

CITY OF PIERCE
404 South Main St Pierce, ID 83546
Monday, July 10, 2023
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Gerot called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Greg Gerot, Eden Bowie, Clay Hosley, John Stinson, Ron Fugate, and Teresa Koepke

Guests: Erica Holland, Dan Vaughn, Rachel Rasband, Arvine Caldwell, Stephanie Caldwell, Cheryl Stenzel, Robbie Flemming, Lily Hosley, Albert Wells, Devin Cruikshank, Clare Brick, Tyrel Shaw, Sharon Judd, Teri Jo Johnson, Patty Ullrich, Robbie Harrell, and Jamie Stenzel.

Councilmember Eden Bowie made a motion to approve the appointment of Kim Ward as councilmember replacing Kathy Wilson-Dill. Councilmember Clay Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

City Clerk Teresa Koepke swore in Kim Ward as Councilmember.

Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve the June 12, 2023 Regular Council Meeting and July 5, 2023 Special Council Meeting Minutes as well as July accounts payable. Councilmember Holsey seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Bowie read a letter addressed to the Mayor, Council, and public advising Gabrielle Casey, proposed Fire Chief candidate, is her daughter. Councilmember Bowie publicly stated her intent to recuse herself from any votes and discussions regarding the Pierce Volunteer Fire Department or the proposed appointment of Ms. Casey to the position of Fire Chief. Councilmember Bowie would also forego her monthly stipend allotted to councilmembers. A copy of this letter will be included with the meeting minutes.

City Clerk Teresa Koepke swore Gabrielle Casey in as Fire Chief of the Pierce Volunteer Fire Department.

Community Comments/Questions/Concerns:

Jamie Stenzel asked why city ordinances were not being enforced. He said there are abandoned vehicles up on Cedar Dr. that the maintenance crews have had to plow around. Mayor Gerot informed Mr. Stenzel that the particular property he is referring to is on the agenda for this evening's meeting for a review of city code violations. Dan Vaughn asked what was being done about the situation with the Pauls. Mayor Gerot stated that he is working with Clearwater County Prosecutor Clayne Tyler on what legal options the City has. He did say that Janelle Paul was in and said they have been keeping the mess picked up and are spraying something in the yard to help with the odor. Sharon Judd, a neighbor of the Pauls, stated she just wanted to enjoy her property as the problem has been going on for several years. She asked that she be kept in the loop with any action being taken rather than having to complain each month to the City. Arvine Caldwell asked about the proposed chicken ordinance. He said he was at a meeting a month ago and was told it was okay to have 12 chickens and now he is hearing only six chickens will be allowed. Mayor Gerot advised that the meeting Mr. Caldwell is referring to was a committee meeting to gather input and that city policy is not necessarily set from that meeting. An ordinance would need to be drafted and approved by the City Council at which time the proposed ordinance would be posted, and public input would be allowed before the ordinance became in effect.

Department Reports:

Maintenance Supervisor Ron Fugate reported that the crew has been working on cold patching several locations throughout town; two major leaks (Highway Street and Clearwater Ave) were repaired; weeds have been sprayed; working on modifying the de-chlorination system at the sewer plant; pressing solids at the sewer plant; several meters have been repaired or replaced; stops signs at Shanghai were put back up; and streets have been graded and dust abatement put down. The water issue identified last week appears to be a result of water leaking at the end of Cedar Dr. Two major leaks have been fixed and the tanks are building back up. Ron thought within a few days the water levels would be back to normal.

Fire Chief Gabrielle Casey reported that Teri Jo Johnson led a meeting with the firefighters and accepted their vote to nominate Gabrielle Casey as Fire Chief upon appointment from the City Council and Mayor. A fire department meeting schedule has been established to encompass business matters and training. Volunteer personnel were assessed and promoted as warranted to fill vacancies. Two new firefighters were added. Another successful year of the fireworks event was held. Water was drafted from the creek due to the City water issue. Clare Brick set up a fire prevention/education booth at the BBQ held the City Park. Assistant Fire Chief Robbie Fleming assisted the maintenance department with the water application for the city's dust abatement project. Gear and equipment has been donated to the fire department by CPTPA. Tasks being worked on are collecting radios and gear from previous firefighters and doing an inventory list of all equipment and supplies; coordinating with the Pierce Community Center for storage; cleaning the fire department office in order to share the space with the EMT crew; awaiting delivery of SCBA tanks; gas monitor; working with Landlock Divers for the SCBA refill system; washing Main St prior to 1860 Days; and preparing for a department open house and BBQ during 1860 Days.

Sheriff's Deputy Tyrel Shaw reported there were 16 calls for the month of June with a total of 153 hours. It was asked what was being done to control the speed, especially of logging trucks, on Main St. Deputy Shaw reported he is patrolling various places throughout the city and written warnings have been issued.

City Clerk Teresa Koepke reported that flyers were handed out to residents on July 4th advising of immediate water rationing while the water issue was being handled. Mayor Gerot and his wife Diane, and Councilmember Clay Hosley and his wife Lily, helped with handing out the flyers. Mountain Waterworks is set to visit on July 11th to gather information for the water study. Susan Jacobson, Director for Clearwater County Economic Development Council and Kathy Muir with Idaho Parks & Recs will be in Pierce on July 20th to gather information on recreational projects Pierce is interested in. Promotional merchandise was received from the Gary Sinise Foundation. Teresa asked if once the tanks are received, we could get a group photo to send back to the foundation. The Gary Sinise foundation awarded an \$8,000 grant to pay toward the tanks ordered for the self-contained breathing apparatus.

