

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

October 1, 2013

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 October 1, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., there being present upon roll call the following members:

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

Loren Ron Edinger)	Members of Council Present
Mike Kennedy)	
Woody McEvers)	
Deanna Goodlander)	
Dan Gookin)	
Steve Adams)	

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

INVOCATION: Pastor Musoma from the House of Prayer provided the invocation.

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

PRESENTATION: McEuen Park Project Update: Engineering Project Manager Dennis Grant provided an update regarding the progress of the McEuen Project. He presented several photographs and stated that paving could occur later this week, weather dependent. The boat launch opened today. He invited the community to an open house of the park on October 12, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The contract amount is at approximately 57% and the next key date is November 19, which is the opening of Front Avenue. He thanked the contractor for their good work. Councilman Gookin asked when the 7th Street and Front Avenue intersection will be opened. Mr. Grant stated that are hoping to pave it this week and open it by Friday, weather dependent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Electrical Inspector:

Jim Thorpe, Coeur d'Alene, stated that he owns an electrical contracting company in Coeur d'Alene and represents a grass roots group that is in opposition of a City Electrical Inspector. He stated that he supports the current building inspectors and appreciates the one stop shop idea; however, they are very satisfied with the state electrical inspectors. The group's concerns include a fear that the inspection-related process would be burdensome and overly critical and more costly than other entities throughout the county. Additionally, they are concerned about having one inspector for the entire city limits versus several inspectors available through the state. The state defers technical issues to Boise. Thorco needs a high level expertise, and

without a high level of inspector expertise he believes the City would be liable. In 2012 the NIBCA vetted the issue and received an overwhelming response in opposition and provided a letter to the City stating such in August 2012. The grass roots group he represents are not members of NIBCA but share their opposition. He reiterated that they are not displeased with the Building Department; they just disagree that one inspector can provide a higher degree of public safety.

Councilman Adams asked for clarification regarding what Mr. Thorpe meant by multiple levels of expertise. Mr. Thorpe stated that the general requirement to be an inspector is to be a journeyman electrician and they may never have expertise in high distribution systems like the one at Kootenai Health. Boise has varying degrees of expertise throughout their organization. Councilman Adams asked what other cities in the state of Idaho have their own inspectors. Mr. Thorpe stated Boise and Moscow. Councilman Gookin stated that he has been talking with Ed Wagner, Chief Building Official, about concerns of duplication of services. Mr. Thorpe stated that he is concerned that the State will not be providing technical support to city inspectors. Councilman Gookin stated that the position was included in the budget and they still need to create the position. City Administrator Gabriel stated that it would require a code change and would need to come back before the Council. Councilman Goodlander stated that she knows Mr. Thorpe is representing several electricians in the area and that this has not been brought forward to the City Council for discussion other than the budget. She would like to make a motion that they not move forward with the planning on this until the Council gets more information from the electrical contractors.

MOTION: Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Adams, to not move forward with creating this position until more information is available and that it be brought before the City Council for more discussion before an ordinance is drafted.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Kennedy believes that Mr. Wagner could provide more input and that more discussion on this item would be good. Mr. Thorpe stated he would be willing to serve on an ad hoc committee. Councilman Kennedy recommended that staff should cease any actions related to this item until discussion takes place.

Motion Carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by McEvers to approve the consent calendar as presented with the removal of item 3, Resolution No. 13-051 to be discussed separately.

