

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Suzanne Hawkins	Jim Munn	Shawn Barigar	Chris Talkington	Gregory Lanting	Don Hall	Rebecca Mills Sojka
Vice Mayor					Mayor	



MINUTES
Meeting of the Twin Falls City Council
Monday, July 21, 2014
City Council Chambers
305 3rd Avenue East -Twin Falls, Idaho

5:00 P.M.		
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG		
CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM		
CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA		
PROCLAMATION: None		
GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT		
AGENDA ITEMS		
I. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR:</u>	<u>Purpose:</u>	<u>By:</u>
1. Consideration of a request to approve the Accounts Payable for July 15-21, 2015.	Action	Sharon Bryan
2. Consideration of a request to approve the July 7, 2014, City Council Minutes.	Action	Leila A. Sanchez
II. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:</u>	<u>Purpose:</u>	<u>By:</u>
1. Consideration of a request to confirm the appointment of Ruth Pierce and the reappointment of Debbie Lattin to the Historic Preservation Commission.	Action	Don Hall
2. Consideration of a request to accept the transfer of TFURA-owned property located at 122 4th Avenue South (Dennis Bowyer Park) to the City of Twin Falls and authorize the Mayor to sign the accompanying maintenance agreement.	Action	Melinda Anderson
3. Presentation of the City Pool Financial Report by the Aquatics Director of the YMCA.	Presentation	John Pauley
4. Consideration of a request to adopt an ordinance for a Zoning Title Amendment to amend Title 10; Chapter 4; Section 23.3 - Residential Business District - Property Development Standards.	Action	Rene'e V. Carraway
5. Presentation on the results of the 2014 Citizen Survey Results.	Presentation	Josh Palmer
6. Presentation of the Enterprise-Type Funds from the City Manager's Recommended Budget for FY 2015.	Presentation	Travis Rothweiler/ Lorie Race
7. Public input and/or items from the City Manager and City Council.		
III. <u>ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:</u>		
IV. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS:</u>	6:00 P.M. - None	
V. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>		

Any person(s) needing special accommodations to participate in the above noticed meeting could contact Leila Sanchez at (208) 735-7287 at least two working days before the meeting. Si desea esta información en español, llame Leila Sanchez (208)735-7287.

Present: Suzanne Hawkins, Shawn Barigar, Chris Talkington, Gregory Lanting, Don Hall, Rebecca Mills Sojka

Absent: Jim Munn

Staff Present: City Manager Travis Rothweiler, City Attorney Fritz Wonderlich, Chief Finance Officer Lorie Race, Budget Coordinator Pat Lehmann, Economic Development Director Melinda Anderson, Zoning & Development Manager Rene'e V. Carraway, Public Information Officer Josh Palmer, Deputy City Clerk/Recording Secretary Leila A. Sanchez.

Mayor Hall called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. He then invited all present, who wished to, to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A quorum was present.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

PROCLAMATION: None

GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT: None

Mayor Hall stated that Lorie Race & Melinda Anderson were both featured in Magic Valley Life, 2014 Lifestyle Magazine & Local Business Director.

GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT: None

AGENDA ITEMS

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Consideration of a request to approve the Accounts Payable for July 15-21, 2015.
2. Consideration of a request to approve the July 7, 2014, City Council Minutes.

MOTION:

Councilmember Lanting moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Hawkins. Roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

II. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Consideration of a request to confirm the appointment of Ruth Pierce and the reappointment of Debbie Lattin to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Mayor Hall and the interview panel consisting of HPC Chairman Randall Watson, Vice-Mayor Suzanne Hawkins, and Planner 1 Kelly Weeks recommend the appointment of Ruth Pierce and reappointment of Debbie Lattin to the Commission.

MOTION:

Vice Mayor Hawkins moved to appoint Ruth Pierce and reappoint Debbie Lattin to the HPC to serve a three year term beginning July 2014 and ending June 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lanting. Roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

-Partnership – City of Twin Falls and Twin Falls County Historical Society

Parks & Recreation Director Bowyer explained Shauna Robertson, County of Twin Falls Historical Society, has been involved in the development of signage of Auger Falls and after approval of the 2015 budget funds are available to construct and install signage.

