

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

January 6, 2015

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 January 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., there being present upon roll call the following members:

Steve Widmyer, Mayor

Woody McEvers) Members of Council Present
Steve Adams)
Dan Gookin)
Amy Evans)
Kiki Miller)

Loren Ron Edinger) Member of Council Absent

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Widmyer.

INVOCATION: An invocation was provided by Pastor Jim Williams of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Adams.

TREE MAINTENANCE COST SHARING PROGRAM PRESENTATION: Katie Kosanke, Urban Forestry Coordinator, provided a presentation regarding the proposed tree maintenance cost sharing program. She noted that the Vision 2030 goals included a goal that the urban forest be viewed as a public infrastructure asset, and this program is a step in that direction. She clarified that this program would be similar to the City's existing sidewalk incentive program, wherein property owners will ask to participate in the program and it is specifically for trees within the public right-of-way. It is the hope of the Urban Forestry Committee that this will incentivize proper tree maintenance. The goal of this program is to assist abutting property owners with tree maintenance tasks with the cost share as follows: 50% up to \$200 for pruning per tree and 50% up to \$400 for removals (maximum of \$600 per property) to be refunded after the work is completed and inspected. The program would apply to residential properties only as the funds for the program are generated from residential street tree funds that are forfeited from building permits. Ms. Kosanke stated that over the past nine (9) years the Urban Forestry division has planted over 1,200 street trees and contractors have planted approximately 1,600 with reimbursement from the fund. Ms. Kosanke estimated that there is five years' worth of funds to sustain the program. She reviewed the statistics related to the number of street trees and those that need maintenance, as well as the overall benefit of trees. She clarified that the trees within the public rights-of-ways are public trees and under the City code the abutting property owner is responsible for maintenance of those trees. The Urban Forestry Committee's

ultimate goal is to have a city employee crew to maintain public street trees. Ms. Kosanke clarified that funding priority will be for dead or dying trees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tina Johnson, Coeur d'Alene, stated that she had attended two meetings regarding the Four-Corners Master Planning project and there are a lot of great ideas. She understands that before the BLM will allow the City to take over the project, the City must have a plan approved by the BLM. She asked the Council to concentrate on a basic plan for BLM approval before it spends any more time or money planning the area in great detail. Councilmember Gookin said that he believes there are two projects that are mixed in to one big plan, with the BLM property as one part of the planning. Ms. Johnson explained that her concern is getting the plan bogged down with where parking spaces and colored concrete would go, which are probably details not needed for the BLM approval. Mayor Widmyer clarified that Welch Comer will provide the detail necessary to get the BLM plan approved, but there are some details required.

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

1. Approval of Council Minutes for December 16, 2014 (workshop and regularly held meeting).
2. Approval of Bills as Submitted.
3. Setting of General Services and Public Works Committees meetings for January 12, 2015 at 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. respectively.
4. Approval of Beer/Wine License – The Paint Buzz, Inc.; Beth Marceau, Tracy Hofius, 2145 N. Main Street (new).
 - a. **Resolution No. 15-001** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO AUTHORIZING THE BELOW MENTIONED CONTRACTS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE INCLUDING APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH GRACE BIBLE CHURCH FOR USE OF PROPERTY FOR A DOG PARK; APPROVING A COST-SHARE PROGRAM TO ASSIST PROPERTY OWNERS WITH MAINTAINING TREES WITHIN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY; APPROVING THE DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS BY CITY ADMINISTRATION; APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR A CDBG COMMUNITY GRANT WITH TRINITY GROUP HOMES; APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR A CDBG COMMUNITY GRANT WITH CHILDREN'S VILLAGE; APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR A CDBG COMMUNITY GRANT WITH THE NORTH IDAHO VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTER; APPROVING THE DECLARATION OF SURPLUS ITEMS - WATER DEPARTMENT; APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW UTILITY VEHICLES FROM ROBIDEAUX MOTORS; APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH WESTERN STATES EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BACKHOE AND APPROVING THE DECLARATION OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT - LOW PHOSPHORUS DEMONSTRATION PILOT FACILITY.

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

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Miller stated that they have finished the reconciliation of the McEuen Project and that staff will be making a presentation to the City Council soon.

Mayor Widmyer acknowledged the high school students meeting their government class requirements by attending the meeting.

Mayor Widmyer asked for confirmation of the appointment of Denny Davis to the Lake City Development Corporation.

MOTION: Motion by McEvers, seconded by Evans to approve the appointment of Denny Davis to the Lake City Development Corporation.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Gookin said he will oppose the appointment as the City has no control over the committee, and the only control is to approve or deny the appointments to the committee, so he is denying the appointment. Councilmember Adams stated that he will oppose the appointment because he believes that Mr. Davis has been on the board since the inception of the committee and he believes there should be turnover with new candidates brought forward.

Motion Carried with Gookin and Adams in opposition.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO DECLARING PROPERTY SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF THE SURPLUS PROPERTY TO THE POST FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT #273.

