

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

April 3, 2012

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 April 3, 2012 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: The invocation was led by Robert Fetveit, Elijah House.

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

PROCLAMATION – FAIR HOUSING MONTH: Councilman Kennedy on behalf of Mayor Bloem read the proclamation declaring the month of April as Fair Housing Month in the City. Patrick Blum, Disability Action Center, accepted the proclamation.

PRESENTATION – LIFE SAFETY AWARD TO GLENN MEACHAM: Fire Chief Kenny Gabriel presented a life safety award to Glenn Meacham for his heroic efforts in saving his daughter's life when their home caught fire.

PRESENTATION – CITY'S INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT: Deputy Finance Director, Vonnie Jensen, introduced Toni Hackwith, CPA with Magnuson and McHugh who conducted the city's annual audit. Ms. Hackwith presented the findings of the City's Financial Statement Audit report. She explained the risk assessment procedure including review of bank reconciliation statements. She reported that the city has received a "clean" opinion or an "unqualified opinion" in the three reports of the audit. In addition to the three reports, a management letter was submitted recommending annual inventory for all capital assets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT 7th and SHERMAN: Roy Wargi, 2022 E. Coeur d'Alene Ave., questioned the feasibility or operation of stop lights at 7th and Sherman. Mayor Bloem noted that she will have the City Engineer review this signaled intersection.

CITY EMPLOYEES ON CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES: Warren Fisher, 1292 E. Brittney Ave., does not believe that the city needs to create a policy prohibiting employees from serving on the citizen advisory committees.

TUBBS HILL ACCESSIBLE TRAIL: Tom McTevia, 4586 W. Princetown Lane, spoke in support of creating an accessible trail on the east side of Tubbs Hill. Patrick Blum, Disability Action Center, spoke in support of the accessible trail proposed on the east side of Tubbs Hill.

3RD STREET BOAT LAUNCH: James Fillmore, 1215 E. Lakeshore Drive, requested that the functionality of the boat launch not be compromised. Jennifer Drake, 1419 E. Skyline Drive, spoke in support of removing the 3rd Street Boat parking lot. Sara Meyer, 1034 E. Pine Ave. requested that the current boat launch parking lot site be moved. In regard to the east side trail on Tubbs hill, she spoke in support of making minor modifications. She also expressed her support for Mayor Bloem, Councilman Kennedy, Goodlander, and McEvers and thanked them for their support of our community. She also commended them for listening to all community members and offering compromises. Benjamin Drake, 1419 E. Skyline Drive, supports a more accessible trail on East Tubbs Hill. He also noted that he is a boater but supports moving the parking lot to the south of City Hall. Anthony Lapine, 903 E. Day Road, spoke in support of the increased accessibility of the east side Tubbs Hill trail.

Dave Bouchard, 530 W. Harrison, does not like the polarization of the community or between the Council but appreciates the work of the Council to enhance our limited resources.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Goodlander to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

1. Approval of minutes for March 20, 2012.
2. Setting the General Services Committee and the Public Works Committee meetings for Monday, April 9, 2012 at 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. respectively.
3. RESOLUTION 12-012: 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 AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ARREST, SBISS, AND CVISS FOR SHARING LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION; ADOPTING A POLICY REGARDING CITY EMPLOYEES NOT TO SERVE ON CITY COMMITTEES; AWARD OF BID AND APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION - NORTHWEST FOR THE 2012 STREET OVERLAY PROJECT; AND AWARD OF BID AND APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH BIG SKY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE WASTEWATER UTILITY 2012 MULLAN ROAD STORM DRAIN PROJECT.
4. Approval of cemetery lot repurchase from Thomas and Rebecca Hudson.
5. Declaration of Surplus Property – 1998 Chevy Lumina

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

COUNCILMAN KENNEDY: Councilman Kennedy noted that he will be adding an item to the April 9th General Services Committee to request that a letter from the Council be written to postpone the Midtown building projects. Councilman Goodlander concurred with Councilman Kennedy's requested action.

COUNCILMAN GOOKIN: Councilman Gookin shared that he had received a letter commending the Fire Department.

COUNCILMAN GOODLANDER: Councilman Goodlander read a letter received from a citizen expressing their gratitude to the Fire Department for assisting her family when her infant daughter stopped breathing.

COUNCILMAN ADAMS: Councilman Adams toured the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Friday and was super impressed with that operation. He also toured the Water Department. He is scheduled to meet with the Fire Department next week.

APPOINTMENT TO CHILDCARE COMMITTEE, PED/BIKE ADVISORY

COMMITTEE, NATURAL OPEN SPACE: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Goodlander to reappoint Kim Kibby, Susie Freligh, Iris Siegler, Linda Falk and Kim Torgerson to the Childcare Committee, to appoint Ryan Hayes, Brian Hadley and John Bruning to the Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee and to appoint Micheal Walker to the Natural Open Space Committee.

Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams to remove the appointment of John Bruning from the main motion. Motion failed with the Mayor's vote in the negative.

Main motion carried with Gookin and Adams voting no.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: City Administrator Wendy Gabriel thanked everyone for their input regarding the policy regarding city employees serving on committees and thanked those employees that had served on committees. Although two-way traffic will be maintained on Government Way, the driving public may experience delays. At times, drivers will be diverted to a gravel shoulder. Sewer installation on Dalton and Hanley avenues will require one-way traffic with flaggers. Following installation of the sewer main, the roadway will be reconstructed to create a five-lane roadway with sidewalks on both sides. During this time, additional water and storm sewer utilities will be installed. Sewer work is anticipated to be completed by April 30th. Reconstruction of the roadway is scheduled to begin on May 1st with an anticipated completion date in September. For more information, please call 769-2228. Mullan Road Storm Drain Project will begin around May 1. Storm piping and manholes will be replaced within the roadway from Memorial Field to Garden Avenue. Traffic on Mullan Road and Park Drive will be impacted during the twenty (20) day construction period, with slight disruptions and delays,

but no road closures are anticipated. She congratulated Sergeant Jeff Walther for receiving the Master Instructor Certification from the Idaho Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The City of Coeur d'Alene Arts Commission is seeking artists for its Utility Box Beautification project. Six (6) utility boxes have been designated to be enhanced in Coeur d'Alene using an artist's design to be printed on vinyl and wrapped around the box. Information packets are available at City Hall, 710 E. Mullan Avenue, or online at www.cdaid.org. In the spirit of open government, the city has taken action to post its "checkbook" of expenditures online. It can be found under the Finance Department and is titled "Check Register." The Library Foundation's "Moving Books" film series continues on Thursday, April 5th, with a special family movie beginning at 6:00 PM in the Community Room. A \$5.00 donation is suggested with proceeds going to enhance the library's DVD collection. There is now a medication turn-in box in the lobby of the Police Department. Citizens may turn in unused medications Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. "Sharps" cannot be accepted in the drop box. Free street trees are still available. The trees are available to homeowners or residents who are willing to provide care for these young trees. The Natural Open Space Master Plan for the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks is available on-line for review and comment at www.cdaidparks.org. The Natural Open Space Committee invites residents to review and comment on the plan. The committee will also be scheduling an open house with a question and answer forum. If you have any questions, call the Parks Department at 769-2252. Another new site on the Parks Web Page is the link to McEuen Park Currents. We have been notified that the embankment around the Riverstone Pond is sloughing in several locations. The "fix" on this problem is to drain the pond to a level low enough to make the repairs. The city cannot pump the water out of the pond as the swales will not contain that volume of water and we cannot return the water to the Spokane River. As a result, evaporation and irrigation usage will draw the pond down but will take some time. So, when you see the pond level getting low and the embankment and liner exposed, it is just because the water level is being drawn down for bank and liner repairs. The CdA'ART Grant Program is a three-year pilot program of the City of Coeur d'Alene Arts Commission beginning in 2011. The CdA'ART Grant program provides support from \$500 up to \$1,000 for projects, opportunities, and events proposed by individuals, groups, organizations, or communities of interest that offer a potential arts or cultural impact within the City of Coeur d'Alene. To apply for a CdA'ART Grant, visit the City of Coeur d'Alene website at www.cdaid.org, and click on Public Art. For additional information, please call Hall of Famer Steve Anthony at 769-2249. She noted that FEMA has been invited to tour and attend a meeting this month regarding the levee on Rosenberry Drive. At that time we will be asking FEMA to approve the ability to obtain a 3rd party certification for the levee.

PILOT PROJECT – ACCESSIBLE TRAIL EAST TUBBS HILL: Councilman Kennedy reviewed the process by which this proposal evolved. Bill Greenwood, Deputy Parks Director, reviewed the work done by the ad hoc committee and presented a brief power point presentation of the proposed plans for the East Side Tubbs Hill Trail.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Adams requested that the assurances made by legal staff be put in writing in the form of a legal opinion. Councilman Adams asked what formal process the city is going to take to have citizen review of the pilot project. Councilman Edinger clarified that the Tubbs Hill Foundation recommended approval of the east side trail but that does not include

their support of a north side trail. Councilman Kennedy noted that there is a phrase “reasonable accommodation” which he believes would make it difficult to ask the City’s Legal staff to write a formal statement of the proposed accessible trail and the City’s liability. Councilman Gookin asked that in the event of a fire on the east side of the hill, how would we remove people that may be trapped on the hill. Mr. Greenwood noted that there are points of extraction via the lake. Deputy Fire Chief Lauper presented an overview of the assisted extraction sites around Tubbs Hill. Councilman Gookin asked if the Fire Department was going to write policies and procedures in case of a fire on Tubbs Hill. Councilman Gookin noted that he could not find a specific line item for funding this project. Mr. Greenwood responded that there is a Tubbs Hill improvement/maintenance/operations line item that has approximately \$15,000. Councilman Gookin asked if the final contract will be returned to Council for approval. Mr. Greenwood responded that it will be brought back to Council for approval.

