

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO,  
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

October 18, 2022

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d'Alene City Library Community Room on October 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., there being present the following members:

James Hammond, Mayor

Woody McEvers ) Members of Council Present  
Christie Wood )  
Dan Gookin )  
Kiki Miller )  
Dan English )  
Amy Evans )

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Hammond called the meeting to order. He clarified that there is no public hearing tonight, contrary to information that was shared out in the community. There will be notice when the annexation hearing is set.

**INVOCATION:** David Bond with Compel Community Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Brian Newberry and the Girl Scouts of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho led the pledge of allegiance.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

Mayor Hammond proclaimed October 11, 2022, as the Day of the Girl. Brian Newberry, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, accepted the proclamation and thanked the City for recognizing the Girl Scouts. He noted that they will double their enrollment over the next year and have 60 new troops this year.

Mayor Hammond proclaimed the Month of October 2022 as Safe Infant Sleep Awareness Month.

**PROJECT UPDATE AND OPEN HOUSE: I-90 CORRIDOR WIDENING AND IMPROVEMENTS:** Erika Bowen, Project Manager, Idaho Transportation Department explained that I-90 was constructed in the 1960's with not many improvements since. The improvement project will add capacity, mobility, and safety now and into the future, looking at the year 2045 as the planning horizon. They are looking at more lanes to accommodate growth, ramp improvements to provide better merging and visibility, and better access to local roads. Ms. Bowen noted that the study spans from the Washington state line to Sherman Avenue east of Coeur d'Alene which encompasses 15 miles. They will review all bridges and ramps. She noted

that there are 60,000 vehicles per day that use the interstate and it is predicted to double, so this is intended to get ahead of the growth. There are geometric concerns with the 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Sherman Avenue interchanges. They started the study last summer, have gathered stakeholder input, and are drafting recommendations and project concepts. She noted that they will have several open houses in November to gather more public input. Specifically, there will be one in Coeur d'Alene on November 2, 2022, at the Coeur d'Alene Best Western from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. with more information on their website [www.itdprojects.org/i90corridor](http://www.itdprojects.org/i90corridor). Councilmember McEvers asked how they would work on bridges and still keep it open. Ms. Bowen noted that for US-95, which is a SPUI structure, the bridge is wide and they would do phased construction, keeping it open but maybe reducing lanes.

#### **APA IDAHO 2022 OUTSTANDING PLAN AWARD: COEUR D'ALENE'S**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Community Planning Director Hilary Patterson noted that the City has received an award from the Idaho Association of the American Planning Association for an Outstanding Plan for the Coeur d'Alene Comprehensive Plan.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Wood noted that ignite cda received responses for proposals of Atlas areas 14 and 15 and a recommendation will be made at the next ignite cda board meeting.

Councilmember Miller said the Regional Housing and Growth Issues Partnership group website is being updated this week ([www.RHGIP.com](http://www.RHGIP.com)), noting that they post weekly updates. A subcommittee of that group includes the "Resident-owned Communities" for mobile home parks and will host a resource meeting on November 5, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room regarding how a transfers can happen and vendors who provide resources will be present. This Friday, CDA2030 will take on the mission of the RHGIP, and their Executive Director Gretta Gissel will be on a panel called "Navigating Growth" alongside local Realtors and Chamber of Commerce representatives. Additionally, the North Idaho Building Contractors Association Joint Government Issues Committee met regarding County impact fees.

Councilmember Gookin explained that his prior comments regarding a needed parking garage was intended to encourage developers to provide parking on-site to accommodate the need for their business, rather than a taxpayer funded garage. He also noted that often people say that the Council has decided something, but if there hasn't been an agenda or a noticed meeting that would not be an accurate statement.

Mayor Hammond requested confirmation of the appointments of Student Representatives Adeline Smith (rep); Claire Swanby (alt) to the Arts Commission; Taleya Jones (rep); Anna Betts (alt) to the Childcare Commission; Lily Givens (rep) to the Library Board; Henry Depew (rep) to the Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee (rep); and Zachary Robert Turner (rep) to the CDATV Committee.

