

CITY COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 23, 2009 6:00 P.M. IONA COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT: Mayor Brad Andersen, Council President Dennis McArthur, Council member Steve Elliott, Council member Dan Gubler, Treasurer Ron Nelson, Public Works Supervisor Zech Prouse, Police Chief Shannon Basaraba, City Clerk Robyn Keyes.

ABSENT: Council member Shaw

VISITORS: Adrian Beazer, Barbara Shreier, Michael Shreier, Julia Hansen, Lance Ellis, Sharon Welker, Deb Sorenson, Hollie Miyasaki

Mayor Andersen welcomed everyone, and Council member Gubler led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent agenda. The Consent agenda was reviewed. Mayor Andersen asked if Wheeler Electric had finished their work in the library. Supervisor Prouse said they had.

Council member Elliott asked if the meter was installed on the corner of Main and Owens. Supervisor Prouse said the box was installed, but the meter had not been installed yet.

Mayor Andersen said that Ryan Loftus had not gotten back with him regarding the property behind the new church.

Mayor Andersen said the City was within the budget for maintenance and capitol improvements, and the next two months would help determine the actual revenue. The Mayor said next year would be a difficult year for budgeting revenue due to the effects of the economy. Mayor Andersen asked the Council members and employees to think of projects that should be included for next year's budget and let him know by the end of June.

Treasurer Nelson said he had more money to deposit for the summer recreational revenue.

Mayor Andersen said Clerk Keyes had contacted the people in charge of renting the ball field for the Cal Ripkin League, and they should be sending a payment soon.

Council member Gubler made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Elliott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Motion carried, consent agenda approved.

Chicken update. Lance Ellis, a resident of Iona, and the Fremont County Extension Agent presented a slideshow that explained the responsibilities of raising chickens which include the following: breeds, housing, social responsibilities, management, waste management, and restraint restrictions. Mr. Ellis said some cities required a permit for

chickens, at least ¼ acre of land, a limit of 5 chickens per ¼ acre, and a means for keeping track of complaints.

Mayor Andersen thanked Mr. Ellis for the information. The Mayor reminded the Council that Mr. Ellis was approved for the Planning and Zoning Commission a couple of months ago and now that Mr. Bateman resigned, Mr. Ellis would take his position.

Mayor Andersen reminded the audience that the Council was still gathering information and a decision would hopefully be reached at the public hearing held next Council meeting. The Mayor advised the Council to research the subject and to consider issues such as; lot size, limiting the number of chickens, and square footage per chicken. The Mayor also advised the Council to consider the option of adding chickens to the residential agriculture zone with restrictions. Mayor Andersen asked if the Council had any comments.

Council President said the people that have talked with him are either adamantly for, or against chickens, with few people neutral.

Council member Elliott said the majority of the people that have talked with him are against chickens.

Clerk Keyes said that out of 581 homes, only 50 have responded.

Iona Days. Clerk Keyes said Council member Shaw secured Dick Gardner for Friday night. Mayor Andersen suggested expecting approximately 175 adults and 26 children for the dinner.

Mayor Andersen asked Council member Gubler if he would help with the setup and teardown again this year. He said he would. Mayor Andersen and Supervisor Prouse said they would help also.

Council member Elliott said the Historical Society would like to set up an auction during the event as another fundraiser. Council member Elliott said everything was ready to go for the entertainment, but he still needed to find a flatbed trailer for the band to play on.

Clerk Keyes said she would call Albert Davidson regarding the movie in the park.

Council President McArthur reported he would not be here for the Pioneer Day weekend due to his daughter living in West Virginia having her first baby.

Recognize citizens from the floor. Mayor Andersen asked the members of the audience if they were in attendance for a special reason. Sharon Welker stated concern with a broken foot bridge across a ditch on Walker Ave. and asked when the weeds would be cut down in the easements. Mayor Andersen asked Supervisor Prouse to check on the bridge. Supervisor Prouse said the easements were on his list of projects; he was just waiting for the rain to slow down.

Barbara Shreier asked when her street would be paved. Mayor Andersen said the City is working toward budgeting that project.

Hollie Miyasaki said she wanted to talk with the Mayor regarding the chicken issue and said she was in favor of chickens with restrictions. Mayor Andersen said he was typically in his office on Wednesday evenings, but he had been gone to a conference last week and would be gone to a church camp the next week.

