

CITY OF POCA TELLO, IDAHO
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
MARCH 10, 2016

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Mayor Brian Blad called the City Council Study Session to order
ROLL CALL at 9:03 a.m. Council members present were Roger Bray, Steve Brown, Craig Cooper, Jim Johnston and Gary Moore. Council member Michael L. Orr was excused.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Kari Giesbrecht, Chair Person; Judy Boren, Idaho Stars; and
CHILD CARE ADVISORY Jene' Cardenas, City Liaison; from the Child Care Advisory
COMMITTEE UPDATE Committee were present to discuss the Committee's goals and projects, as well as Council's policies and expectations.

Ms. Cardenas reviewed the purpose of the Committee. She stated the Committee has been instrumental in making child care centers safe for children and noted the Child Care Code was revised in 2015 and provides even safer conditions. Ms. Cardenas reported that 48 facilities are operating in Pocatello. Other members of the Committee were also recognized in the audience.

Ms. Giesbrecht gave an overview of the activities for the Committee. She shared her concerns that providers are only required to have minimal trainings and are not required to meet education standards. As a result, the Committee will provide quarterly trainings for providers. The trainings will provide networking opportunities and education on an array of subjects.

Ms. Boren reviewed the training accomplishments for the Idaho Starts Program in this Region. She mentioned they held 91 live trainings with 1158 attendees (duplicate attendees within this number). Ms. Boren explained there are 180 registered providers in the system utilizing scholarships to attend trainings and college courses. She feels the trainings have helped to increase the quality of care for children.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Brenda Pollard and Dorsey Hill, Committee members; and
CDBG ADVISORY Melanie Gygli, Staff Liaison; representing the Community
COMMITTEE UPDATE Development Block Grant (CDBG) Committee were present to discuss the Committee's goals and projects, as well as Council's policies and expectations.

Ms. Pollard stated the Committee's top priority is reviewing CDBG programs and fair housing education. She reviewed Fair Housing efforts which included an article in the Mayor's Newsletter and public meetings were held to educate the public.

Council discussion regarding Fair Housing enforcement followed. The process to report a violation was reviewed and it was noted that Committee representatives have also attended local realtor meetings to discuss fair housing issues.

Ms. Hill reported the Committee met with Idaho State University students to review suggested questions students should ask when renting property and what their rights are.

The CDBG Advisory Committee is responsible for reviewing the CDBG programs which include the following: all HUD-required reporting, such as action plans, CAPERS, and consolidated plans; program accomplishments for both the City and its subrecipients; project oversight; consistency reviews for local agencies seeking other HUD funding; oversight of the City's award system for CDBG funding allocations; and fair housing education. The accomplishments of the past year for the Committee were reviewed. Recent projects include: 1646 and 1648 North Garfield-two new

homes built by Gateway Habitat for Humanity; 1500 block of North Hayes-three new homes; 473/491 McKinley-new townhouse built by NeighborWorks Pocatello on lot purchased with CDBG funding; 300 block of Fredregill, north side-sidewalk is now complete along the whole block face; corner of East Lewis and 6th Avenue - dangerous sidewalk was removed and new sidewalk installed.

Council discussion followed regarding the positive influence that takes place when upgrades to a home or sidewalk improvements are made in a neighborhood.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Mark Dahlquist, President; David Maguire, Dorsey Hill and VALLEY PRIDE Shelley Goings; representing Valley Pride were present to give UPDATE their annual update and provide information regarding a beautification project along the berms located on Highway 30.

Mr. Dahlquist gave an update of Valley Pride's activities planned for 2016. He reported they have 27 board members at this time. Mr. Dahlquist gave a brief overview of past projects which include the following: bring home the chief by the visitors center, Clark and Center Streets interchange welcome sign, beautification of the west side of the interchange, south 5th Avenue welcome sign, Chief Pocatello statue by the Visitor's Center and creation of Brooklyn's Playground (Brooklyn's Buddies maintain the structure). He reviewed the recent Alameda hill beautification project between Sizzler Restaurant and Interstate 15. Board members planted trees and installed irrigation to beautify the hill area. Mr. Dahlquist reported the Committee has an active marketing committee that is working on a new "It's My Valley" logo.

