



Twin Falls City Council Minutes

Monday, February 5, 2024, 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 Jason Brown, Council Members Craig Hawkins, Christopher Reid, Spencer Cutler, Cherie Vollmer & Grayson Stone.

Absent:

Staff Present: City Manager Travis Rothweiler, Deputy City Managers Mitch Humble & Gretchen Scott, City Attorney Bruce Castleton, Deputy City Attorney Nicole Swafford, Police Department, Fire Chief Les Kenworthy, Deputy Fire Chief Mitchell Brooks, City Engineer Troy Vitek, Code Enforcement Coordinator Sean Standley, Streets Supervisor Mark Thomson, HR Director Kristen Kohntopp, Public Works Director Josh Baird, City Planner Kelli Ebersole, Parks & Recreation Director Wendy Davis, Staff Engineer Jesse Schuerman, Planning & Zoning Director Jonathan Spendlove, Network Administrator Mike Plane, Deputy City Clerk Amy Luna.

Mayor Pierce called the meeting to order at 5:00 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

4) CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Council Member Hawkins moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Council Member Vollmer seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- a) Request to approve City Council 2024 January 29, Minutes.
- b) Request to approve Accounts Payable for January 25-31, 2024.
- c) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the St. Patrick's Day Festival.
- d) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for organizers of the Trick or Treat on Main Avenue event.

5) ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION

- a) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Shoshone Falls After Dark Event.

Parks & Recreation Director Davis and Police Chief Kingsbury requested the City Council approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Shoshone Falls After Dark Event.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Reid: Asked about the sound concerns.

Council Member Stone: Are we allowed to accept the 5% revenue?

Mayor Pierce: Gave some background on this event and spoke on the noise issue.

Police Chief Kingsbury: Commented on the noise issue and that they could shut down this event if there are too many noise complaints received.

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the request to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Shoshone Falls After Dark Event, contingent on the lease being signed by both parties. **Council Member Stone** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- b) A request to swear in three new Twin Falls Police Department police officers: Nicholas Hernandez, Jacob Kennedy, and Andy Taylor, and introduce the Police Department's newest addition to the Records Department, Bella Gregory.

Police Chief Kingsbury requested the swearing in of three new Twin Falls Police Department Police Officers and introduced the Police Department's newest addition to the Records Department.

New Officers Nicholas Hernandez, Jacob Kennedy & Andy Taylor were sworn in by Mayor Pierce. Records Department employee Bella Gregory was welcomed to the team.

- c) Presentation of POST Master Certificate to Detective Morgan Waite, POST Advanced Certificates to Corporal Candace Orr and Officer Medina Alejbegovic, and POST Intermediate Certificate to Officer Daniel Clifford.
Police Lieutenant Garner made a presentation POST Master Certificate to Detective Morgan Waite, Post Advanced Certificates to Corporal Candace Orr and Officer Medina Alejbegovic, and POST Intermediate Certificate to Officer Daniel Clifford.
- d) Presenting Officer Tyler Shropshire and police canine, Balu, with the Basic K9 Handler Course Certificate of Completion.
Police Chief Kingbury presented Officer Tyler Shropshire and a police canine, Balu, with the Basic K9 Handler Course Certificate of Completion.
- e) Consider a request to allocate \$369,000 SLFRF money to fund repairs at First Federal Park.
Parks & Recreation Director Davis asked for consideration of a request to allocate \$369,000 SLFRF money to fund repairs at First Federal Park.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Reid: What would the turnaround be for this project?

Council Member Stone: Asked if the funds would be enough.

Council Member Cutler: If this is reallocated, would we have to come back to the council for approval?

MOTION: **Council Member Reid** moved to approve the request to allocate \$369,000 SLFRF money to fund repairs at First Federal Park. **Council Member Brown** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- f) Authorize Travis to Sign a Memorandum of understanding with the Idaho Transportation Department to accept a Grant award of \$8,281,960 for reconstruction of Eastland Drive.
Staff Engineer Schuerman requested authorization for **City Manager Rothweiler** to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Idaho Transportation Department to accept a grant award of \$8,281,960 for reconstruction of Eastland Drive.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Hawkins: Expressed excitement about this project.

Vice Mayor Brown: Asked about the work that the grant will be applied to.

MOTION: **Council Member Brown** moved to approve the request to authorize City Manager Rothweiler to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Idaho Transportation Department to accept a grant award of \$8,281,960 for reconstruction of Eastland Drive. **Council Member Stone** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- g) A request to initiate a Zoning Code Amendment to modify Title 10 Chapter 11: Required Improvements.
P&Z Director Spendlove made a request to initiate a Zoning Code Amendment to modify Title 10 Chapter 11: Required Improvements.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Brown: Asked for clarification on the items that are eligible for exceptions.

Mayor Pierce: Asked for clarification on an isolated or undeveloped area.

Council Member Stone: Who are the negotiations between?

Mayor Pierce: Expressed concern about striking the "exceptional hardship" wording and this causing issues in the future. Is this terminology used in other government codes?

Council Member Reid: Is in favor of getting rid of this language. Would like to make everything very black and white.

Council Member Stone: Appreciates everything that the city staff does and would like to make an amendment to the code to give the staff full authority over this section. If we are going to edit, we need to do it right.

Council Member Brown: Would not like to be in this situation again and would like to see this taken out. When would the 3-year option start if a deferral is given? Three years seems like a long time. Would there ever be a time when they simply cannot get a product to finish a project? Good to allow staff to have the opportunity to work with the landowner but need to hold everyone to the same standards.

City Manager Rothweiler: Gave some directions to the council.

Council Member Stone: Asked for further clarification.

Council Member Cutler: Would be in favor of just striking the one sentence.

City Attorney Castleton: Gave some direction.

Council Member Reid: Acknowledged that striking the one sentence would need to be expanded for exceptions.

Council Member Stone: Asked for some further clarification on what to strike.

Council Member Hawkins: Asked if this would give the latitude to do the job.

City Manager Rothweiler: Gave direction on the process and that requests would be placed on hold until conclusion of this process.

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the begin the Zoning Title Amendment process to strike the exceptional hardship deferral within City Code 10-11-1; create a temporary building occupancy option for additional items (trash enclosures, parking lot paint, etc); and create a more immediate enforcement provision for violations of this chapter." as discussed. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

6) GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT

7) ADVISORY BOARD REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Reid advised about the Airport Advisory Board meeting tomorrow at 11:00, at the Airport, and the Public Arts Council will meet at City Hall at noon.

Council Member Cutler reported about the Historic Preservation Committee items that will be coming to the Council.

City Manager Rothweiler reminded us that Presidents' Day is coming up on the 19th and there will not be a meeting that week.

8) PUBLIC HEARINGS

9) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Executive Session § 74-206(c) To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency; and (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 Reid moved to adjourn to Executive Session § 74-206(c) To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency; and (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. Council Member Brown seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

10) ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 06:43 PM. Regular meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.



Amy Luna, Deputy City Clerk