

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY
18 April 2011
City Council Chambers (Library)
7 pm

On the 18th of April 2011 the city council meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 pm by Mayor Joe Cook. Roll call was taken with council members Mayer, Cline and Esplin in attendance. Councilman York was absent. Staff members in attendance were Beau Ziemer, Leon K. Jensen and Beth Ann Christensen. Andy Gehrke of Holladay Engineering was also at the meeting.

Regular Agenda – **Councilman Cline moved to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Mayer seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Consent Agenda – **Councilman Cline moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilwoman Mayer seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Old Business:

Set Public Hearing date on demolition code / requirements –**Councilman Esplin moved to schedule a public hearing on 16 May 2011 at 6:40 pm prior to the regularly scheduled city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayer. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Letter to Oil & Gas Commission, Payette County Commissioners, Idaho Department of Lands and general public – Councilman Cline expressed his concern that he is waiting for the report which is forthcoming. Councilwoman Mayer stated that many people have spoken with her and expressed their opinion that the city is trying to stop all drilling. She thought the letter would be good so the public can understand that the city is not against drilling but are very concerned about drilling in our delineation zone due to the possible contamination of the aquifer. The letter written by Councilman Esplin reiterates that the city wants assurances that we will be protected. Councilman Cline still stands on the side of caution, at least within our delineation zone. Councilman Esplin stated that he is okay with going ahead but that the city needs tools in place to protect the city. Discussion on this matter continued including reference to a program on CSpan about wells, hydro fracking, etc. Councilman Esplin thought that the letter should go forward from the council but wanted to have all the council present when a decision is made. The time limit of 35 years for the protection of the city was also discussed. More discussion ensued about the length of protection, the life of wells and that the hole for the well will be always in the ground. Councilwoman Mayer moved to table this item for discussion to the next city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Esplin. The voting was unanimous in favor.

New Business:

Bulk Water Rates – Beau Ziemer presented information to the council regarding businesses using city water for their projects and that they have not been paying for the water. He suggested some fees which could be charged when water is used in this manner. This item was for information only and there was no action taken at this time.

There were no ordinances and resolutions to review and the council moved to the open forum part of the agenda.

Open Forum – No comments were made here.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilwoman Mayer invited all to the Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday the 23rd of April. She stated that a few Kiwanis members would be to the next council meeting to ask that the city honor former Mayor Dick Platz. Arnold Howard has also passed away. She asked if the council would send a letter of appreciation to the Arnold Howard family.

Mayor Cook stated that Bridge Energy was in town and holding a public meeting at the Senior Citizens Center tonight at 7:30 pm. The council thought it a great idea, especially for those who may not understand the issues. The council also agreed that no one has pointed at Bridge Energy stating that they have done bad work.

Councilman Esplin pointed out that in other parts of the county some bad things have happened when drilling these types of wells. Councilman Cline pointed out that the .05% possibility of an error, when tapping the aquifer, is the part that concerns him. There were no other comments from the rest of the members of the council.

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Esplin moved to adjourn the council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayer. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.

Joe Cook, Mayor

Leon K. Jensen, City Clerk/Treasurer