A brief history of the Highway 30 Berms project was given by Mr. Maguire. He acknowledged John Banks, Parks and Recreation Director, and the Park's cooperation and involvement in the project. It was noted Valley Pride has been working on the berms on the southwest side of Highway 30 for more than 10 years. The Board would like to make the area a pleasant boulevard for individuals coming into the community.

General discussion regarding the berm project continued. It was noted there are existing berms on Highway 30 in front of the following three properties: Pacific Recycling, Dale's and Conway Trucking. Valley Pride would like to install an irrigation system in the three berms to support the trees. The Board would like Council to waive the \$6,200.00 water connection fee to make the project more affordable. They would like Council to consider their request on March 17, 2016. Board members feel they can raise funds to purchase additional trees for the project. An overview of the entire project was given. Material will be needed to build up the berms and Mr. Maguire hopes some of the rock left over from the South Valley Road project could be used for the berms.

Mr. Dahlquist explained Valley Pride is applying for a \$10,000.00 grant to get the project started.

Ms. Hill explained this is a long-term project and she hopes it will go along with other projects taking place in the community.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Tom Sanford, Dan Deakin, Dave Widdison and Ralph Oborn DOUGLASS LANE AREA representing the local Boy Scouts Council, were present to –PROPOSED USE OF discuss a proposal regarding approximately 18 acres of City CITY PROPERTY FOR owned property located in the Douglass Lane area in Power BOY SCOUT OUTINGS County, north of Simplot. The proposal is to lease this property to the local Boy Scouts Council for improvements and use as a local day camp. The Boy Scouts are working with Water Pollution Control staff and have already conducted many improvement projects on the property in preparation of a possible lease. Currently, the property does not have a planned use.

Mr. Deakin, Pocatello Area District Director, gave an overview of the Boy Scout Council. He noted approximately 10,000 youth and 2,500 volunteers are involved in their organization. Their organization has been looking for decades to find a suitable camp area and they desire to enter into a long-term lease with the City for the Douglass Lane area. Mr. Deakin gave an overview of the future camp area design and improvements being planned for the area. He mentioned their organization would like to start utilizing the proposed area in June 2016.

Mr. Sanford explained he has worked with scouts for many years and gave a brief history of the land prior to the scouts doing cleanup and improvements to the area. He noted that scouts eliminated 11 buildings on the property and other eagle projects have been completed by utilizing the property.

Discussion continued regarding the Boy Scouts entering into a lease with the City for a minimal amount. In exchange, the Scouts will provide upgrades and improvements to the property. Boy Scout representatives will work with City departments before starting any projects on the property.

In response to questions from Council, Mr. Oborn explained he is a Scout volunteer and representative from the Department of Environment Quality. Their organization was working with the Bureau of Land Management to utilize property near McCammon, Idaho for a camp site. However, they kept running into issues with rattlesnakes and high wind conditions killed much of the trees and grasses in the area. Short-term plans are to start utilizing the Douglass property in 2016. Long-term plans are to make improvements to the property to accommodate larger Scout groups.

Mr. Deaton mentioned if a lease for the property cannot be prepared for consideration by May 2016, the Boy Scout Council would like to obtain a temporary permit to use the property.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Rich Smith, representing Kiwanis Club of Pocatello and John PROPOSED NAME CHANGE Banks, Parks and Recreation Director, were present to review a OF BONNEVILLE PARK request received from the Kiwanis Club of Pocatello asking that –SOUTH 19TH AVENUE the City consider changing the name of Bonneville Park located at Bonneville Street and south 19th Avenue to Kirkpatrick Park

in recognition of Colonel David Kirkpatrick's many years of dedicated service to the Pocatello community.