Old Business:

Bonds Code Violation – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to issue a verbal warning to the Bonds as tenants, as well as the property owner, to abate the nuisance and bring within compliance within 30 days. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. Upon further discussion it was decided that the Code Violation letter was sent out to the Bonds and the property owner almost 30 days prior so Councilmember Bowie amended her motion to issue a verbal warning to the Bonds and the property owner to abate the nuisance within 15 days or face further penalties. Councilmember Ward seconded the amended motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Culpepper Code Violation – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to vacate the complaint against Walter Culpepper & Rachel Rasband as they had cleaned up what was asked of them and are now in compliance. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Harris Code Violation – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to issue a citation for the violation of the nuisance ordinance. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. Upon further discussion it was believed that Deputy Shaw did not issue a written warning as instructed after the June 12, 2023 regular meeting. Councilmember Bowie amended her motion to issue a written warning with 15 days to abate the nuisance or face further penalties. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Erica Holland with the Clearwater County Chamber was present. Erica reported that the fundraising done, and donations made to sustain the Chamber were sufficient to keep the Chamber operating for the next fiscal year. The Chamber was able to spend money in each community. The Pierce Recreation District and the Pierce GEM team were each awarded \$500 from the Chamber.

USDA Request for Funds #15 – Councilmember Bowie made a motion to approve Request for Funds #15 from USDA. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

USACE Request for Reimbursement #10 – Councilmember Ward made a motion to approve Request for Reimbursement #10 from USACE. Councilmember Bowie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mountain Waterworks Invoice #7228 – Councilmember Bowie made a motion to approve the payment of invoice #7228 to Mountain Water in the amount of \$2,640. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Request for Reimbursement – Councilmember Bowie made a motion to approve the Request for Reimbursement from the State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in the amount of \$1033.13. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mountain Waterworks Invoice #7229 – Councilmember Ward made the motion to approve the payment to Mountain Waterworks in the amount of \$2066.25. Councilmember Bowie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

USDA Request for Funds #16 – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve Request for Funds #16 from USDA. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

USACE Request for Reimbursement #11 – Councilmember Ward made the motion to approve the Request for Reimbursement #11 from USACE. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Contractor's Application for Payment #11 – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve Contractor's Application for Payment #11 from Clearwater Construction in the amount of \$156,889.45. Councilmember Bowie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Contractor's Change Order #4 –Terrence Stevenson with Mountain Waterworks was able to provide further clarification on what the change order entailed, which included two new blowers and a building extension to house the blowers. Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve WWTP Project Change Order No. 4 in the amount of \$726,984.84. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Engineering Amendment #2 – Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve Amendment No. 002 Amendment to Owner-Engineering Agreement in the amount of \$50,000. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Neptune 360 Renewal Bid was reviewed. After much discussion it was decided further information was needed before a decision could be made. Teresa Koepke will contact Core & Main to gather the additional information to review at the next meeting.

Review of Sanitation Services – A quote from Wastequip for seven dumpsters in the amount of \$14,413.78 was reviewed. It was suggested that the City purchase dumpsters and rent them back to the businesses. Teresa Koepke stated she was also working with Robert at Simmons Sanitation to inquire about contracting the garbage service out. Both Weippe and Orofino use Simmons. Robert had not sent any information by the time of the meeting, so it was decided to table the topic until further information was received.

Bids from Jared Construction and 4Stems Custom Builders to side City Hall with metal were reviewed. These were the only two bids received. Councilmember Bowie made the motion to accept the bid from Jared Construction with a clause that any overage was to not exceed 10%. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. Roll call vote: John Stinson – Yes, Clay Hosley – Yes, Kim Ward – Yes, Eden Bowie – Yes. Motion carried.

Councilmember Bowie made the motion to have Joey Vaughn of CR Stripes paint the parking spaces and crosswalk lines before 1860 Days. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

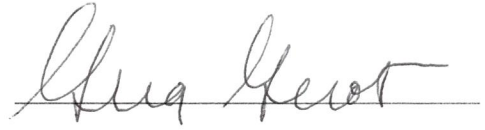
Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve Resolution #330 Update to Personnel Policy regarding Paid Time Off. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Bowie made the motion to approve Resolution #331 Update to Personnel Policy regarding Juneteenth Holiday. Councilmember Ward seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

A proposed Poultry Ordinance was reviewed. As proposed the ordinance would allow up to six (6) poultry to be kept in enclosed areas in backyards in residential areas. No roosters would be allowed. Poultry must be kept as not to cause adverse impacts on neighboring properties. Non-commercial use only. After input from

councilmembers and citizens it was decided to allow up to twelve (12) poultry per residence. A revised ordinance will be drafted and reviewed at the next meeting.

Councilmember Hosley made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Bowie seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Gerot", written over a horizontal line.

Greg Gerot, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Teresa Koepke", written over a horizontal line.

Teresa Koepke, City Clerk/Treasurer