MOTION: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Edinger to approve the Tubbs Hill Accessible Trail Pilot Program plan to include an accessible trail on the east side of Tubbs Hill and direct staff to work with the engineering firm to complete design documents and estimate of probable cost for the assessable trail and confirmation of a legal review. Motion carried.

RECESS: Mayor Bloem called for a recess at 8:20 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

MCEUEN PARK PLAN AMENDMENT – BOAT LAUNCH PARKING LOT: Councilman Edinger believes that someone should not have to walk a half mile to park their boat trailer and walk back to the boat launch. He also wanted to know who will be the judge on what is equal or better. Councilman Goodlander clarified that when the Council said equal or better it was, for those facilities removed from the McEuen Park and the boat launch is not being removed from park’s site. Councilman Gookin does not recall seeing any parking on the west side of McEuen Park in the plans and now he believes that the City is being inconsistent in that the City is not providing parking for handicapped accessible parking spaces. Councilman Goodlander responded that there are three handicapped accessible parking spaces located closer to the boat launch than currently exists. Parks Director Eastwood noted that there are three stalls one of which accommodates a van adjacent to the boat launch. Councilman Gookin stated that he was never informed of the proposed parking spaces. Mayor Bloem reminded Councilman Gookin that they had discussed that issue during their meeting on Monday.

MOTION: Motion by Adams, seconded by Gookin to direct staff to direct Team McEuen to amend the conceptual plan to keep the boat trailer parking intact and to include the removal of the seawall parking to be used as green space.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Adams noted that the money being used to construct the parking lot on the south side of City Hall could be used to beautify the park. Councilman Gookin believes that by moving the parking it would decrease the use of the boat ramp thus eliminating the need for a boat launch. Councilman Kennedy reiterated the seven values established by the Council and noted that the boat launch is not being removed. He also noted one of the values is providing the public with accessibility to the lake front, not accessibility through a parking lot. Councilman Kennedy believes that moving the parking is no less of a distance than moving the

parking onto Lakeside. Councilman McEvers believes that the City is trying to make it work and believes that there are some compromises being made. Councilman Gookin believes that it depends on whether you see the boat launch and parking lot as one facility. Councilman Kennedy noted that they are still connected as part of the same Park complex. Councilman Goodlander reminded Council that the park plan is for the greatest amount of use for the greatest number of people. She also noted that a citizen had timed himself between the boat launch and parking at City Hall and it took him 6 ½ minutes one time and 7 minutes another time. Councilman Goodlander read an article from decades ago regarding the boat launch and the objections made about placing the boat launch at its current site. She also believes that people are more important than parking. Councilman Gookin suggested temporarily closing the parking lot and having the streets department create a pathway between the parking lot at City Hall and the boat launch and have a sign made with all the Council's phone numbers on it so citizens can call them with their opinion of this proposal.

MOTION TO AMEND: Motion by Gookin seconded by Adams to direct staff to temporarily close the 3rd Street parking lot next to the boat launch, create signage directing them to city hall, create a trail from city hall to the boat launch, making a sign containing all Council members names and phone numbers and posting the sign on the trail back to the boat launch. **ROLL CALL:** Kennedy, No; Adams, Aye; Edinger, Aye; McEvers, No; Goodlander No; Gookin Aye. Motion failed with the Mayor's tie breaking vote in the negative.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Bloem noted that we all walk in the downtown area, we walk to the farmers market, we walk to the fair, we walk to the downtown businesses so she cannot understand why we should provide special accommodations for a small number of people. She also believes that this is not an "equal or better" situation. Councilman Adams feels it is different for boaters. Councilman Edinger believes that the Council needs to listen to the people and he does not believe that the whole Council is listening to the people or using common sense.

ROLL CALL: Kennedy, No; Edinger, Aye; Adams, Aye; McEvers, No; Goodlander, No; Gookin Aye. Motion failed with the Mayor's tie-breaking vote in the negative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Adams to enter into Executive Session as provided by I.C. 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.

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

The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. Those present were the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, City Attorney, and Deputy City Attorney.

Matters discussed were those of negotiations with the Police Association. No action was taken and the Council returned to its regular session at 9:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams to recess to April 12, 2012 at 12:00 noon for a joint workshop with the Urban Forestry Committee to be held in the City Hall former Council Chambers. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 9:50 p.m.

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Weathers, CMC
City Clerk