Councilmember Adams stated that the Toughbooks are well used by the City and have no current value to the City. He clarified the information was cleaned off the hard drives and can be used by Post Falls School District #273.

STAFF REPORT: Police Chief White explained the Toughbooks are equipment which has some viable life; however, they are not practical for additional City use. Post Falls School District #273 has a robotics team that would have a use for these Toughbooks.

MOTION: Motion by Adams, seconded by Miller to approve **Resolution 15-002** Authorization of donation of six (6) Panasonic Toughbooks to the Post Falls School District #273.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 15-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO ESTABLISHING POLICIES FOR CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE.

STAFF REPORT: Municipal Services Director Renata McLeod explained that the City of Coeur d'Alene has provided cell phones to certain staff in accordance with job duties and need. Over the years it has become increasingly time consuming to manage all the phones when batteries go out and service stalls. Additionally, staff has begun requesting the purchase of smart phones, which come with additional data usage costs and an increased cost of equipment. Many staff members have begun using their own devices and/or forwarding their City issued phone to their personal device. The proposed policy is modeled after the City of Post Falls and each department would be responsible to budget for these expenses within their department budget. Additionally, the City would no longer have the expense of equipment repair/replacement and/or management of the large scale phone plan. Each department will utilize their existing cell phone line item to cover costs. The monthly allowance is taxable income under IRS code.

MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Evans to approve **Resolution 15-003** approving a cell phone allowance policy.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED TO BID FOR TWO (2) REPLACEMENT SWEEPERS.

Councilmember Gookin stated that in September two street sweepers caught fire and funding to replace them was not able to be included in the new fiscal year budget. The Public Works Committee felt that this is an opportunity to purchase two replacement sweepers.

STAFF REPORT: Street Superintendent Tim Martin concurred that he was making the unbudgeted request due to the unexpected loss of two of the City's sweepers in a fire in September. He explained that street sweeping is a key to best management practice necessary to meet the City's water quality requirements and the commitments outlined in the City's Stormwater Phase II permit to the Environmental Protection Agency. Aggressive street sweeping is also essential to maintain air quality standards. The estimated price of a regenerative air sweeper is \$206,000 per machine, for a total of \$412,000. He recommended the Drainage Utility Fund purchase one sweeper and the Fund Balance be used to purchase the other machine (less the estimated insurance claim payout of \$88,000). Mr. Martin said that last year the remaining sweeper required about \$12,000 in maintenance costs and that they rented a sweeper during the leaf pickup and borrowed one from the East Side Highway District. The cost for renting a sweeper is about \$2,000 a week and the city has to pay for full maintenance on the machines while they are renting them.

MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Miller to authorize staff to proceed with the bid for two (2) replacement Sweepers.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Gookin stated that this is not in the budget and use of the Fund Balance was a concern for funding which is why they had a good discussion at the Public Works Committee meeting and agreed that there is a need to replace this equipment. He encouraged Mr. Martin to look at grants for additional equipment. Councilmember Miller clarified that during the discussion at the Public Works Committee meeting they found that there are no places to lease or rent these pieces of equipment. She asked if the insurance coverage could be changed to replacement value from fair market value. Mr. Martin explained that he worked with the insurance company representative, who had a hard time finding a 1998 sweeper for comparison. Finance Director Troy Tymesen stated that there are no choices in ICRMP Insurance, only fair market value replacement costs. Mayor Widmyer asked if there was an additional sweeper in the future capital plan. Mr. Martin stated that there was a sweeper planned for two or three years out. Councilmember Adams asked if there was money left in the self-insurance fund and could it be used toward the purchase. Mr. Tymesen stated that there are pending claims, but remaining funds could be a funding source. He stated that the fund balance has grown over the last year and provides cash-on-hand for emergencies.

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

GENERAL OBLIGATION (G.O.) BOND FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Tymesen introduced the concept of the General Obligation Bond Election, which is a voter approved loan, being taxed to make payment to the bond holder. This would replace the 2005 public safety bond, which was the plan established in 2005. He explained that the levy rate is the property tax cost for every \$1,000 in assessed property value. Additionally, interest rates were higher 10 years ago than today, and this bond will be \$1,000,000 less than the 2005 bond. He explained that for the proposed \$6,000,000 bond, assuming a 3% interest over 10 years, it would be \$10.00 per year less than the current bond on a \$200,000 tax assessed property.