1. Approval of Minutes for September 17, 2013.
2. Setting General Services and Public Works Committees meetings for Monday, October 7th at 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m., respectively.
3. ~~Resolution No. 13-051 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MAGNUSON, MCHUGH AND COMPANY FOR THE ANNUAL CITY AUDIT.~~
4. Setting of a Public Hearing: CDBG Substantial Amendment for Plan Year 2013 for November 19, 2013

5. Approval of the concept of a K-9 Rescue Team agreement with Idaho Disaster Dogs

ROLL CALL: Kennedy, Aye Edinger, Aye, Adams, Aye; McEvers Aye; Goodlander, Aye; Gookin, Aye; **Motion Carried.**

Resolution No. 13-051

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MAGNUSON, MCHUGH AND COMPANY FOR THE ANNUAL CITY AUDIT.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Kennedy stated that the General Services Committee had reviewed and recommended this item be approved. He asked Mr. Tymesen to provide a brief review of the request. Mr. Tymesen stated that the City is required to have an annual audit and that this type of professional service does not require a request for proposals; however, the County recently conducted a request for proposal and they decided to contract with the company that they had used previously and are paying 40% more than the City's proposal from Magnuson, McHugh and Company. Mr. Tymesen stated that two years ago he talked to several area audit firms (one in Spokane and one in Montana.) They provided a cost estimate of 22% more than what the City was paying. The School District and the City of Post Falls also use Magnuson, McHugh and Company. The audit will need to be completed within the next 6 months to comply with grants.

Councilman Gookin asked how many years the City has used Magnuson and McHugh. Mr. Tymesen stated the City has utilized them for 13 years. Councilman Gookin stated he has concerns about using the same firm over and over again and he knows that it is difficult to find people, but thinks there is value in having a different set of eyes looking at things. Mr. Tymesen stated that he is not opposed to having others look at it, if it makes financial sense.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Edinger to approve Resolution No. 13-051.

ROLL CALL: Kennedy, Aye Edinger, Aye, Adams, Aye; McEvers Aye; Goodlander, Aye; Gookin, No. **Motion Carried.**

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilman McEvers stated that he had a sick family pet and he and his wife had to take the animal to the vet every day. On Sunday there were two baby kittens abandoned in a box near the door and his wife was really upset. He wanted to take this opportunity to remind the community to spay and neuter your pets.

Councilman Goodlander stated the Mayor's Award in the Arts will be held October 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hagadone Event Center and they will be featuring two award recipients. The event is free and the community is encouraged to attend the event.

Councilman Gookin stated that one of the Mayor's Arts Awards goes to the Lake City Playhouse and expressed appreciation that performing arts are mentioned. Additionally, he was able to

watch the seawall construction and appreciated the crew and how they worked together and thanked them for their hard work. Additionally, he received a notice from Time Warner Cable stating that Channel 19 will be moved to channel 78.5 and asked Jeff Crowe to explain this to the community. Mr. Crowe stated that he understands that Channel 19 will stay Channel 19 in the foreseeable future; and the reference to 78.5 is an internal channel reference. People with older television sets will need to pick up a cable box from Time Warner.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: City Administrator Wendy Gabriel thanked the city team who worked diligently on Monday to install the temporary seawall extension. Many departments worked together to make quick work of this task. Special thanks go to Kim Harrington, Tim Martin and Barry Youngs. Work entailed installing 239 uprights (H beams) and approximately 1,700 planks. The work was expected to take 10 to 12 hours to complete, but through great teamwork it was demonstrated that it could be deployed much quicker. The seawall extension is one part of the overall "flood works" that consists of sheet pile, concrete seawall, and an earthen levee system, which was constructed in the 1940s by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. This extension device is designed to prevent water from boiling up beneath the sand, rising over the construction wall and flooding the land. It was constructed well above the ordinary high water mark and protects North Idaho College, the Fort Grounds neighborhood, City Park, the museum and the City's wastewater treatment plant. The City of Coeur d'Alene, as the sponsor of the flood works system, is seeking certification from FEMA through a third-party engineering firm (Ruen-Yeager Associates, Inc.). Recertification has involved a series of repairs and maintenance to the 1.5-mile stretch between Harbor Center and Independence Point. Ms. Gabriel stated that the City of Coeur d'Alene Building Services Department will not be performing building, mechanical, or plumbing inspections tomorrow, October 2nd, in the City of Coeur d'Alene jurisdiction due to required staff training for continuing education credits. Please call 769-2267 for more information. The CDA 2030 Exploration Week is set to begin October 7, 2013 and is the community's opportunity to influence what the community will look like in 2030. The launch event starts off the week Monday, October 7th, at the Kroc Center at 7:00 p.m. On Tuesday, October 8th, there will be a brown bag lecture at the NIC Student Union Building beginning at 11:30. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Community Visioning Workshops will be held at various locations around town. For more information and a complete schedule of events, visit www.cda2030.org. The 18th Annual Mayor's Awards in the Arts will be held on Thursday, October 10th, at 6:00 p.m., at the Hagadone Event Center. This year's award recipients are the Lake City Playhouse for Excellence in the Arts, and Ken and Victoria Roberge for Support of the Arts. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Steve Anthony at 769-2249. The Coeur d'Alene Fire department is proud to announce that they have partnered with Safe Kids Kootenai County Coalition. The vision is to eliminate unintentional injury and death to children in our region. Unintentional childhood injuries are the number one cause of death to children in the United States. Since 1988, Safe Kids have helped reduce the U.S. childhood death rate from injuries by 55%. Safe Kids Kootenai County has partnered with McDonald's to supply local Police and Fire Departments with a limited number of Free Happy Meal cards that they can give out at random to kids that they see wearing their bike helmets while riding. There has been visible progress at McEuen Park recently and crews continue to work at a feverish pace to finish as much of the project as possible this year. Work is expected to continue until mid-November, weather permitting, with the bulk of the project expected to be complete before the snow flies. Final landscaping will occur in the spring.

