

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF DRIGGS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2009**

City Council meeting was held December 1, 2009 at 7:00.m. A roll call was taken and present were council members: Dan Powers, Greer Jones and Colin Dye, Mayor Louis Christensen, Financial Office Amy Smith, and Public Works Director Jared Gunderson. Council member Mosher was excused, Planning and Zoning Administer Doug Self was out ill and City Attorney Stephen Zollinger was out due to roads conditions. Mayor Christensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES TO REVIEW

Council Members reviewed the minutes from the City Council Meeting. Council Member Dan Powers made a correction regarding page 3 paragraph 2 should be a shut off fee of \$50-\$65 for turning the water on and off and not a stand-by fee.

Council Member Greer Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2009 City Council Meeting. Council Member Colin Dye seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS REVIEW

Council Members reviewed the claims.

Council Member Dan Powers made a motion to approve the claims as presented dated November 17, 2009 through December 1, 2009. Council Member Greer Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ALCOHOL PERMITS FOR 2010

A renewal list of beer, wine and liquor licence holders were present to the City Council.

Council Member Powers made a motion to approve all beer, wine and liquor licenses with the condition that all applicants complete the application process. Council Member Dye seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WATER RATE DISCUSSION AND PLAN

Ms. Smith stated that she is currently working on analyzing the tiered rate scenario which involves re-billing for the year of July 1st, 2008 through June 30th of 2009 with the proposed rate structure and then comparing with the actual months at our existing rate structure . Amy also indicated that she has the computer model and rate scenario model all set-up and she will be able to provide the council with revenue projections based on the proposed rates. The initial run through that Amy did indicates revenue increases sufficient to cover depreciation.

Council Member Greer Jones and Council Member Dan Powers both expressed concern about the highest rate tier and felt it might be too great for consumers. Amy said she was finding the same scenario as she reviewed a few individual customers, particularly out of city customers

who rate is \$4.05 at the highest level. Greer Jones stated that we want customers to conserve but not gouge them either.

Public Works Director Jared Gunderson stated that he is trying to confer with Jason at Sunrise so that they review the water lines in town and prioritize the age of the water lines so the Council Members have a better idea of depreciation. Jared will also be getting with Rocky Mountain Environmental regarding the city's water rights. Amy should have the numbers next meeting.

Mark Rockefeller made a comment that he spoke with Amy Smith at great lengths over his concern over water rates. Mark indicated that he was a volume user and he took to heart the City's landscape requirements and he doesn't dump much down the sewer. He stated that both Amy and Jared have a lot of experiences in these two environments and that they are the real support staff for the Council. Mr. Rockefeller stated that in a nut shell that his conversation was that he did not want to see this issue become a profit making environment for the City of Driggs. He wants to see it deal with the recipients of water and users of sewer on a reflective basis based on actual impact. Mark continued to say that he was going to attend these meeting and he wants the Council to look at these issues and that then should not penalize landscape irrigators or look to profit from the system. He also stated that we all need revenue and he wanted to again thank Amy and Jared for taking this issue seriously and for all their help they have been and supporting the council. He would also like to see the out come of Amy's findings.

Council Member Powers stated that all monies from water rates go to water expenses. It does not go to any other general fund. Water and sewer are both run as separate enterprise funds so all that is being done with their revenue is to take care of their respective expenses.

GRANT DURTSCHI DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION REQUEST

Grant feels that he has worked with 3 consultants to create an neighborhood that is acceptable to him and with the efforts of Ross Chapman and Associates he feels that they are getting right where they should be and would like a six month extension. In Doug's report he feels it is a reasonable request. Mr. Durtschi had plans to meet with Planning and Zoning but the meeting was cancelled due to no quorum.

Council Member Greer made motion to approve the extension request for Grant Durtschi development on Ross & 3rd properties. Council Member Dan Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AIRPORT REPORT

Tom Hunter stated that the airport had to do a Capital Improvement Plan for the next five years that has to be submitted no later than February 1st, 2010. They also have to put out a RFQ - request for qualification for engineering services by the 21st of December 2009. This has to be done according to the FAA guidelines every five years.

Tom asked if at the last City Council Meeting whether landing fees were discussed and every Council Member stated that as far as they knew it was never brought up.

Mr. Hunter said the airport is in need of a new snow blower but one of the problems is they can not buy or acquire a used one from another airport. The FAA states they will not buy used equipment so they will have to purchase a new one. Tom does not think that they will be able to swing it this year but it will be one of the items on the Capital Improvement Plan.

The Airport Board are also looking for new board members. Tom stated that they are not getting very good participation from their members now and would need at least one more full time member and possibly an alternate.

Council Member Powers wanted to know if the airport has considered hiring an airport manager and Tom said that was an on going agenda item. He said they were trying to figure out how much funds they would have available and what the scope of the position would be. Ken Koster has volunteered to help write the job description.

Councilman Dye asked if they did charge for landing fees could those fees help finance the manager and the manager could over see and collect the landing fees. There was much discussion regarding landing fees and a airport manager. Tom stated that all finances are being handled by the City as far as bill paying and book keeping but the funds still have to come from the airport. The city has not been reimbursed as of yet for Doug, Stephen, Amy or Kreslyn staff times. Councilman Dan Powers wanted to know if the airport really needed a manager and Tom stated he didn't think so at this time but they would need someone sooner or later.

Councilman Powers stated to Tom to please let him know who he had in mind for new board members.

PLANNING AND ZONING

No Planning and Zoning Report was given. Doug Self, the Planning and Zoning Administrator, was out ill.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Jared shared some pictures of the snow blower, which showed a couple of pieces that had fallen off. He also stated that the staff will try and keep better records of when and how the equipment break. He thinks this one will last through the winter but will keep his eyes open for a used one. The department put new blades on the grader and with the first storm the grader cut through the ice much better. Jared indicated that people were being much more responsible about moving their vehicles and trailers. Jared also said he did deliver proposals to the two towing companies in town for their rates. He gave the companies until December 7th to complete the request.

Grand Targhee has asked if they could purchase 60,000 gallons of water from the city for their ice climbing wall. Jared stated that the current rate was \$.52 per 1000. All council members stated that would be fine with them. He also gave a report on the function and usages of all wells. Council Member Powers wanted to why the High School charge was so much more than Lions. Jared stated because the high school has more demand and shuts-on and off verus Lions runs all the time.

Council Member Greer wanted to know if there was going to be a skating rink this year. Jared stated we needed a little more snow to make a good base. Mayor Christensen said Brian Pence would help with the skate park.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Christensen discussed an e-mail that came in from Eileen Foster regarding a stop sign at 2nd and Howard. This issue has been addressed many times. Council Member Powers stated that the one that really needs a stop sign is 1st and Howard and might slow the traffic down but Mayor Christensen said that was the street for the emergency services. Jared stated that now that there are more children at the elementary school, that it might be time for the school to think about a crossing guard. It was also suggested to use flags which are already in place. Council Member Jones wanted to know about the possibility of flashing lights but Jared stated that would be too expensive. The best solution would be a crossing guard. Mayor Christensen said he would write a letter back to Eileen and ask her to approach the school.

Additional comments were made by Mark Rockefeller regarding how the public needs to be educated on all issues whether it is about the water rates or the crossing guard. Council Members Powers stated that the public would be educated.

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 8:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

Sonya Adams, City Clerk

Louis B. Christensen, Mayor