

Those in attendance included Mayor Jeff Hall, Councilmember Fizz Bodily, Councilmember John Morrison, Councilmember Brooke Hyer, Councilmember Ned Simper, Chris Barr (Recorder/Clerk), Abel Herrera (P&Z Administrator/Treasurer), Jon-David Jorgensen, and Klair Kent.

The meeting began at 7:30 pm. Mayor Hall excused Councilmember Jonna Westover.

**1. Review and approval of minutes from April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Councilmember Simper motioned to approve the minutes as stated. Councilmember Hyer seconded. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**2. Public Comments.** None.

**3. Discussion on Audit of FY 2023.** Mayor Hall explained that the Auditor, Matt Regen, did not find anything of major concern while conducting the audit. Mr. Regen reported that all the numbers looked great. The audit has been certified and is complete.

With two months to go, we have already exceeded the budgeted amount for tax income. Our expenses look good and are within budget. The theatre is currently only \$1300 in the red, after being much worse off in the fall.

**4. Mini Excavator Purchase – discussion and vote.** Mayor Hall explained that the mini excavator had been discussed previously. The city currently leases a backhoe that will end in October. A mini excavator will be able to get places and do more to meet public works' needs.

Minimum lease terms for a mini excavator are for 500 hours per year. Our estimates only require about 100 hours. Surrounding municipalities buy their mini excavators. The projected cost would be \$95,000. General consent for the council showed support of purchase versus leasing.

Councilmember Bodily motioned to purchase a mini excavator. Councilmember Hyer seconded. Roll call vote: Yes votes from Bodily, Morrison, Simper, and Hyer. Motion approved unanimously.

**5. New Library Board Member.** Councilmember Simper motioned to nominate Tiera Hansen as a member of the Library Board. Councilmember Bodily seconded. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Other Business.** None.

## **7. Mayor's Report**

1. Mayor Hall explained that further discussion with Sherrif Jensen resulted in a recommendation to follow the same procedure as Smithfield and Nibley when it comes to background checks. Abel Herrera explained that the state code says the city will have to determine what "significant contact with minors" means when a policy is created regarding background checks. All library employees will have a background check. One-time volunteers for things such as the Halloween Carnival would not be required to go through a background check, but those with regular interaction, such as weekly story time would need to do so. Mayor Hall explained that we are starting with the library because a policy has to be put in place by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Councilmember Simper recommends the library board be subject to a background check because they are the ones running the weekly activities. Abel said he will get the policy to the council for review next month when he has completed drafting it.
2. Mayor Hall said he has talked with the COG. Our intention is to rebuild/widen 1600 West from the Idaho border down to Ritewood where it has already been rebuilt. This is about 4.9 miles. Estimated cost is about \$1 million per mile.
3. Mayor Hall reported that we are currently using one of our full-time employees to do the street mowing. He asked for help to find somebody to fill this position.
4. Mayor Hall said we need to check and add the two miles of road along the Idaho border to our Class C road report.
5. Mayor Hall asked Paul Swainston to give an update on the water project. Paul stated that Thursday (May 23<sup>rd</sup>) is completion day. They are working through a list to have it all done by then. The tank finally passed the leak test, and Lewiston has a real water system. Mayor Hall wants to have an open house to show the residents the results. Potential dates and times were discussed.
6. Mayor Hall reported that things are underway to close out the BANS for the water project. This will move us to a much lower interest rate, but we will start paying principal.

## **8. Councilmember Departmental Reports.**

Jonna Westover – Water, Fire Department, Youth Council: Councilmember Westover was absent.

Brooke Hyer – 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Events Council, Cemetery: Councilmember Hyer reported that the Lewiston Children's Theatre production of Wonka was performed and well attended. The cemetery has a new lawnmower now. The Fourth of July departments are all working hard to prepare. The Junior Rodeo and Home Run Deby are new for this year. They are still looking for a parade coordinator.

Ned Simper – Roads, Library, Theatre: Councilmember Simper asked Paul Swainston about cemetery cleanup. It will happen on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. Flashing lights are being installed on

Center Street at Main Street by the state for the crosswalk. The theatre is doing good. They will be doing a summer matinee series for the kids. Randi Barr (theatre manager) is also looking into the possibility of a Spanish language movie on a Thursday night. Mayor Hall remarked that she has done everything we've asked of her. She has taken the resident input and looked into those suggestions, and it has been fabulous. Councilmember Simper reported that the library is looking for help with the Summer Reading Program. They are also looking for more board members. Megan Rich has made an ad to be played in the theatre. It is currently running.

John Morrison – Planning & Zoning, Economic Development: Councilmember Morrison reported that P&Z is working on the subdivision ordinance. Changes need to be made to the wording about improvements. Once complete they will have it reviewed by the attorney, and then it will need to come to council for approval. Various lots in the city were discussed about what makes them non-conforming and a desire to find a way to make them eligible for a building permit.

Fizz Bodily – CERT/Emergency Preparedness, Sewer, Garbage, Parks & Rec: Councilmember Bodily reported that he will be looking at noise ordinances in other cities after the past weekend's event at the rodeo grounds. There were a few complaints about the volume and late hour. He suggested that the master fee schedule be revised to require additional restroom facilities after 200 people. It currently says 500 people and there were issues with vandalism in our restrooms.

There are two t-ball and two coach-pitch teams this year. One field at Cub River has metal covers installed over the dugouts that were provided by way of the McDanels. Councilmember Bodily would like to get a quote from them to have the rest of the fields done the same way.

Mayor Hall said that Richmond is working on a new interlocal agreement. Once approved, it will replace the old agreement and dissolve the old defunct board. Mayor Hall also reported that they are looking into getting a public restroom installed close to the new pickleball courts.

## **9. Adjourn.**

Councilmember Bodily motioned to adjourn. Councilmember Morrison seconded. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Chris Barr

Lewiston City Recorder