Mr. Banks explained the Kiwanis Club of Pocatello would also like to place a small monument in close proximity to the park sign, which would contain specific information about Colonel Kirkpatrick and his many community contributions. The Kiwanis Club has received support for the name change from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The Board feels that the Bonneville Park location is appropriate due to its proximity to the Idaho State University (ISU) campus, and in recognition to Colonel Kirkpatrick's deep ties to ISU and the community. The Board also felt the

name change could serve to ease confusion between Bonneville Park (located at Bonneville Street and South 19th Avenue) and Bonneville Community Park (located at North 7th Avenue and East Fremont Street adjacent to the Senior Activities Center).

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Banks and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for their support. He reviewed Mr. Kirkpatrick's emphasis to help local youth become successful and encouraged young men to join ROTC. The Kiwanis Club will pay for the cost to replace park signage, as well as the small monument adjacent to the park sign.

A majority of the Council supported the renaming of the park concept. A final decision will be voted upon at a later date.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: John Banks, Parks and Recreation Director; Peter Pruett, Zoo
ZOO IDAHO SUMMER Superintendent; and Randy Johnson of Imagine Music
CONCERT SERIES AND Entertainment, were present to review a proposal for the Ross
OPEN AIR ART FAIR Park/Zoo Idaho area. Mr. Johnson is requesting permission to
PROPOSAL organize, promote and provide the Zoo Idaho Summer Concert
Series and Open Air Art Fair for the City of Pocatello during the

summer of 2016, and in future years pending on-going City Council approval. Beginning in 2016, events would be expanded to allow arts and crafts and artisan vendors to display and offer their goods for sale, as well as for local restaurants to provide food purchase opportunities, in conjunction with the concert events.

Mr. Banks explained Mr. Johnson is offering to provide these services to the City for 13 Saturdays during the summer of 2016, running June 4 through August 27 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He also proposes to grow and expand the summer 2016 events by including an art in the park element, as well as concession and catering opportunities for local restaurants, all under the new program name of "Zoo Idaho Summer Concert Series and Open Air Art Fair." The events are no cost to the City.

In 2015, Council granted staff permission to institute a discounted "twilight" zoo entry rate of \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children and seniors. Staff is again requesting Council permission to allow the discounted "twilight" rate for summer 2016.

Mr. Johnson gave an overview of the local musical talent he would like to promote in the community. He explained these are family oriented events and no alcohol will be allowed. Mr. Johnson would like to add the opportunity for art vendors to display their products, provide music and food to keep the event growing and moving forward. The event was full in 2015 and he feels this is a great addition to Ross Park and Zoo Idaho.

Mr. Banks noted the Art Fair event dates will be June through August from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Additional parking is available on the south end of the park to accommodate approximately 40 vehicles. He mentioned portable restroom access may need to be increased as the event becomes more popular. Mr. Banks explained trash is cleaned-up at the end of each event.

Mr. Pruett mentioned once the new Zoo entrance is completed, more restrooms will be available.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Lon Crowell, Planning and Development Services Director;
TITLE 16-SUBDIVISION Matthew Lewis, Planning Manager, and Dave Foster, Associate
ORDINANCE AMENDMENT Planner; were present to review and discuss the comprehensive
re-write of the City's Title 16, Subdivision Ordinance. This re-

write is to update and clarify ordinance provisions in compliance with current Idaho subdivision and survey statutes, zoning ordinance provisions and development practices.

Mr. Crowell gave a brief overview of the proposed amendments. He noted that Mr. Foster would give the presentation.

In response to questions from Council, Merrill Quayle, Development Engineer, reviewed the process of charging capacity fees for water and waste water. He mentioned the City of Chubbuck has a capacity fee and it is comparable to Pocatello's fee. Mr. Quayle will create a comparison spreadsheet of each city's capacity fees for the Council to review.