Park designers, architects, city officials, and engineers will be on hand to answer questions and show off the amenities at an Open House to be held Saturday, October 12th, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for the community to fully understand the magnitude and scope of this project and what a favorable impact it will have on the entire region. In the meantime, vibrant colors are emerging on concrete surfaces at the park, including the tennis courts, basketball courts, and splash pads, all of which are being finished with striking permanent coats of color. Work elsewhere in the park is on schedule with a majority of the infrastructure and facilities construction on track, including the parking structure, expected to be complete by the end of November. McEuen Park upgrades include new public art, a re-designed Veteran's Memorial, an amazing interactive playground for kids of all ages, a new dog park, more user-friendly and efficient public parking, a new Front Avenue promenade with community gathering areas, a natural amphitheater, a new pavilion, a new grand plaza and water promenade, scenic paved trails, and an interactive splash pad with more than a dozen colorful water features. The official grand opening is slated for the spring. The Parks & Recreation Commission is continuing to meet with interested stake holders that are adjacent to the BLM 4 corners property, and after compiling the data from those meetings, will make a recommendation to the council at a future date. Finally, with the heaviest of hearts and deepest regrets Ms. Gabriel shared the news that the City's extraordinary Human Resources Director Pam MacDonald passed away on Sunday. Pam's steadfast positive spirit, exemplary professionalism, and keen managerial skills will be most sorely missed by all of us.

ORDINANCE NO. 3471
COUNCIL BILL NO. 13-1016

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 10.80 PROHIBITING THE USE OF UNMUFFLED AIR COMPRESSION BRAKES WITHIN THE CITY EXCEPT DURING EMERGENCIES AND PROVIDING THAT A VIOLATION IS AN INFRACTION PUNISHABLE BY A \$100 FINE; PROVIDING REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING THE PUBLICATION OF A SUMMARY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Kennedy stated that the General Services Committee recommended this item based on a citizen's request from the Armstrong Park Neighborhood as a noise abatement concern. Approving this code will allow the state to sign the freeway accordingly. They did find that the uses of compression brakes are not required in the trucking industry and that most municipalities have such an ordinance. Councilman Gookin asked if the Idaho State Police would enforce this code. Councilman Kennedy clarified that it would be enforceable once it is signed appropriately and would have a \$100.00 fine.

