

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF DRIGGS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2009**

Pursuant to adjournment of the regular City Council meeting held January 6, 2009, and the call of the Mayor, the Driggs City Council met in regular session **Tuesday, January 20, 2009**, at 7:00 p.m. A roll call was taken and present were council members: Greer Jones, George Mosher, Dan Powers and Colin Dye, Mayor Louis Christensen, Public Works Director Jared Gunderson, and Planning and Zoning Administrator Doug Self. Mayor Christensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES TO REVIEW

Council Members reviewed the minutes.

Council Member Mosher made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2009 City Council Meeting. Council Member Dye seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS REVIEW

Council members reviewed the claims. There was discussion regarding propane usage for the City buildings.

Council Member Mosher made a motion to approve the claims as presented dated January 7, 2009 through January 20, 2009. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

KATRINA CHADWICK-TETON INDOOR SPORTS ACADEMY

Katrina passed out letters that had been received from parents as well as flyers for current and future sessions. She voiced concern for the lack of communication she felt between herself and the City. She stated that she “loves the space and that the kids need the area.” She had 178 students in her last session and stated her business was thriving. She felt the City should be able to “make space” for the Teton Indoor Sports Academy and the Teton Arts Council, stating she did not have a lot of options due to the needs of high ceilings and cement floors to move her business.

Council Member Powers stated that the proposal from the Teton Arts Council was “unsolicited” and that the Council did not go to them for plans. He felt the area should be able to accommodate both agencies.

Council Member Dye questioned when Katrina’s current lease expired. The information was unknown by both parties. Katrina did state that she would like to do all-day summer camps and felt having both entities would be a benefit for parents trying to find activities for their children during the summer months.

Kelly Sullivan spoke to the Council stating that she “felt horrible about this.” She was “under the distinct impression that Katrina had a temporary lease.” She continued to

state that their proposal was not an “unsolicited proposal as far as they were concerned.” The space that the Teton Arts Council currently has is too small and she explained that if both entities were to be placed in the north part of the Community Center it would be the same amount of space they currently have, which did not make sense financially. She concluded that if the city gave a renewable lease to Katrina then “the city needs to abide by that.”

Council Member Jones questioned if it was possible for the Teton Arts Council to “redraw their plans.” Kelly Sullivan stated that if the space had to be used for others such as a visitor center due to the grant money, that didn’t leave “much room for us.”

A discussion of National Geographic and the GeoTourism Center began. Mayor Louis Christensen explained that certain items needed to be incorporated into the center in order to complete the grant requirements.

Council Member Powers stated that a conversation needed to occur with the Scenic Byway Committee to voice concerns and the interest in keeping both entities involved. Mayor Christensen stated they had been made aware of this.

The Three-Party contract between the Urban Renewal Agency, Teton Valley Chamber of Commerce and the City of Driggs was discussed. Council Members did not recall seeing the contract that was signed.

Katrina stated that she wanted “answers from the Council.” Council Member Powers replied, stating that answers were not available right now. Council Member Dye stated “I feel like I’m in the dark.”

Council Member Powers asked who was doing the design work on the north part of the building. Mayor Christensen stated that no specific architect was involved at this time. There were several plans and proposals that had been submitted and several architects that were involved. He continued to state that the Scenic Byway Committee would review the plans and bring them to the Council. It was noted that the community was asked for their input.

Council Member Mosher stated that Katrina and Kelly should be involved in the committees that will review the proposed plans. He also stated that he was “never under the impression that a current tenant would be lost under the situation.”

Katrina concluded her comments by stating that she felt “very overwhelmed with what has transpired.” Council Member Powers assured her that the Council would “do a better job” at being informed. Mayor Christensen stated that he would make sure Reid Rogers had both entities on his email list.

Kelly Sullivan stated that the proposal that was brought before the Council was an idea and concept of the Teton Arts Council. Originally they thought the building would be “a perfect fit for us and the City, but maybe it’s not.”

SHOSHONI PLAINS V, EXTENSION REQUEST ON PRELIMINARY PLAT

Doug presented information to the Council regarding the request. A letter from the developer, Clair Rood, was reviewed. Doug reminded the Council that Phase V of Shoshoni Plains was the remainder of the development and that the Preliminary Plat approval would expire in April 2009. Doug stated that in the next several months, plans to redevelop the subdivision ordinance would take place. Several issues with the preliminary plat were not addressed during initial application submission due to the ambiguity of the subdivision ordinance and were left to be resolved when the Council heard the Final Plat.

Council Member Mosher stated that several lots in the development were available. Doug responded stating the Council should consider that as well, as there is not likely to be enough developed lots to pay for the plowing of associated roads. Council Member Dye questioned if it was better to deny the request and receive what was needed from the developer. Doug responded stating that the developer would understand what was being asked of him with a new subdivision ordinance and could make decisions to get the final plat approved with fewer conditions.

Council Member Powers stated that the water study listed the subject area as an area of concern. Doug stated that the developer made improvements. Jared Gunderson also stated that it was listed as being in an area of concern but the “biggest concern” was passed Boosway Street, closer to the airport.

Council Member Powers questioned if the current subdivision ordinance gave guidelines as to when an extension should be granted. The ordinance does not give guidelines on this procedure, Doug stated.

Diane Temple, from Nelson Engineering, represented the applicant. She stated that it would be best for her client to know what needed to be completed.

