

CITY OF PIERCE
404 South Main St Pierce, ID 83546
Monday, June 10, 2024 6:00 p.m.
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Greg Gerot, John Stinson, Guy Bonner, Theresa Root, Clay Hosley, Jack Koepke, and Teresa Koepke.

Guests: Char Alvard, Clare Brick (PVFD), Rodney Hickman, Lily Hosley, Matthew Hagele (PVFD), Theresa Clark, Ronnie Anderson, Harry Stenzel, Kathy Hickman, Diane Gerot, Kelly Cowger, and Cheryl Stenzel.

Councilmember Stinson made a motion to approve the consent agenda which includes the approval of May 13, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes and June's Accounts Payable. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Citizens Comments & Request:

Rod Hickman addressed the council regarding the possible increase in the utility charges for sanitation. He stated that Pierce has had a lot of wealth move in but we still have a lot of disabled and senior citizens with lower incomes. He asked that the City of Pierce be mindful when of this when determining how much to raise the rates.

Kathy Hickman stated that she has been picking up a lot of garbage along Canal, Timberline, and Willoughby Drive. She stated that a lot of people come to our area to camp and asked if it would be possible to have the City put up signs asking people to have pride in our community and to please not litter. It was decided to put that on the agenda for the July Council Meeting.

Department Reports:

Jack Koepke reported that three representatives with Merrick & Co. were up with their correlator to help identify water leaks. They checked all the main lines in the Whispering Pines and Chicken Coop areas. No leaks were found using the correlator. There were four leaks found on service lines: two leaks on Ponderosa and two leaks on Cedar. One of the leaks on Ponderosa has already been fixed. The leaks that have been fixed in the Whispering Pines so far this year have resulted in a reduction from 118 gallons/minute to 29 gallons/minute going through the booster station. The goal is to get down around 5 gallons/minute as that is what is used by residents. A leak was fixed on Clearwater Ave this week and they are working on a leak on Third Ave. The Pines pump has recently gone from 9-11 hours per day to 4.5 hours per day. The downtown pump is consistent at 2 hours per day. Cleaning of the old digester is on standstill while water leaks are being repaired. The process has been slow and cumbersome. A valve between the digester tank and the aeration tank was discovered to be in the open position and has a broken handle. That will need to be repaired otherwise anything from the aeration tank will fill over to the digester tank and not allow the digester tank to be emptied completely. Jack stated that he has pressed some out of the new tank by running the pumps as slow as possible. It pressed okay but not an ideal scenario. Dalton Thomson passed his first Water Treatment test. At this point he does not have enough hours to obtain a certification but he can work on getting all the testing out of the way.

Pierce Volunteer Fire Department Chief Matthew Hagele provided the following report: The fire department donated the UTV to the 6C Ridge Runners ORV Club. Two fire fighters have resigned. At the June 1st meeting John Payne was promoted to Captain Engineer and Billy Mack was promoted to Captain. They are working on plans for the 4th of July and 1860 Days. Clare Brick attended the meeting on May 29th with ICRMP and Teresa as the fire department representative. The fire department did not

qualify for the IDL grant due to confusion over the process for reporting incident responses to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the State Fire Marshall. The fire department reported their information to the National Fire Protection Association and it was indicated that the information reported to them would be passed on to NFIRS and the State Fire Marshall but the fire department found out after the due date for the grant that the IDL wanted them to report incident responses directly to the NFIRS data base. Clare is working on setting up our account in the NFIRS data base and they will start reporting incidents for 2024 as soon as the account is approved. The inventory for 2024 has been completed and there are copies in the city office and the fire department office.

Sheriff's Department Report – No Deputy was present and no report was provided.

City Clerk Teresa Koepke reported that she met with ICRMP representative Debbie Ferguson. There is some work to be done on the Schedule of Property. It has not been updated for quite some time. Teresa shared information relating to the bonds we have with USDA Rural Development. It was discussed in a previous meeting that the information regarding the maturity date, balance, etc. was not readily known. Teresa reported that the City of Pierce has three outstanding bond loans as follows:

Loan No.	91-01	91-04	92-07
Original Loan Amount	\$1,200,000	\$100,000	\$1,800,000
Term	30 years	30 years	30 years
Interest Rate	4.375	3.25	1.625
Loan Close Date	09-23-2009	02-11-2010	11-27-2018
Maturity Date	09-23-2039	02-11-2040	11-27-2058
Balance	\$820,722.62	\$69,370.40	\$1,667,575.51
Annual Payment	\$72,600	\$5269	\$61,560

Postcards were mailed to residents informing them that garbage pickup will start at 7:00 a.m. starting June 17th. Teresa is working with the city attorney on getting liens placed on two properties that are in serious delinquency. Representatives from Rural Development will be here June 25th to inspect the progress on the Wastewater Treatment Plant project.