2. Consideration of a request to accept the transfer of TFURA-owned property located at 122 4th Avenue South (Dennis Bowyer Park) to the City of Twin Falls and authorize the Mayor to sign the accompanying maintenance agreement.

Economic Development Director Anderson stated the TFURA requests that the Council accept the property transfer and authorize the Mayor to sign the maintenance agreement for Dennis Bowyer Park.

Discussion followed.

- Lighting at park
- Cost to maintain park

Parks & Recreation Bowyer explained that the Police Department assisted in the design of the park and the location of the decorative lights. He also estimated that the cost to maintain the park is in the range of \$5,000 to \$6,000 (yearly).

- District RAA 4-1 sun setting early

City Manager Rothweiler stated that in the likelihood that the bond is paid before 2022, an amendment can be made to the maintenance agreement.

MOTION:

Councilmember Lanting moved to accept the transfer of TFURA-owned property located at 122 4th Avenue South (Dennis Bowyer Park) to the City of Twin Falls and authorize the Mayor to sign the accompanying maintenance agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Talkington. Roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

2. Presentation of the City Pool Financial Report by the Aquatics Director of the YMCA.

Aquatics Director John Pauley reviewed the YMCA's Financial Report from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013.

Council discussion followed:

- Professional salaries
- Utility costs

John Pauley explained an increase of 85% is budgeted for the Aquatics Director and the Aquatics Coordinator position. The Aquatics Coordinator position is not filled at this time. In addition, the bubble is heated nine months out of the year.

City Manager Rothweiler explained that generally power rates increased 27%; natural gas increased 7% to 9%. A 22% rate increase was made to utility costs based on past utility bills.

John Pauley stated that at their June meeting, the Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously approved to recommend to Council the YMCA's fee increases beginning October 2014 and is requesting to hold a public hearing for the proposed increases.

City Manager Rothweiler stated that the YMCA would like to increase their daily admission fees. He asked the Council if they are in favor of holding a public hearing on August 11, 2014.

MOTION:

Councilmember Lanting moved to establish a public hearing to consider increasing the pool rate on August 11, 2014, regarding the pool rate increase. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barigar.

Discussion followed.

- Consideration to postpone the budget hearing until the City's budget has been set.

Councilmember Lanting moved to change the public hearing date from August 11, 2014 to September 2, 2014. His second, Councilmember Barigar, agreed with the modification to the motion.

Council discussion followed.

-Request for a cost comparison of kilowatt utility usage and rate increase from utility company.

-Request for the percentage of time the Membership Coordinator and Front Desk Supervisor spend at the pool.

Roll call vote on the motion showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

3. Consideration of a request to adopt an ordinance for a Zoning Title Amendment to amend Title 10; Chapter 4; Section 23.3 - Residential Business District - Property Development Standards.

Zoning & Development Manager Carraway explained that on June 10, 2014, the Commission held a public hearing for a Zoning Title Amendment to amend the Development Standards of Title 10; Chapter 4; Section 23.3 - Residential Business District - Property Development Standards. No one spoke at the public hearing.

Upon conclusion of the public hearing the Commission unanimously recommended approval of the amendment as presented. On July 7, 2014, the City Council unanimously granted the request and directed staff to present an ordinance.

Staff recommends the City Council adopt the ordinance so it can be published and codified.

MOTION:

Councilmember Talkington moved to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 3073, on third and final reading by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lanting. Roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

Deputy City Clerk Sanchez read the ordinance by title only. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, AMENDING THE PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS OF THE RB (RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS) ZONE.

MOTION:

Councilmember Lanting made a motion to adopt Ordinance 3973, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barigar.

Mayor Hall asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak on the motion. No public input taken.

Roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion. Approved 6 to 0.