MOTION: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Goodlander to pass the first reading of Council Bill No. 13-1016.

ROLL CALL: Edinger Aye; Adams Aye; McEvers Aye; Goodlander Aye; Gookin Aye; Kennedy Aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Motion by Edinger, seconded by McEvers, to suspend the rules and to adopt Council Bill No. 13-1016 by its having had one reading by title only.

ROLL CALL: Edinger Aye; Adams Aye; McEvers Aye; Goodlander Aye; Gookin Aye; Kennedy Aye. Motion carried.

Approval of CDBG Grant Awards recommendations for Action Plan Year 2013 to St. Vincent de Paul and Trinity Group Homes: Sherri Wastweet, Grant Administrator with Panhandle Area Council, asked the City Council to approve the CDBG Community Grant award recommendations to St. Vincent de Paul for \$36,000 in rehabilitation funds for the community kitchen area and a \$30,111.64 grant to Trinity Group Homes for rehabilitation to various apartments. A substantial amendment will be required by HUD, which includes a 30-day public comment period, and a public hearing will be held November 19, 2013. Councilman Kennedy clarified that a request for proposals was advertised and four applications were received and reviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee.

MOTION: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Adams, to approve the recommendation for CDBG community grant awards to St. Vincent de Paul in the amount of \$36,000 and Trinity Group Homes in the amount of \$30,111.64 and \$3,888.36 added to the Emergency Minor Home Repair program.

DISCUSSION: Councilman McEvers asked where the money comes from for these grants. Councilman Kennedy clarified that the funds are federal funds from HUD provided directly to the City, as the City is an entitlement community.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – (Quasi-Judicial) SP-3-13 Appeal of denial for Port of Hope, 218 N. 23rd Street: Mayor Bloem read the rules of order for this public hearing. No conflict of interest was declared by Council.

STAFF REPORT: Sean Holm, Planner, stated that the appeal hearing was requested by the Port of Hope organization. The Planning Commission heard this item in July and held it over to August 13, 2013 and the decision was to deny the request for a special use permit for a criminal transitional facility. Mr. Holm clarified which findings will need to be made in reference to a special use permit and a criminal transitional facility. He presented photographs and maps of the area zoning and land use surrounding the subject property. He provided some recommended conditions and stated that the City Council will be asked to approve, deny, or deny without prejudice.

Councilman Kennedy asked about the historical land use actions in the area, specifically the denial of the zone change from R-3 to R-12 in 1993 and asked what was that project. Mr. Holm stated that he believed it was for senior housing seeking extra density. Councilman Gookin stated that the staff report noted that the Port of Hope was operational in April 1991 and they did not need a special use permit at that time. Additionally, in 1998 they began providing transitional housing and would have needed one then. Mr. Holm stated that they were not aware of that use and they would have needed a special use permit at that time. Councilman Gookin

asked if the state had made contact with the City regarding the previous renewals. Mr. Holm stated that he thought that there was some confusion as when the letters were received regarding the nature of use and level of service they were providing. Deputy Attorney Warren Wilson clarified that the letters stated that they were operating within the zoning laws and sent the letters to the Police and Sheriff's offices and recently staff noted that they were not in conformance. He clarified the wording in the letter did not signal a problem to staff. Councilman Gookin asked what triggered the notice. Mr. Wilson stated that this time the letter was forwarded to the Legal and Planning departments. Councilman Gookin asked for clarification regarding the findings and parameters the Council needs to consider regarding a criminal transitional facility. Mr. Wilson stated that they are the three basic zoning findings and four additional items such as type of offenders, length of transition period, number of offenders, and type of security to set operational standards that should be considered. Councilman Gookin asked why area crime statistics were included in the staff report. Mr. Wilson explained that the Planning Commission asked for that information and it would relate to whether or not it is compatible with the location setting, and existing uses of adjacent properties could relate to the supervision point. Councilman Gookin clarified that there will be no sex offenders with 500 feet of a school zone.