**MOTION:** Motion by McEvers, seconded by Evans, to appointment Student Representatives Adeline Smith (rep); Claire Swanby (alt) to the Arts Commission; Taleya Jones (rep); Anna Betts (alt) to the Childcare Commission; Lily Givens (rep) to the Library Board; Henry Depew (rep) to the Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee (rep); and Zachary Robert Turner (rep) to the CDATV Committee. **Motion carried.**

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Motion by McEvers, second by Miller, to approve the consent calendar.

1. Approval of Council Minutes for the October 4, 2022, Council Meeting.
2. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
3. Approval of Financial Report.
4. Approval of Cemetery lot transfer from Dale and Sandra Bunch to Ted Banducci, Section NCE, Niche 45, Forest Cemetery Annex.
5. Approval of **Resolution No. 22-050** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, APPROVING THE FOLLOWING: ANNUAL CITY LEAF PICK UP PROGRAM - WAIVER OF COVERED LOAD REGULATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2022, THROUGH DECEMBER 9, 2022; AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE/WARRANTY OF SUBDIVISION WORK, AND APPROVAL OF FINAL PLAT AND SECURITY FOR THE TRIALS 5TH ADDITION [S-5-14]; AND PURCHASE OF A 2022 SEWER CLEANER TRUCK FROM SWS EQUIPMENT LLC.. THROUGH SOURCEWELL, A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ASSOCIATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$259,053.23.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Gookin asked Wastewater Director Mike Anderson to provide some information regarding the Cleaner Truck. Mr. Anderson noted this is the most used piece of equipment, which includes the cleanout hose operations. It has the ability to use 2500 PSI of water to clean out the pipes and noted that the state bid was used to garner the best deal. Councilmember Gookin asked if this equipment was used everywhere, with Mr. Anderson noting that this vehicle is smaller than the existing one, so it is better for the smaller street portions of the city. Additionally, this equipment is used about four (4) days a week. Councilmember McEvers asked how long these types of trucks last, with Mr. Anderson noting approximately 10 years. Mr. Anderson noted that this Friday the Wastewater Department, in conjunction with the Library, are giving Wastewater Department home-grown pumpkins away starting at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

**ROLL CALL:** Wood Aye; Evans Aye; Miller Aye; McEvers Aye; Gookin Aye; English Aye.  
**Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mike Gridley, Coeur d'Alene, noted that this community is great and that the City is well run due to the leadership of the Mayor and Council now and over the years. Last week he heard that urban renewal was being discussed and he wanted to highlight some of the local urban renewal funded achievements including the Library, Kroc Center, Seltice Way, and Atlas Park. The old Elk's building was empty for years and is now the Innovation Den and has a waiting list for people to get office space, which is job creation. He noted that he visited the Atlas dog park this

weekend and he thanked the Council for the great dog park. Councilmember Gookin noted that as the past City Attorney Mr. Gridley was instrumental in Atlas Park and trails.

Justin O'Connell, Coeur d'Alene, spoke in regards to the APA award for the Comprehensive Plan. He expressed concern about the APA connection with the United Nations.

Sarah Lynch, Hayden, retired from the Airforce in 2019, and wanted to thank the Council for opening up invocations to a more diverse group, which is more reflective of community beliefs. She has been surprised by the lack of tolerance and toxic behavior at public meetings, so she has been appreciative of the Council's effort and setting the tone for all to be heard and create a more inclusive environment.

Susie Snedaker, Coeur d'Alene, noted that she recalls a time when residents had pride in their properties and commercial parking lots were swept and kept clean. She noted that one should take time to go through the neighborhoods and see the changes. In 2007, as Planning and Zoning Commissioners, John Bruning and she recommended the City hire a consultant to review downtown design standards including height, lights, parking, affordable housing, and most importantly affordable rents. Affordability still remains an issue, and stated that the City should have required designated affordable units for high rise developments. She would like to see parking requirements for uses downtown on-site. She believes the City should demand board chairs of non-profits to appear at Council meetings in order to accept funding and provide oversight of the funds.

## **FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

**STAFF REPORT:** Comptroller Vonnie Jensen noted that in order to meet the requirements of the State deadline for certifying the tax levy, the City Council passed the fiscal year 2022-23 Budget before labor negotiations were finalized with the Fire and Police Departments. Adjustments are now needed in order to reflect the unanticipated increased cost of the new contracts. The increased costs will require cuts in other previously approved expenses. She noted that the recommended budget adjustments would remove a Communications Specialist in Administration, an IT Technician position in Municipal Services, an Applications Analyst position in the Police Department, and Heavy Equipment Operator and Electrician Apprentice positions in the Streets Department. That would remove five (5) new positions and increase the use of Fund Balance by \$193,310. Adjustments will be formally included in the 2022-23 Budget Amendment that will come before the Council for approval in August of 2023.

