

# MINUTES-CITY OF ASHTON

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

7:00 p.m.

714 Main (North Entrance)

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*The purpose of the Agenda is to assist the Council and interested citizens in the conduct of the public meeting. Careful review of the Agenda is encouraged. Testimony from the public will be solicited for any item or issue listed under the category of **Public Hearings**. Any individual who wishes to address the Council on any other subject should plan to speak when **Item 7- Public Comments** is identified by the Mayor. The Mayor will not normally allow audience participation at any other time. Idaho Law prohibits council action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance.*

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### CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

**PRAYER OFFERED BY: Brett Pincock**  
**PLEDGE LED BY: Richard Huntsman**

**Present:** Mayor Stronks, Councilman Huntsman, Councilman Janssen, and Councilman Pincock.

**Also Present:** City Clerk Cathy Stegelmeier and Sara Reinke.

**Mayor Stronks opened the meeting at 7:05 PM**

**Mayor Stronks welcomed everyone to the meeting this evening.**

### 1. CONSENT AGENDA:

*Being considered routine by the City Council, these items will be enacted by one motion unless requested by a Councilman or a citizen that one or more items be removed for later discussion.*

- A. **Minutes** – Approval of Regular Council Meeting June 11, 2008 and Public Hearing June 25, 2008.
- B. **Treasurers Report & Financial Statement**– As Submitted
- C. **Payables** – Bills for Council approval as a result of City expenditures
- D. **Employee Expenses** – As Submitted

Councilwoman Janssen made a motion to accept consent agenda with the addition of the Flying Phoenix Corporation bill. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

- A. Proposed Ashton City Ordinance #434-08 – Comprehensive Plan Update 2008

There was discussion on the public hearing and the concerns Peter Young brought up. Councilman Pincock explained that he never received any written concerns from Peter.

Councilman Janssen made a motion to suspend the readings and read by title only. Councilman Huntsman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Janssen read the Ordinance by title into the record.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to adopt Ordinance #436-08. Councilman Huntsman seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS/PETITIONS:

- A. Sue Griffiths - Abandoned House

The Mayor and Council discussed tearing down the house at 279 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The house has been abandoned and is becoming a danger. Councilman Pincock stipulated that if the City tears it down, the contractor should

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make sure to keep the dust settled. Councilwoman Janssen discussed the possibility of a corner park for the south side of town. City Clerk Stegelmeier gave the information that the county would be auctioning the lot this fall and whoever bought it would have to pay the City for all the work done in the past. Councilman Pincock directed City Clerk Stegelmeier that the new work should also be levied against the tax bill. Councilwoman Janssen then asked what the City's plan for the lot should be. Councilman Pincock explained that the City should put a lean on the property, then bid on it at auction. The City could then sell it or whatever was decided. Councilwoman Janssen then asked if the City would have to pay the back taxes. City Clerk Stegelmeier was not sure. Councilman Pincock said that at the most it would be about \$450/year and the City should still be able to redeem its investment.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to have the house at 279 S 4<sup>th</sup> Street torn down and costs put on the tax bill as a lean. Councilman Huntsman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Henry's Fork – Lease. The Mayor & Council discussed the Henry's Fork Foundation lease and the price, etc. City Clerk Stegelmeier explained that she hadn't heard from Steve Trafton and so she sent over a draft of possible lease. Councilwoman Janssen explained that if the Foundation has questions, the Council and they have August & September to go over it before the current lease runs out.
- B. Chamber – Lease. The Mayor & Council discussed several points on the lease. One was the possibility of charging for utilities. It was decided that it would be more trouble than it was worth with the amount of time someone is using the Chamber office. The council does want to make sure the Chamber knows that the space is a contribution to the Chamber. The next point was the Chamber's request for an automatic renewal. It was discussed that the City Attorney has counseled the City not to renew leases automatically. Councilman Pincock explained that the City could give them the first option to renew and that would suffice. The other points were discussed with the Council direction to City Clerk Stegelmeier that the City Attorney's advice be followed. Discussion turned to the relationship between the Chamber and the City. The City Council has made an effort through the free use of the building, assistance with events, etc., and doesn't feel that the Chamber is appreciative of the effort. Councilman Pincock asked the rest of the Council if the City was going to charge the Chamber or just show them what value they are getting. It was decided that the council would show the Chamber what rent could be charged but that the City would forgo rent at this time. The Council directed City Clerk Stegelmeier to put an ad in the Chamber Newsletter thanking the Chamber for the great job they did on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

Councilwoman Janssen in lieu of lease payment the city will donate the value back to the chamber for our dues and participation in projects. Councilman Pincock seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Janssen made a motion to take 5 minute break. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Councilwoman Janssen made motion to go back in order. Councilman Huntsman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- C. Surplus Sale – Open bids. The council discussed the bids.