4. Presentation on the results of the 2014 Citizen Survey Results.

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City Manager Rothweiler explained the importance of the citizen survey. One component of the 2030 Strategic Plan is the biennial City of Twin Falls Citizen Survey, which measures citizens' sentiments about the level of services provided by the City of Twin Falls.

Staff and Council used the data collected in the Citizen Survey to monitor trends in citizens' opinions, measure government performance, assess support for local policies, inform budget, land use, and strategic planning decisions, communicate with residents, and benchmark service ratings.

The National Citizen Survey (NCS) is a "turnkey" citizen survey service offered by the International City Management Association and the National Research Center in more than 500 communities in the United States. The NCS is considered to be a cost effective system for conducting comprehensive surveys of local residents.

Public Information Officer Palmer explained the survey was sent out to 1,200 households and 373 responses were received. The survey can be found on the City's website at: <http://www.tfid.org/DocumentCenter/View/1111>.

He reviewed the following:

Quality of Life in Twin Falls

Community Characteristics - *What makes a community livable, attractive and a place where people want to be?*

Governance – *How well does the government of Twin Falls meet the needs and expectations of its residents?*

Participation – *Are the residents of Twin Falls connected to the community and each other?*

Special Topics and conclusions

Council discussion followed.

-Downtown

-Public transportation

-Bike lanes striping, signage, and maintenance

-Vehicles parked in bike lane

Parks & Recreation Director Bowyer gave an update on canyon rim path, bicycle pathways and bike lanes.

Grant Writer Thompson gave a brief update on public transportation. The City was awarded a grant from ITD to do a feasibility study on a transit plan. The funds will become available in April 2015; however, the planning process will begin this fall.

-City of Lewiston use of federal funds

PIO Palmer continued to discuss the results of the survey.

City Manager Rothweiler reviewed the results from the survey.

Discussion followed on:

-Library survey results

-Civic engagement

-Sense of Community

-Natural areas preservation

-Code enforcement and animal control

Recess: 6:53 P.M.

Reconvened at 7:00 P.M.

5. Presentation of the Enterprise-Type Funds from the City Manager's Recommended Budget for FY 2015.

City Manager Rothweiler gave a presentation on Water, Sewer and Sanitation Funds.

Water Fund

The Water Fund supports the following water-related activities: water supply, water distribution, pressurized irrigation, and utility billing. To support each of these functions in FY 2015, the City Manager's Recommended budgeting total system expenditures in the amount of \$9,818,687, an increase of \$32,302 (0.33%) when compared to the total allocation of \$9,786,385 in FY 2014. However, the City is using less cash reserves in the FY 2015 Recommended Budget compared to the FY 2014 Budget. In FY 2014, the City budgeted to spend \$800,000 in cash reserves on one-time capital projects. In FY 2015, the City is recommending the use of \$360,000 of cash reserves, which is a reduction of \$540,000 compared to the prior year.

The FY 2015 budget for the Water Fund calls for a 2% rate increase to the City's adopted water rate. The increase to the average City residential water user – one who uses an average of 18,000 gallons of water per month – will see an increase of \$0.75 per month, causing the water consumption portion of their bill to increase from \$37.26 per month to \$38.01 per month.

The City Manager's Recommended Budget takes a conservative approach to growth and projects the new customer growth rate will be 1%.

Discussion followed.

-Debt service increase - bond payments and interest

Public Works Director Caton gave an update on a backup generator for Canyon Springs pumps and water meter replacement.

Chief Finance Officer Race gave an update on the mandated arsenic compliance fee, water bonds and debt payments.

City Manager Rothweiler continued to discuss the following:

Sewer Fund

The Sewer Fund is used to support all waste water services provided by the City of Twin Falls, namely waste water collections and waste water treatment. For FY 2015, the City Manager's Budget recommends expenditure totaling \$9,096,332 in the Sewer Fund. This represents a decrease of \$242,857 when compared to FY 2014 Sewer Fund expenditures of \$9,339,189.