A variance for Charlene Alvard at 501 Pierce Ave was reviewed. Charlene's proposed fence will run along side the City's alley below her property and above Third Ave. The proposed fence will not be 9' from the curb or 15' from the center as required by Pierce City Code 2-1-6 (A). It was discussed that the alley way in question is not maintained as a city street and therefore the erection of a fence would not hamper any maintenance efforts the City would need to do. Councilmember Hosley made a motion to approve the variance. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 338 (Disposal of Surplus Property) was reviewed. The resolution deems the 2014 Kawasaki ATV VIN#JKBRTCC12EB501359 no longer needed and thereby considered surplus. Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 338. Councilmember Root seconded the motion. Roll Call: John Stinson – Yes, Theresa Root – Yes, Guy Bonner – Yes, Clay Hosley – Yes. Motion carried.

Teresa Koepke reported that the ICRMP Renewal Quote previously provided was rescinded by ICRPM due to various factors such as exposures, claim trends, and reinsurance costs. The previous quote was \$21,147.00. The new quote is \$23,377.00. Councilmember Stinson made a motion to approve the updated quote of \$23,377.00. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Costs for repair of city property at 103 Willoughby Drive caused by the resident digging on the city side of the meter on May 6, 2024 was reviewed. Councilmember Root made the motion to send Jesse Karn an invoice in the amount of \$257.50 for costs the City incurred to fix the damage caused by Jesse. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Cost for repair of damage to city property near Canal St/Shanghai RD on March 1, 2024 was reviewed. A stop sign and guardrail were damaged when Benjamin Johnson wrecked his vehicle in that area. Councilmember Bonner made a motion to send Benjamin Johnson an invoice in the amount of \$413.08. This is the invoice estimated at \$388.09 plus \$24.99 for the cost of the 4" x 4" post that was not calculated in the original invoice. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council discussed a request to put a memorial plaque in honor of Patti Metcalf on one of the city benches that sits near Elk Snout. Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve the addition of the memorial plaque. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

During a recent inspection and inventory of the fire hydrants it was noted that none of the fire hydrants in Judgetown are marked with a post and sign. Not having the hydrants marked could cause a delay in firefighting efforts, particularly in the winter months. Since Judgetown does not pay taxes to the City of Pierce for any services, including fire protection, it was discussed that the City of Pierce should not be responsible to pay for the post but rather the residents of Judgetown should be responsible for that. Teresa Koepke approached Barbara Cook about the post and signs. Barbara indicated that she was not interested in putting up a post and/or sign. It was discussed that Barbara is on the Water/Sewer Board for Judgetown but does not have authority to answer for all property owners when it comes to the fire hydrants so Teresa made the recommendation that a letter be sent to property owners in Judgetown advising them of the situation and request their cooperation with installing posts. The City would be willing to provide the signs at no cost. Councilmember Root made a motion to send all the property owners in Judgetown a letter asking that posts be put at all five fire hydrant locations and that the City of Pierce would provide the signs. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Teresa Koepke reported that when she was recently up at Ponderosa Court on a Tuesday morning, two different households had their garbage out at the curb and there was no lid on the garbage cans. Garbage pickup for that area is not until Wednesdays. Something, most likely ravens, had gotten into the garbage and had it spread in several neighboring yards throughout Ponderosa Court. City of Pierce Code 4-2-7 (C) requires containers to be equipped with closefitting lids. Councilmember Root made a motion to send the two households letters asking them to keep lids on their garbage cans to keep the garbage from being scattered around the neighborhood. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. Councilmember Hosley commented that when he assisted with the garbage route, this appears to be a wide spread problem and he didn't feel it was fair to single two households out. Teresa stated that if she is advised of the offending parties, she can send a letter to those parties as well. Councilmembers Root and Bonner voted to send a letter to the two parties on Ponderosa. Councilmembers Hosley and Stinson voted not to send letters. Mayor Gerot broke the tie by voting to have letter sent. Motion carried.

Kenworth Sales has informed Mayor Gerot that the axle for the sanitation truck that was being ordered will actually not fit the truck without some additional modifications, including moving the driveline. Mayor Gerot was told the addition of having to move the driveline would be approximately \$3,000 more than the original bid. Kenworth was supposed to send an updated bid but had not done so by the time of the meeting. It was decided to table the topic at this time until more definitive information was obtained.

The purchase of a cart lifter for the sanitation truck was also tabled until more information regarding the addition of the axle was presented to the City.

Mayor Gerot obtained a proposal from Rehrig Pacific Company for the purchase of sanitation carts. The carts are 95 gallons and would have "CITY OF PIERCE" stamped on them. An order of 359 carts would be \$20,104.00 (\$56.00 per cart) with estimated shipping of \$4,580.00 for a total of \$24,684.00. It was decided to table the discussion until more information was received regarding the additional axle on the sanitation truck.

The review of sanitation fees and setting of a public hearing to increase sanitation rates was tabled until further information was obtained regarding the modification to the sanitation truck and purchase of the carts and cart lifter.


Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve US Army Corp of Engineer's Request for Reimbursement #21 in the amount of \$87,448.28. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Stinson made a motion to approve the USDA Request for Reimbursement #26 in the amount of \$29,149.42. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Hosley a motion to approve Merrick & Co. Invoice #7831 in the amount of \$1,360.00. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Root a motion to approve Clearwater Construction Pay App #16 in the amount of \$115,237.70. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Stinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Greg Gerot
Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Koepke
City Clerk/Treasurer