



Twin Falls City Council Minutes

Monday, August 8, 2022, 5:00 PM

Council Chambers
203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER/CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Present: Mayor Ruth Pierce, Vice Mayor Christopher Reid, Council Members Spencer Cutler, Nikki Boyd, Jason Brown, Craig Hawkins.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Travis Rothweiler, City Manager; Gretchen Scott, Deputy City Manager; Mitch Humble, Deputy City Manager; Nicole Swafford, Deputy City Prosecutor; Matt Farnes, Budget Coordinator; Chance Munns, Parks and Recreation Supervisor; Captain Brent Wright, Twin Falls Police Department; Captain Matt Hicks, Twin Falls Police Department; Erin Steel, Public Works Assistant Director; Chief Les Kenworthy, Twin Falls Fire Department; Jonathan Spendlove, Planning and Zoning Director; Nathan Erickson, Environmental Manager; Bill Carberry, Airport Director; Lieutenant Terry Thueson, Twin Falls Police Department; Josh Baird, Public Works Directors; Josh Palmer, Public Information Coordinator; Troy Vitek, City Engineer; Kathy Marcus, Information Technology Communications Manager; Ida Clark, Human Resources Director; Chief Craig Kingsbury, Twin Falls Police Department; Ian Zollinger, City Planner, Breanna Howard, Chief Financial Officer; Mark Thompson, Streets Superintendent.

Mayor Pierce called the meeting to order at 05:00 PM.

A quorum was present.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pierce invited all present, who wished, to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3) PROCLAMATIONS

None.

4) CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Council Member Hawkins moved to approve the Consent Calendar as published. **Vice Mayor Reid** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

- a) Request to approve Accounts Payable for July 28 - August 3, 2022.
- b) City Council Minutes August 1, 2022.
- c) Consideration of a request to approve the annual Joshua Way Block Party.
- d) Consideration of a request to authorize the Mayor to sign an Idaho Transportation Department airport grant application.
- e) Consideration of a request to accept the Improvement Agreement for the purpose of developing Eastern Sun Subdivision No. 1.
- f) Consideration of a request to accept the Improvement Agreement for the purpose of developing Golden Eagle Subdivision No. 7.

5) ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION

- a) Adoption of the Tentative Budget for the City of Twin Falls for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year in the amount of \$78,630,390 and set August 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. as the date and time for the public budget hearing.

Travis Rothweiler, City Manager, presented the adoption of the tentative budget and council directed capital projects.

Mayor Pierce requested **Erin Steel, Public Works Assistant Director**, to come talk about the sidewalk projects.

Vice Mayor Reid clarified that all costs were built into the \$80,000.

Erin Steel, Public Works Director, continued to describe the sidewalk projects.

Council Member Boyd spoke on Elizabeth Blvd from Madrona to Del Mar.

Council Member Brown asked about the HAWK system.

Council Member Hawkins asked about safety factors in these projects.

Council Member Brown asked if there was a similar technique that would work in the area.

Mayor Pierce asked if a HAWK system is the same thing that was installed on Washington.

Council Member Brown wants to know if there is something with similar features without going to the full-blown HAWK system.

Council Member Boyd asked for a reminder of the problem with Filer and Maurice.

Vice Mayor Reid suggested some ideas.

Mayor Pierce asked if they had to spend it all.

Council Member Cutler would like to prioritize sidewalks and fit dog park improvements in.

Jonathan Spendlove, Planning and Zone Director explained that an environmental study that is required for CDBG funds is in the works.

Council Member Boyd asked if the CDBG amount would be spent this year or next.

Mayor Pierce asked for clarification on the Thompson Park projects.

Council Member Brown asked if he would stay in the path of the current trail at Thompson Park or if they would change it. He then asked if the library would assist in creating the storybook trail.

Mayor Pierce asked about Baxter's Dog Park and if we had a design estimate.

Mayor Pierce asked what the projection for a master plan would cost?

Council Member Brown asked about money that ends up not being spent and what happens to it.

Council Member Brown stated that the dog park seems to be used quite heavily. He requested a planning document to help direct some of the funding.

Mayor Pierce asked if there was any way to partially fund Elizabeth.

Vice Mayor Reid spoke about needing to do something for Baxter Dog Park, Elizabeth Street and Stadium Street sidewalk projects.

Mayor Pierce asked if there are other funds that can be used to fund the dog park.

Council Member Brown feels either way we are speculating a little bit.

Mayor Pierce asked about someone making a motion.

Erin Steel, Public Works Assistant Director, gave an update on the Wendell St project that is from FY 2021-2022.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Reid moved to approve Council Directed Capital of up to \$40,000 to the Baxter Dog enhancement design. **Council Member Boyd** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 5 to 1.

Council Member Hawkins asked about the curb and gutter sidewalk along the west side of Baxter Dog Park. He wished we had more money and is leaning a little more to the sidewalk side of things.

Council Member Boyd spoke about the dog park being one of our assets, and the need for a plan to share with people who are asking.