Councilman Pincock made a motion to accept bids, contingent on title and inspection on item 53. Councilwoman Janssen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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### **5. STAFF AND COMMITTEE/SPECIAL REPORTS**

- A. Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee Report – No one from the committee was present to give a report. Councilwoman Janssen brought City Clerk Stegelmeier a list of possible members. Mayor Stronks talked about the AIC conference and how excited other City's MYACs are about the program. Those committees made a suggestion to Mayor Stronks that he should set up a booth at school registration and also do something at an assembly to get new members. The Burley and Rexburg MYAC members offered to come and give a presentation if the City wanted. Councilman Pincock asked if new officers were elected for Ashton's Committee. Councilwoman Janssen explained that they have not and that the situation is almost back to the beginning. The Mayor & Council tossed around idea to send out invitations and have pool party to get some kids involved. It was decided that the Mayor should invite the Rexburg MYAC to the pool party. Mayor Stronks set a date for the MYAC party on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August at 7PM.
- B. Community Center Committee Report – Sara Reinke. Sara came to council to report on the play, Uncle Phil's Diner that was presented at the Community Center. The community turnout was a huge surprise. Sara explained that she is hoping to have a debriefing opportunity with Dan Hagen and the committee. Plans might change as to how it is run because of problems tracking the money, etc. Sara wanted to give a huge thank you to Mark Pearce for helping to get the kitchen doors finished. The kitchen looks great. The play did prove, though, that the community does value an experience in that building. Sara also explained that the Community Center received a \$1000 grant from Thrivent. She feels that they are making progress. Councilman Pincock expressed his thought that the committee has made great progress and done a great job. Councilwoman Janssen explained that just being able to have that event was wonderful. The Mayor and Council then asked about the committee. Sara said there are 7 official members, but they are having trouble meeting. Councilwoman Janssen asked when the next night meeting was. Sara explained that it should be the following Tuesday, but with summer, etc. they would probably not meet. Mayor Stronks thanked Sara and the committee for their hard work.
- C. City Business – Cathy Stegelmeier. City Clerk Stegelmeier asked if Mayor Stronks wanted to talk about the dance teams. Mayor Stronks explained to the council that some dance teams from the International Dance Festival will be here the 28<sup>th</sup> of July at 12:30 PM and dance at 1 PM at the High School. City Clerk Stegelmeier then asked about an Employee's Summer party. A date was set for July 21<sup>st</sup> for swimming at the City pool at 6 PM and supper at the pavilion at 7 PM. City Clerk Stegelmeier will give out food assignments.

### **6. BUDGET WORKSHOP**

The council discussed budget. Much of the discussion centered on the fuel costs. It was then decided that there should be an employee meeting to discuss wish lists for each department. Councilman Pincock expressed that the Council should meet with each department and committee. City Clerk Stegelmeier was then directed to notice for a Special Council budget meeting July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

Mayor Stronks asked if there was any other business to discuss. City Clerk Stegelmeier wanted verification on whether the Archives move into the old Archives office was approved.

Councilwoman Janssen made a motion to have the Chamber move out of the old archives office so that the archives can expand back into that office. Councilman Pincock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes unless repeat testimony is requested by the Mayor/Council.)

Mayor Stronks explained that there is no need for an executive session.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*I.C. 67-2345 Certain City-related matters may need to be discussed confidentially as a matter of law (Acquisition of real property, personnel matters, attorney-client communications) subject to applicable legal requirements, the Council may enter executive session by roll call vote to discuss such matters.*

Advise Legal Counsel,

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Pincock made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Janssen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING**

Regular Council 7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, August 13, 2008, Council Chambers. Questions concerning items appearing on this Agenda or requests for accommodation of special needs to participate in the meeting should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk or call 208-652-3987.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Stegelmeier, City Clerk.

Attest:

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Cathy Stegelmeier  
City Clerk

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Theo R. Stronks  
Mayor