In the FY 2015 Recommended Budget, the City Manager is requesting a rate adjustment of 1% to the assessed rates. This increase equals an average increase of \$0.25 per month to the average residential user, which is defined as one who typically produces 8,000 gallons per month of waste water. All increases are proportionate to the type of use. Like the water fund, we are projecting limited growth in the number of new waste water accounts to 1.0%.

Discussion followed.

-Addition of new employee in water collection

Sanitation Fund

The City's Sanitation Fund supports the City's sanitation and recycling program. The City of Twin Falls is the only City in the Magic Valley to offer its residents a curbside single stream recycling program. The program was started in 2011. Since the creation of the program, the City has diverted over 7,133 tons from entering into the regional landfill. Although we have seen a slight decrease in participation, the City's recycling program continues to meet and/or exceed initial expectations. It remains one of the highest rated services offered by the City.

Overall, the City Manager's Recommended Budget calls for an increase of \$0.19 per month, which equals a 1.11% increase to our sanitation customers. This will cause the monthly bill to increase from \$16.99 per month to \$17.18 per month. The rate adjustment is influenced by the requested price adjustment of 1.7% by the City's contracted service provider (PSI, Inc.) and increases in operational costs.

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In addition to understanding the levels of services and the amount of improvements programmed into the budget, it is also important that we recognize the impact this proposal has on our citizens and taxpaying shareholders.

Discussion followed.

-Recycling glass

Councilmember Talkington expressed his view of the mandated arsenic fee. He said he would like the Council to consider a reduction of \$1 from \$10.75 to \$9.75.

Mayor Hall asked Council to consider reducing Travel and Training for the City Council from \$12,000 to \$10,500 (\$1,500 per City Councilmember) and anything exceeding the \$1,500 per Councilmember is brought before Council for approval.

Councilmember Lanting explained he and Vice Mayor Hawkins serve on the AIC Board, requiring traveling to Boise. He does not object to Mayor Hall's recommendation.

Councilmember Mills Sojka stated her concern of increase in Travel and Meetings.

Vice Mayor Hawkins is in favor of Mayor Hall's recommendation and is in favor of additional request for funds will be open to the public.

Pete Johnston, 312 Washington Street South, Twin Falls, requested a plaque be placed at Dennis Bowyer Park to recognize Warberg Moving and Storage. He does not want to pay \$22 a year for water, sanitation, etc. He stated his concern of the lack of enforcement for illegal fireworks, cars and county trucks exceeding the speed limit on Washington Street, and illegal parking in bike lanes and excessive spending on the replacement of equipment. Mayor Hall referred Mr. Johnston to the Police Department regarding enforcement and invited Mr. Johnston to contact any of the Councilmembers to address any additional concerns he may have.

Vice Mayor Hawkins stated that the Council received a letter from Laird Stone requesting payment for work done on a street light in front of his home located on Lincoln Street. Councilmember Lanting stated the contractor has not been paid by Mr. Stone, therefore if Council chooses to pay the bill, grant money should be used to make a payment to the contractor. City Manager Rothweiler stated that the grant cannot be used for payment and suggested that if payment is to be made it should come from Operational Expense from the existing budget. Councilmember Mills Sojka asked what process was used to communicate with Lincoln Street residents of the upcoming street light project. City Manager Rothweiler explained that Mr. Stone was aware of the project and work was done prior to the project. Councilmember Talkington asked if the concrete work done is up to City standards. The light was moved to a different location. Vice Mayor Hawkins stated for clarification that she did not want to weigh in on the request because of her relationship with the Stones but was asking for a follow up on his request. Councilmember Barigar stated his concern that if the Council chooses to pay the bill, a precedent is being set for future requests and he is not comfortable reimbursing people twelve months after the fact. Mayor Hall stated that Curry Concrete should be paid and is concerned about precedent but will show good form paying the bill.

Councilmember Lanting reported on the fundraiser, "Friends of Muni Golf Tournament" held on July 19, 2014.

6. Public input and/or items from the City Manager and City Council.

III. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS: 6:00 P.M. - None

V. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Leila A. Sanchez
Deputy City Clerk/Recording Secretary