Councilman Edinger asked if there are any police reports of any problems around that area since they have been providing transitional housing. Mr. Wilson reiterated that there was information in the staff report regarding a review of a 5.5 year period and a 1/3 mile radius and found 44 calls for services, 35 of which were related regarding welfare checks, wanted persons, and services of warrants. In 2010 there was one burglary in progress and four DUI's, 1 psychological problem, which are not crimes that can be tied to Port of Hope facility. Councilman Edinger expressed that he believes it is better to have one location rather than all over town. Councilman Kennedy asked about the condition which states no person can reside there longer than 365 days. Mr. Wilson clarified that the City would enforce that, it is unlikely that one person would live there for a one year period and the applicant can speak to that process.

Port of Hope representatives, Jake Danible and Tamara Chamberlain, spoke on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Danible clarified that they are a 501c3, Non-profit organization, and employ 35 people. They do alcohol and drug treatment, counseling, and education in addition to residential reentry centers. Mr. Danible presented photographs of the interior and exterior of the property. He requested the special use permit be approved to continue their federal contract. Ms. Chamberlain stated that the residential reentry center provides people with the necessary skills to reenter into society and become self-sufficient. The Bureau of Prisons has certain requirements for the center employees such as specific levels of education to training certificates. The staff works to help inmates establish a financial plan including payback of restitutions owed. The facility conducts random and regular drug and alcohol testing, random searches, random site visits, and uses GPS units. Ms. Chamberlain clarified that they could set up an exclusion zone from the school with their GPS units and the software will send an alert if a participant crosses into that zone. She provided a demonstration of the GPS unit capability. They presented a letter of support from the Head Start program in Nampa that is located within 15 feet of their Nampa facility. They also presented a letter of support from Shannon Plumbing. They stated that they provide several community benefits such as jobs, hiring local contractors, K-9 training at their location, and community education. Additionally, they work with state and federal programs to avoid fraud and use of their services frees up other community resources. Mr. Danible stated that

the concern raised at the Planning Commission meetings had to do with sex offenders. Since that time they have resolved that issue by no longer housing sex offenders and are in agreement with the recommended conditions.

Councilman Edinger asked if the School District accepted those recommendations. Mr. Danible stated that the School District liked the sunset date of March 1, 2016 and once they cleared up the sex offender issue it seemed to help resolve issues. There was concern that there were several social service programs on this side of town. Mr. Danible stated that they could relocate, and the Council will be hearing a code change request soon that will allow their type of use in a light industrial zone, which would be their target zone. However, as of today, they could not get a special use permit within a light industrial zone. Councilman Kennedy asked if the School District agreement came after their opposition letter dated September 16. Mr. Danible stated that on September 26 they began conversations with the District's legal counsel.

Mr. Wilson clarified that the City Council can take the School District e-mail under consideration and can add the condition of the sunset date of March 1, 2016. He clarified that if they violate any of the conditions, it would be a violation of the special use permit. Councilman Kennedy stated that he has been involved in the east Sherman Avenue issues with the 10-year Plan to End Homelessness and he wanted to clarify that these people are Idahoans being located here or have connections to our community. Councilman Gookin stated that he read through the packet that they do not take offenders with repeat history or sexual acts and that the majority of the residents are drug-related crimes. Ms. Chamberlain clarified that they did take some sex offenders at the beginning of the process, but they no longer house them at this location. She clarified that they would seek a new location where they could help people with those backgrounds, but they will not house them at the subject property. Councilman McEvers asked for clarification as to when people are allowed to stay at their facility. Ms. Chamberlain stated that they can serve the last 20% of their sentence at the facility. After that they either get sent back to prison or they are successful and are released from them. She reiterated that they are much more successful if they go through a program like this and get the skills to be successful in society. Councilman McEvers asked what their success rate was. Ms. Chamberlain stated that it would depend on what you define as success; some may make it 6 years before re-offense. Many of people never reoffend, and many do. The facility can pick and choose who they accept and once they state they do not accept sex offenders, the prison will not recommend them for this facility. Councilman McEvers asked if in the future they would want to accept sex offenders. Ms. Chamberlain stated that they don't necessarily want them, but it is a needed service and that the benefit is that they can watch their behavior for six months before they are released into the community. Currently, there are no RRC's in the state of Idaho that can take sex offenders. Councilman Edinger stated that he believes that probation and parole should notify the neighbors when they are relocated to a neighborhood. He also believes it is better to have one location than spread all over town.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Bloem called for public comments and asked the City Clerk to swear in each person prior to their testimony.