Council Member Mosher stated he would like the developer to present information to the Council on the progress of the conditions before an approval or denial of the request was made. Council Member Powers stated that he did not feel “much progress was made on the issues.” The parks have not been completed and various other issues should be resolved before an extension should be issued. Council Member Powers continued to state that there should be “some give and take.”

Council Member Mosher felt the developer should meet with Doug Self, the Planning and Zoning Administrator first. Diane stated that she could meet with Doug and present information to Clair Rood.

Council Member Mosher made a motion to table the extension request on the Preliminary Plat approval for Shoshoni Plains for the time period of up to two Council meetings. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT

Doug Self discussed the budget for the Planning and Zoning Department. He stated that at this time the department was at 20% of projected income. The budget had been reduced by 25% from last year and with the excess income in 2008, that may be able to be used if the department should need it. A work plan had been devised and the department and Commission have several projects to complete to “stay ahead and keep busy.” Doug was working on getting stimulus funding and has applied for public transit funding.

Council Member Mosher questioned what the time frame for the amended subdivision ordinance was. Doug stated after the work plan was established, a better time frame could be figured.

The Main Street Project continues and Doug was prioritizing the areas that need to be completed first. Doug has had communication with business owners and their concerns have been incorporated into the plan.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

There was a discussion of why de-chlorinator had been purchased. Jared explained that if the elevation gets higher due to back ups, the system dispenses more chorine and the de-chlorinator kicks on. This problem should be fixed now. Jared concluded by stating that purchasing de-chlorinator was less expensive than having someone man the system 24 hours a day.

Jared explained a new screen for the sewer system was in the budget this year and needed to be purchased. He explained the different types of screens that could be used. A brush screen was not preferable due to high maintenance, and a barrel screen needed to be cleaned with spray nosals and if the power were to be interrupted the screen would get plugged. The bar screen was the better option. Jared stated it can slip in and out and can be installed without outside assistance. He concluded by stating the bar screen was priced lower then what the anticipated budget reflected.

Pioneering was waiting on a radiator to fix the road grader. Council Member Dye questioned if a new or used road grader should be purchased. Council Member Powers stated that if the existing grader could be used until next year, the City would have a better idea of what revenue would be coming in.

The streetlights in Creekside Meadows have been changed from mercury lights, which are more expensive, to the high-pressure sodium lights.

Council Member Powers questioned the results of the sewer meeting with the City of Victor. Jared stated that the City of Victor wanted to know what direction the City of Driggs was taking. Jared stated that regardless of what the City of Victor was doing for a sewer system, Driggs would have to upgrade.

A Public Hearing is scheduled on February 17, 2009 to close the study on the pilot plant. An amendment can then be done to add the pilot plant to the water study.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Louis Christensen read a Proclamation for Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week to be held the week of February 2, 2009 in the City of Driggs.

The Mayor received a request from the Soil Conservation District asking to utilize the Community Center hallway to display posters from the poster contest of 5th and 6th graders.

Council Member Mosher made a motion to allow the Teton Soil Conservation District to display posters created by 5th and 6th graders to be displayed at the Community Center for a period of time to be determined by the Mayor. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Christensen received a request from the US Census Bureau to use the City Hall as a training site for those conducting the 2010 Census. It is a 6-week training session from 8am to 5pm. They are seeking a waiver of fees to use a room. Council Member Mosher questioned if they could be moved to another location if a paying customer needed the Council Chambers.

Council Member Powers made a motion to approve the use of the Council Chambers by the US Census Bureau from March 5, 2009 to mid-April 2009 assuming that there are no other paying customers needing the space. Council Member Mosher seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Mayor stated Teton County was requesting that the City of Driggs adopts the Teton County Multi-Jurisdiction All Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved in December of 2008.

Council Member Dye made a motion to approve the Notice of Endorsement and Participation in the Teton County Multi-Jurisdiction All Hazard Mitigation Plan. Council Member Mosher seconded the motion. Council Member Powers questioned if the Council should read the plan or "go on the faith that it's a good idea." Mayor Christensen stated that he read through it and felt comfortable with it. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Christensen reported that the Airport Layout Plan was sent to the FAA for approval and that he anticipated a request for bidding to begin. Bids have been received for the engineering, design work and supervision of construction for the airport runway.

Council Member Jones made a motion to authorize Mayor Louis Christensen to do a scope of study to review a bid for the airport. Council Member Mosher seconded. Council Member Powers, Council Member Jones and Council Member Mosher were in

favor of the motion. Council Member Dye was in opposition of the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote.

Council Member Dye stated he “was not comfortable with Urban Renewal and what is going on.” Mayor Christensen reminded the Council that the Scenic Byway Committee needed to figure out what was required for the grant and “it may still leave a lot of room.” Council Member Powers stated that if there were a choice between gymnastics and a visitor’s center, he would vote for gymnastics to be in the building. He concluded by stating that what drove the economic growth was the people that lived and moved to the area and those people are “more concerned with things to do.”

Council Member Jones questioned if there were “any parameters for Reid to be going to Washington D.C. to speak with National Geographic.” Mayor Christensen stated that National Geographic contacted Reid and asked for him to make a presentation. He also stated that the State of Idaho was “backing the idea.”

Council Member Mosher stated that Reid’s trip was “easily justified” but he felt “the wool was pulled over our eyes.” He also stated that the contract between the City of Driggs, the Teton Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Urban Renewal Agency should have been “looked into.”

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Dye made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm.

ATTEST:

Sonya Adams, City Clerk

Louis B. Christensen, Mayor