councilman Maloney would like to see something before the end of the year.

Councilman Taylor:

Councilman Taylor asked if the mayor had reviewed the pay scale with the police. The mayor indicated he had not at this time.

Public Comment:

None

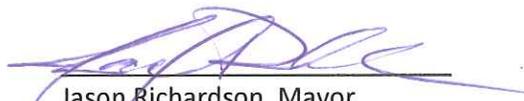
Adjourn:

Councilman Simonson moved that the council adjourn seconded by Councilman Taylor.

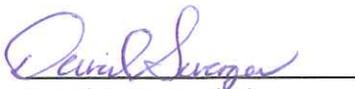
The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

CITY OF RIGBY


Jason Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:


David Swager, Clark