Fire Chief Gabriel stated that the bond would be a stepping stone to the future of the Fire Department and would ease the burden to the General Fund. The 2005 bond included the successful construction of the regional training facility, Fire Station #3, upgrades to Station 1 and 2, and the purchase of capital equipment. The new bond would include equipment, such as engines, ladder truck, fire boat, brush truck, inspector vehicles, battalion chief and command vehicles, utility trucks, SCBA equipment, and a complete hose replacement. Additionally, they are proposing a fire and police shared facility. Chief Gabriel stated that this bond would provide the level of service that is needed and wanted within the community. Today the Fire Department conducts community emergency medical response, fire prevention, public education, and collaboration with North Idaho College through Firefighter One and EMT programs. Additionally, the Fire Department includes an urban search and rescue team, K-9 team, a water rescue team, and assistance to police SWAT/TCCC response teams. He noted that all national standards for replacement of vehicles and equipment are currently exceeded, maintenance costs are increasing, and last year was a record of runs on the fire truck. Speed and response time is an

important community value; however, the Landings and Mill River subdivisions are exceeding desired response times by double the rest of the city.

Police Chief White has identified several equipment items to be included in the bond, such as a command vehicle to handle 20 special events and over 60 investigative call outs. Additionally the community is in need of a public safety camera network that will replace and enhance city facilities (without active monitoring). He noted that there are 17 police vehicles with over 100,000 miles and 20 vehicles that are over 10 years old. Idling of these vehicles is required to keep computer and electronic equipment running. He is requesting replacement of 7 of those vehicles be included in the bond. The shared facility will include covered parking areas with electricity that would reduce maintenance costs and reduce idling hours which will increase the life of the fleet.

Mr. Tymesen stated that the 2015 public safety bond would be brought forward to the voters on May 19, 2015. This is a plan that has worked over the past 10 years and this would be \$1,000,000 less and at a lower interest rate than the 2005 bond.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Gookin asked for additional information regarding how the fire boat would be used in the community. Chief Gabriel clarified that there are 12 miles of shoreline within their jurisdiction, with many cruise boats, boat launches, and homes along the shore. Tubbs Hill is a large concern for the Fire Department. He confirmed that the city does have a mutual aid agreement with Kootenai Fire. Councilmember Gookin stated that he understood that a fire boat docked at 3rd Street would be more beneficial than at 11th Street. Chief Gabriel stated that they would need to extend the docks at 3rd Street and that it would be ideal to have a secure boathouse. Councilmember Miller stated that it was good to plan for the community needs with the nature of the growth of the community and hopes that the bond will cover those needs. Mayor Widmyer stated that the City Vision Statement calls for a safe city through excellence in government, and to meet that the city needs to provide its excellent staff and public safety employees with appropriate equipment.

MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams for staff to bring back information regarding options for the fire boat to be moored at, and a secured boathouse constructed at the 3rd Street Dock.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Miller asked for clarification if the motion was intended to have costs included in the proposed bond. Councilmember Gookin stated that it would not be included in the bond that 3rd Street is a better location for a fire boat and the Council needs information regarding how to pay for it, separate from the G.O. Bond.

Motion Carried.

MOTION: Motion by McEvers, seconded by Gookin to approve staff to proceed with the Public Safety G.O. Bond as presented.

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

PUBLIC HEARING - V-14-7: VACATION OF THE UNDEVELOPED ALLEY ADJOINING LOTS 1-8, SECAUR'S SUBDIVISION OF TRACT 6, COSTELLO'S ACRE TRACTS.

STAFF REPORT: City Engineer Gordon Dobler, explained that this vacation request is for undeveloped alley that adjoins the property owners easterly boundary between lots 1-8 of the Secaur's Addition, as it was originally platted with the alley but never developed with the alley. The replat of the Secaur's Subdivision only extends the alley for one third the length of the block, without any opportunity for future extension. Mr. Dobler recommended that the vacation be divided evenly down the middle to the abutting property owners. He stated that 38 mailings were sent out with five responses received; four neutral and one opposed.

Mayor Widmyer called for public comments with none being received.

MOTION: Motion by Gookin, seconded by McEvers to approve V-14-7 Vacation of the undeveloped alley adjoining lots 1-8, Secaur's Subdivision of Tract 6, Costello's Acre Tracts.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Gookin clarified that one written comment was opposed to the city adding an alley, which is not the case.

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

PUBLIC HEARING - V-14-6: VACATION OF THE STORMWATER EASEMENT IN THE BELLERIVE REPLAT.

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Dobler explained that this is a request for the vacation of a portion of a 20' existing stormwater easement located in Block 1 of Lot 1 of the Bellerive Plat as the storm drain has been relocated and a new easement was granted. He stated that 20 mailings were sent out with no responses received.

Mayor Widmyer called for public comments with none being received.

MOTION: Motion by Evans, seconded by McEvers to approve V-14-6; Vacation of the stormwater easement in the Bellerive replat.

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

MOTION: Motion by McEvers, seconded by Adams to enter into Executive Session as provided by Idaho Code 67-2345 § (c) to conduct deliberations concerning labor negotiations or to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency and § (f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

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

The City Council entered into Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. Those present were the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, Finance Director, and City Attorney. Council returned to regular session at 8:25 p.m.

ADJOURN: Motion by McEvers, seconded by Adams that there being no other business this meeting be adjourned. **Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Steve Widmyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Renata McLeod, City Clerk