



CITY OF DRIGGS  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
July 24, 2012

---

Pursuant to adjournment of the City Council meeting held July 17, 2012, and to the call of the Mayor, the Driggs City Council met on July 24, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. in Special session. Present: Council President Mosher; Council Members Dye, Jones, and Mossman; Mayor Powers. Also present: Community Development Director Self and Public Works Director Gunderson. Powers led in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

### Through Truck Traffic

- Mayor Powers opened the meeting by outlining what had prompted the Council to ban through truck traffic on Little Avenue at its regular meeting on 7/17/12. The impetus for the Council's action was the number of complaints received from business owners and residents about the volume of trucks on the road and associated noise and dust; in particular a letter from Tina Walker of Teton Valley Cabins on Ski Hill Road in which she expressed her concern for lost revenue and the potential damage to her business' reputation.
  - The Council's initial intent was not to pass a truck ban; however, it is now believed that the Council acted hastily without proper notification to other agencies/affected businesses.
  - Powers reminded the audience that tonight's meeting was not a formal public hearing. He did encourage input from those in attendance, offering Teton County first go
- Jay Mazalewski, Teton County Engineer, spoke at length about the problems he sees associated with banning through truck traffic on Little Avenue. He also noted that no alternative route(s) were stipulated with the ban, and that measures taken by the City to protect its businesses and residents often has the opposite affect on County businesses and residents.
  - Mazalewski closed his presentation by encouraging the Council to work with contractors, the County, the Idaho Transportation Department, and other affected entities. He is willing to work with the Council to develop a sustainable truck route to include a traffic control plan & haul routes bases on project size/needs.
- Kathy Rinaldi, Teton County Commissioner, agreed with Mazalewski's presentation and added that as a business owner whose shop is on Little Avenue, she understands why the Council made the decision it did; however, she supports the idea of a truck route developed with planning based on cost analysis and which route(s) makes sense. She also noted that "none of us" are ahead of infrastructure needs because of limited funding.
- Gary Sutton with Sutton Construction; Jeff Trosper and Clint Foster with HK Construction; Mark Conner with C&C Construction; Mike Walters with Walters Ready Mix; & Bucky Matkin with Matkin Excavation all spoke to the Council pointing out the concerns of contractors and drivers with the ban. Primary concerns were safety when entering busy roadways, additional costs to travel farther around the City, and the lack of roadways built to handle heavy truck traffic. All expressed their willingness to work with the City to develop alternative truck routes.

- Doug Self, Community Development Director for the City, spoke of the City's transportation plan which has been in place for six (6) years but not implemented due to a lack of funds. The #1 improvement recommended by the plan was to improve the 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Johnson proposed truck route to collector truck route standard. Other recommended improvements included development of gateway treatment on Little Avenue to slow trucks and other traffic in conjunction with regulatory controls and to signalize truck route intersections with Highway 33.
- When Powers asked what could be done tonight to improve the situation, Jeff from HK Construction recommended moving cars back from the intersection at Main & Little and reducing the speed limit to 25 mph to 5<sup>th</sup> Street increasing to 35 mph thereafter with full enforcement by the Sheriff's office. Jared Gunderson, Public Works Director for the City, agreed with these changes, noting that only slowing truck traffic would result in drivers of smaller vehicles becoming impatient and attempting to pass the trucks creating a safety hazard
- After additional discussion between member of the Council and the audience, including what can be done to police bicycle riders, and a re-reading of the motion to ban through truck traffic approved on 7/17/12, **Dye moved to rescind the Council's 7/17/12 motion banning through truck traffic on Little Avenue. Jones seconded.** Discussion: **Mossman moved to amend Dye's motion to immediately begin working with Teton County to develop alternate truck routes.** Mossman's amendment died for lack of a second. **The question was called to rescind the through truck ban on Little Avenue.** Dye and Jones, aye; Mosher and Mossman, nay. Mayor Powers, aye. Motion carried.
- **Mossman moved to begin working with Teton County and other affected entities to develop alternative truck routes in the City of Driggs. Mosher seconded.** Motion carried.
- **Jones moved to eliminate two (2) parking spots and to move the stop line at the junction of Little Avenue and Main Street at Jared's [Public Works Director's] discretion in consultation with ITD. Mossman seconded.** Motion carried.

#### **Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Work Session**

- Powers gave the Council a broad overview of the proposed budget for FY 2013. After general discussion, the Council focused on the Road and General Funds. Individual revenue and expense lines were reviewed and adjusted as deemed appropriate. A higher percentage of reserve funds may be used to balance the FY 2013 budget than have been used in prior years. Alternatively, expense lines may be cut to balance the respective budgets.
- A preliminary budget for FY 2013 will be adopted by the Council at its next regular meeting held on August 7, 2012. The FY 2013 Budget Hearing will be moved from August 7, 2012 to August 21, 2012.

#### **Jones moved to enter Executive Session per Idaho Code 67-2345 (b) Personnel. Mosher seconded.**

The question was called by roll: Dye, aye; Jones, aye; Mosher, aye; Mossman, aye. Motion carried.

**10:10 p.m. Executive Session was entered.**

**10:50 p.m. The Special Session was rejoined.**

- **Consensus was reach by the Council to adjust individual hourly wage rates for FY 2013 as discussed in Executive Session.**
- **Powers was asked to investigate the potential savings to increase the City's health insurance deductible while continuing to review the City self-insuring the additional deductible.**

**10:50 p.m. Adjournment**

With no further business, **Mossman moved to adjourn. Jones seconded.** Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel J Powers, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Carol Lenz, Finance Officer

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.