Jim Carroll, Cataldo, stated that he has been a counselor for 30 years and has worked at the Port of Hope and has seen people enter with helplessness and leave with hopefulness. Many people

have stated that the facility has saved their lives. If they had to shut their doors, the community would lose a valuable asset that has been in place since 1971. He has lived in Kootenai County for 20 years and is more worried about those re-entering society without the help of Port of Hope.

Sarah Reser, Coeur d'Alene, stated that she has been at the Port of Hope as part of an inpatient treatment and is becoming a part of society. She would still be out on the streets if it wasn't for Port of Hope.

Meryle Kuntz, Coeur d'Alene, spoke in support of Port of Hope and stated that she represents a neighborhood block watch committee. She is impressed with the work Port of Hope does. She has fear in the neighborhood from those hanging around the neighbors, such as Fresh Start. She would like to have someone watching these folks that care. She believes this type of facility can stop the cycle of prisoners going straight to homelessness. The half-way houses did not have any discipline.

Michelle Mitchell, Coeur d'Alene, stated she has lived in Coeur d'Alene since she was 8 years old and is now a mother of two young men. She is currently employed as a lead baker and has been for the past two years. She was released to the Port of Hope facility, and learned many ways to live a drug and alcohol free life. She explained the rigorous inspections and testing periods she went through during the program. She does not believe that she would have transitioned back to the community so smoothly if it weren't for the Port of Hope.

James Ragsdale, Coeur d'Alene, stated his is a social services coordinator at Port of Hope. He helps inmates transition back to society, but is also resident of Coeur d'Alene. He explained the restrictions placed on the residents. For example, they can't say they are going to Albertsons then deviate to Safeway without prior approval or they may be sent back to prison. He reiterated that the facility has 35 employees that care.

Bobby Stanchfield, Hayden, stated that he is the Pastor of a Baptist church and works for the School Transportation Department. He transports 80-100 kids back and forth to school every day and the safety of the children is his primary concern. The church has been a part of the Port of Hope for 6 years and he has seen a great change in people and believes in what they do there and has seen lives changed. He would much rather see the community have this type of facility for people that are trying to change their lives and he believes that they have a good track record.

Nick Baxa, Post Falls, stated that he works at Port of Hope providing drug and alcohol treatment to the clients. They have made poor decisions while under the influence of drugs and alcohol and are now trying to improve themselves. He serves ages 14 to 71, and if they do not clean up they will end up back in prison. In his experience over a third will not respond to treatment, so it will take multiple treatments and interventions to help the offenders. Many have already been through a yearlong treatment program in prison just to qualify to live in an RRC.

Wendell Wardell, Coeur d'Alene, stated that he represents the School District and that the district had objected to the facility based on the sex offenders being located close to the school. At 3:00 this afternoon they determined that they had the assurances that they need to withdraw

their objection based on the conditions proposed with the addition of the sunset clause.

Marlene Scott, Spirit Lake, stated she works for the Port of Hope and wanted to say that it has been difficult to listen to the negative comments about the clients. The majority of the clients are from this community and/or have ties here and are seeking a second chance. They have to secure a full time job within two weeks and disclose to the employer that they are in a reentry program. She has heard a lot of “not in our neighborhood” comments and moving a non-profit business is a huge event and a disruption to their services.