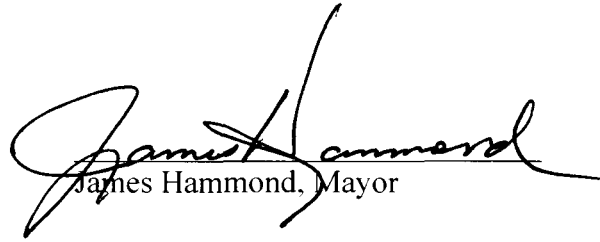
**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember English asked if Ms. Jensen factored in the revenue expected from ignite cda which is estimated to be \$500,000. Ms. Jensen noted that would be one-time money and these were ongoing expenses and will not assist in solving next year's needs. Councilmember English expressed concern about removing needed positions, and concurred that they can't keep taking from Fund Balance. Councilmember Wood asked what the current Fund Balance percentage is, with Ms. Jensen noting that it is at 24% at the end of last year. Ms. Jensen noted that this year looks good, but in future years there is no way to increase revenue. Councilmember Wood noted that it is recommended to have a General Fund at 16%, and with 24% there is some wiggle room this year. Ms. Jensen explained that the State did give an

estimate and it is used within this year's budget and not expected to be the same next year. Councilmember Gookin asked about the event fees increases, with Mr. Tymesen noting it would not generate another \$193,000 and they look to bring forward contracts for high impact events. Mayor Hammond noted that in the current budget there are capital one-time expenses and he will be discussing how to use the additional Urban Renewal funds to cover those and maybe take the on-going funding issues with other capital dollars. Ms. Jensen clarified that there are no on-going revenues being used for capital expenses. Councilmember Evans asked if they approved the recommended amendment does that mean that they are tied to these changes, as she is hesitant to move forward if there are other options. Mayor Hammond noted that we need to do this to cover the approved contracts and continue to come up with other ways to rectify the positions lost. Mr. Tymesen noted that one of the expenses being reviewed is a land acquisition that would eat up a large portion of the Fund Balance. He noted these positions would be held until we know more in the future. Councilmember Evans questioned if they could rephrase the action as a pause in hiring. Mr. Tymesen noted they are not giving up the effort; however, there are no income streams to cover the position currently. He was looking for support from Council to hold these positions and if income changes, they can revisit. If the police positions are not filled there will be funds available. Mayor Hammond noted that it is a matter of making adjustments later down the road. Councilmember Wood noted she understands the issue is the on-going years; however, is hesitant to not fill positions and suggested we don't hire until January/February. The Mayor suggested staff come back in January with a report and ask if positions could be funded at that time. Councilmember English noted that they amend the budget every year and would not like to forego the positions and wondered why this is urgent. Ms. Jensen noted that the urgency is to not fill positions and then have to lay off. Councilmember Wood noted that the Council could prioritize and not lay people off. Councilmember Gookin noted that given the current economy it is not his desire to hire positions and then lay them off when economy goes down. He thinks they should support Mr. Tymesen given the state of the economy. Councilmember Miller noted that she understands where administration is trying to go but doesn't want the communication position to be removed and would like for them to look at other areas to cut and review the rest at a later date when more budget information is known.

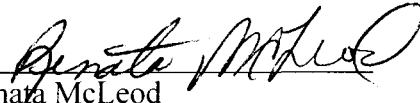
**MOTION:** Motion by Wood, seconded by McEvers, to approve the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Adjustments with the caveat that this action would be reviewed at the first meeting in February, so the Council could review filling some of the positions. **Motion carried.**

**RECESS:** Motion by Gookin, seconded by Miller, to recess to October 24, 2022 at 12:00 Noon in the Library Community Room, located at 702 E. Front Avenue for a Joint Workshop with the Planning Commission regarding updates to the Short-Term Rental Code. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

  
James Hammond, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Renata McLeod  
City Clerk