MOTION: Council Member Brown moved to move forward with the Sunrise East of Mountain View design for \$290,000 and include the Stadium East of Eastland, south side of the road, 230ft for \$80,000. **Vice Mayor Reid** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

Vice Mayor Reid talked about the Elizabeth St and Wendell St projects and, using the funds, understood that we don't know everything.

Council Member Boyd asked **Kathy Marcus, Information Technology Communications Manager**, about the City Council room project and if it would remove the 30 second lag. Council Member Brown stated he agrees on holding the money for the Wendell St project.

MOTION: Council Member Brown moved to earmark \$360,000 for Elizabeth Blvd sidewalk and Wendell St sidewalk projects for a later date. **Vice Mayor Reid** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Reid moved that we adopt the tentative budget for the City of Twin Falls for the 2022-2023 FY in the amount of \$78630390 and set August 22, 2022, at 6pm as the date and time for the public budget hearing. **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

6) GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT

Patty, citizen, talked about Elizabeth Blvd and how many kids are going back and forth and that she would like that sidewalk project taken care of as soon as possible.

7) ADVISORY BOARD REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Travis Rothweiler, City Manager, spoke on the application for the vacant city council chair. It is available until Wed, August 17. On the 29th of August, we will present those names to the Council and invite them to council meeting that evening.

Mayor Pierce mentioned the State of the City breakfast on August 16th at 7am.

8) PUBLIC HEARINGS

a) Public hearing on fee and rate increases for the City of Twin Falls.

Breanna Howard, Chief Financial Officer, presented information for the public hearing on fee and rate increases.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Hawkins mentioned he feels the increase is reasonable.

Mayor Pierce agreed and stated that it is well below the NCI increase.

Mayor Pierce opened the Public Hearing for public comment at 6:35PM.

Patty, a citizen, stated that it's important for people to go out and shut it off or turn it back on so fees don't go back onto the homeowner.

Mayor Pierce closed the Public Hearing for public comment at 6:36PM.

MOTION: Council Member Cutler moved to approve the fee and rate increases for the City of Twin Falls. **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

- b) Request for approval on the annexation and appropriate Zoning District of Open Space (OS) for 9 (+/-) acres of property located at 350 Blue Lakes Boulevard South c/o the City of Twin Falls. (PZ21-0178)

Mayor Pierce read the rules for a Planning and Zoning Public Hearing.

Ian Zollinger, City Planner, presented the request.

Mayor Pierce opened the Public Hearing for public comment at 6:42PM.

Gale Merrick, a Twin Falls County citizen, stated that this is a predicate to the next item on the agenda. He feels proper notice was not given to residents along the south side of Park Ave.

Mayor Pierce closed the Public Hearing for public comment at 6:45.

Vice Mayor Reid wanted to make sure that proper notice was given, and it was.

Council Member Boyd asked for clarification on the picture showing and as to what happens next.

Council Member Hawkins asked if Rock Creek Village is where all the fill dirt is being placed.

MOTION: Council Member Boyd moved to grant the request for annexation and appropriate Zoning District of Open Space of property located at 350 Blue Lakes Boulevard South. **Vice Mayor Reid** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

- c) Request for an Annexation and appropriate Zoning District Change and Zoning Map Amendment from R-4 to R-4 ZDA CRO for 13 (+/-) acres of property, located at 831 Park Avenue c/o Gravitas Real Estate Holdings, LLC formerly known as Idahome Development Co., LLC. (PZ22-0093)

Ian Zollinger, City Planner, presented the request.

Council Member Cutler asked about change of owners, annexation, and proper development of Park Ave., and traffic apparatus control costs.

Council Member Boyd asked if it was very similar to R-4 and how it would fit on the property. These are all rentals, and will they all share walls? She then had questions about the 20ft x 50ft lot, with its own title and ownership.

Council Member Hawkins asked about the sidewalks.

Council Member Boyd asked if the sidewalk would connect to anything.

Matt Hatfield, Cole Architects, addressed the City Council's concerns and explained in more depth his project.

Council Member Boyd asked if the exterior finishes are what's actually going to be on the buildings.

Mayor Pierce opened the Public Hearing for public comment at 7:10PM.

Gale Merrick, a Twin Falls County citizen, compliments Ian and Planning and Zoning on helping him. He then states his concern about traffic on Park Ave after the project is completed.

Patty, a citizen, clarified the number of complexes and if there would be enough parking for all the residents.

Mayor Pierce closed the Public Hearing for public comment at 7:19PM.

Council Member Boyd stated change is hard, but this is private property, and it has been sold. Private property rights go with how it's zoned and asking for a change in the arrangement.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Reid moved to approve the request for Annexation and appropriate Zoning District Change and Zoning Map Amendment from R-4 to R-4 ZDA located at 831 Park Ave, as presented and with staff recommendations. **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

9) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Executive Session 74-206 (1)(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement.

MOTION: Council Member Brown moved to convene into Executive Session 74-206 (1)(f). **Council Member Boyd** seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 6 to 0.

Council Members convened into Executive Session at 07:24 PM.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 08:40 PM.

erin parrish

Erin Parrish, Executive Assistant

For a full account of this meeting please visit tfid.org for the recording of this meeting