Shawna Herman, Post Falls, stated that she has been on both sides of the story, as a victim and as a perpetrator and believes all forms of addiction hurt those around them. She stated that Washington instituted a SOSA program for sex offenders and the reconviction rate dropped from 24% to 5% due to the therapy they were providing and found that prison costs five times more to society. Port of Hope is Idaho’s solution to this and they have proven their success.

Susan Snedaker, Coeur d’Alene, stated that she does have copies of the Port of Hope correspondence to the City of CDA to the Mayor and Chief of Police. She pointed out that the last paragraph indicates that they invite the recipient of the letter to contact the Federal Bureau of Prisons and shows good faith that they were not trying to operate in the shadows. Many years ago she had asked the City Council about a nonconforming group home in her neighborhood. She stated that noncompliant violent sex offenders are living in the community and the city does not know where they are living. Port of Hope is providing an outstanding service to the community and it should be approved. They are stable established, meet the comprehensive plan, and there are no grounds to deny. Councilman Kennedy asked why she had testified at the Planning Commission meeting that she thought it was in the wrong location. She stated that her comment was based on sex offender codes.

John Beals, Coeur d’Alene, stated that he is a current employee of Port of Hope as a federal monitor and on a personal level he is a member of the 12 step recovery group and in touch with the recovery community. He has experience with people in our community that have been through the program and the success stories are greater than the failures. It would be difficult to find another location that better fits this function, they abut I-90, have high traffic, no crosswalk on their frontage, sided by commercial businesses with cyclone fencing. The people are monitored and directed to Sherman to the bus stop or transported to where they need to be. This is an asset to the community and he hopes that the continuance is approved.

Public testimony was closed.

REBUTTAL: Mr. Danible stated that for some of the individuals it was hard to come forward this evening and thanked them for their support. He reiterated that there is security monitoring in everything they do and they have demonstrated that they care about what happens in the community, which is why they are willing to agree to the sunset date.

MOTION: Motion by Edinger, seconded by Gookin that SP-3-13, Port of Hope, located at 218 N. 23rd Street be approved and to direct staff to prepare the Findings and Order to include all eight conditions.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Edinger feels like it is better to have this service in one location and felt the testimony was heartfelt and something needs to be done to let the neighborhood know where the other homes are located. Councilman Kennedy thanked those who shared their personal stories and stated he has worked with Meryle on the 10-year plan and the difficulties of the transient population. The important fact is that these are Idaho residents and/or have connections to Idaho. He generally likes to defer to the Planning Commission, but there have been changes since its hearing, with Port of Hope working with the School District and no longer housing sex offenders, and the addition of a sunset clause. He will support this item and thinks the process has worked and concessions were made. Councilman Gookin thanked the Port of Hope for what they do and stated that he will support this item. Councilman Edinger thanked the Port of Hope and School District for working together and hopes they will continue to work together in the future.

Councilman Edinger called for the question. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Adams Aye; McEvers Aye; Goodlander Aye; Gookin Aye; Kennedy Aye; Edinger Aye. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Bloem stated that the need for this type of service is so strong and that the process works. She is glad the School District and the Port of Hope group worked together and would only hope that the current location worked into the future.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Edinger to enter into Executive Session as provided by I.C. 67-2345 §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.

The City Council entered into Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. Those present were the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, Deputy City Attorney, Deputy City Administrator, and the Finance Director. Matters discussed were related to pending litigation. No action was taken and the City Council returned to regular session at 9:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: McEvers Aye; Goodlander Aye; Gookin Aye; Kennedy Aye; Edinger Aye; Adams Aye. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Adams that there being no further business before the Council that this meeting is adjourned. **Motion Carried.**

The meeting recessed at 9:03 p.m.

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

ATTEST:

Renata McLeod,
City Clerk

DRAFT