Deb Sorenson said he was concerned with kids riding their bikes and skate boards on the tennis courts. Clerk Keyes said she would walk out and talk to the kids when she saw them, and Chief Basaraba said he would do the same.

Recreational equipment. Mayor Andersen said in the past the City had budgeted a new piece of recreational equipment each year, and the Mayor suggested something for older kids such as a skateboard rail. Council member Gubler said he would rather maintain the equipment the City already had. Mayor Andersen said bigger projects such as the tennis courts can be put on the budget for next year because it was several thousand dollars. Mayor Andersen said he was suggesting a small piece of equipment to augment the activities at the park. Clerk Keyes said she thought a skateboard rail was a good idea and to perhaps place it in the park away from the smaller children's playground. Chief Basaraba suggested hiring a grant writer to help make a bigger skateboard park. Chief Basaraba said he had talked with an Idaho Falls Police officer about the skateboard park at Tautphus Park. Chief Basaraba said there had been no reports of problems with the skateboarders at Tautphus Park. Mayor Andersen said that since the park had a playground for the younger children and exercise stations for older people, something for teen age children would be appropriate. Mayor Andersen said he would research different pieces of equipment for the park and report back to the Council next meeting. The Council approved moving forward with obtaining more information regarding choices for equipment.

Park restrooms. Council member Elliott said he had information regarding self contained restrooms that the Forest Service used in parks, and suggested the same for the City Park. Council member Elliott showed pictures of the restrooms to the Council and explained that the restrooms were easier to maintain. The Council members were in favor of the idea and approved moving forward with obtaining more information. Council member Elliott said he would check on current prices and report back at the next meeting.

Approval of City attorney's retainer. Mayor Andersen said Attorney Storer was offering his retainer fees at the same rate they were last year. Mayor Andersen entertained a motion to approve the retainer fees. Council President McArthur made a motion to approve the City attorney's retainer fees. Council member Elliott seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. City attorney's retainer fees approved.

Water quality report. Mayor Andersen said the water quality report had been released (attached) and asked Clerk Keyes to put the information on the website along with information in the newsletter about how to obtain a copy of the report. Clerk Keyes said she would.

Reports.

Chief Basaraba suggested that the City try to begin cutting down weeds in the easement as soon as possible. The Chief said he had talked with the County Prosecutor regarding threats being made toward him on Face book. The Prosecutor was looking into the matter.

Mayor Andersen said the City will be holding a town meeting on July 9th to address some of the misconceptions being said regarding law enforcement in Iona, and to give the people the opportunity to ask questions.

Public Works Supervisor Prouse said the new drinking fountain was ready to be installed and three-way stop had been installed on the intersection of Free Ave. and 50th.

Clerk Keyes said that vandalism had been on the rise around the City building and in the park. Council President McArthur reported seeing four young men hanging out beside and in front of the City building after 10:00 p.m. on a Sunday night, and that most of the vandalism happened after dark.

Treasurer Nelson had no further report.

Mayor Andersen gave his report regarding the AIC conference, and reminded the Council that if they wanted anything approved, it must be on the agenda.

Mayor Andersen asked the Council what they wanted to do regarding the DEQ low interest rate loan that was offered to the City. Council member Elliott said it was a good rate and a good opportunity. Mayor Andersen asked Supervisor Prouse if the City could have all of the information needed by November. Supervisor Prouse said that was not enough time. Council member Gubler said the City could do most of the projects in house as money was budgeted, Mayor Andersen agreed. Council member Gubler said that none of the projects were an emergency situation and he would rather wait until the City knew exactly what was involved with each project. The Council agreed they could not be ready by November as required by DEQ to secure the low interest rate for the loan and decided to stay with the original plan of budgeting money each year for the projects.

Council President McArthur said he would ask individuals to help with the tree inventory when they were needed as no one had responded to requests for volunteers. Clerk Keyes added that the software for listing trees was still not ready for use. Council President McArthur also reported that Linda McArthur was the new Lion's Club President. The Lion's Club was in the process of dedicating more funds to help finish the pioneer monument.

Council member Elliott had no further report.

Council member Gubler said he was waiting on the price list for the mixer equipment for the sound system.

Mayor Andersen asked if there were any further items to discuss; there were not. Mayor Andersen entertained a motion to adjourn.

Council member Gubler made a motion to adjourn, and Council President McArthur seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Robyn Keyes, City Clerk