Mr. Foster stated the objective of the proposed amendments include eliminating outdated and conflicting provisions, re-organize and clarify processing requirements and expand opportunities to subdivide infill and redevelopment property. The key components include: 1) expansion of definitions to improve understanding of applicable terminology; 2) clarify and simplify "Short Plat" subdivision options for creating 4 or fewer lots; 3) re-organize and clarify the "Preliminary Plat" application procedures; 4) re-organize and clarify the "Final Plat" application procedures; 5) update provisions for pre-development recording of a final plat and post-development recording procedures in order to relieve development capital for other development opportunities; 6) enact "Subdivision Surety" requirements for ensuring completion of development when a subdivision plat is recorded prior to development; 7) enact "Warranty Period" requirements for all subdivisions; 8) clarify and enact procedures for "Property Line Adjustments" in order to ensure compliance with applicable zoning and subdivision code provisions and Idaho survey and subdivision code provisions; and 9) simplify the subdivision application and development process where possible.

General discussion continued regarding the proposed amendments. The proposed change/updates are suggested in order to bring the code in line with the State Code. The failure to complete a development or construct it incorrectly is part of a surety insurance bond requirement. This will provide funds if the City must go in and complete the project or repair infrastructure that was not installed correctly. A process will be in place to solve issues when they occur.

Mr. Foster reported the proposed schedule moving forward with the new Subdivision Ordinance is to hold a public hearing on April 13, 2016 before Planning and Zoning for their review and recommendation followed by a public hearing on May 19, 2016 for Council to consider the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Blad called a recess at 11:13 a.m.

Mayor Blad reconvened the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: ALAMEDA/JEFFERSON INTERSECTION PROJECT -ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REPORT UPDATE	Mike Jaglowski, Public Works Director; Deirdre Castillo, City Engineer; and Jeff Mansfield, Project Engineer; were present to summarize the findings of the Road Safety Audit (RSA) conducted in September 2015 and to seek Council direction on the Alameda/Jefferson Intersection project.
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Mr. Jaglowski explained staff is looking for Council's recommendations and thoughts regarding improvements listed in the RSA report. He gave a brief history of the project noting the purpose of the project is to improve the safety and mobility for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. Mr. Jaglowski reported the crash rates at the intersection are 70% higher than expected crashes for

drivers that are not familiar with the intersection. The intersection's current level of service (LOS) is rated "E" which indicates there is needed service.

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION – over 17 conventional and unconventional alternatives were evaluated. A public hearing was held in December 2014. The public ranked safety as a top concern and 75% of the respondents indicated that changes should be made to the intersection.

General discussion of multiple options to correct identified safety issues followed. A 3-day field review was done to identify the biggest issues in the corridor. The issues identified are listed in the following categories: 1) pedestrian, 2) traffic, 3) signage, 4) right-of-way and 5) school zones. Recommendations to correct the issues identified were broken down by months and/or years to complete.

SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS 0 TO 6 MONTHS

Placement/upgrades of pedestrian crosswalks and various traffic signs.

INTERMEDIATE TERM RECOMMENDATIONS 6 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS

Install pedestrian sidewalk along Hiline Road, widen sidewalk on south side of Pocatello Creek Road; and placement/modification of raised medians.

LONG TERM RECOMMENDATIONS MORE THAN 5 YEARS

Various pedestrian safety and traffic modifications.

Mr. Jaglowski mentioned approximately 48 different improvements to the corridor are being recommended. Most of the improvements meet the short term recommendations.

DECISION AND FUNDING OPTIONS

Option A.1 - Complete all recommendations listed in the RSA using the entire project budget of \$5.5 million. (This would require \$220,000.00 plus additional match to be paid in Fiscal Year 2017.)

Option A.2 - Complete all short term and intermediate term recommendations using only the match money already paid to date. Perform engineering in-house. \$1 million to \$1.4 million would be available for right-of-way and construction. (Staff recommendation.)

Option A.3 - Same as A.2 which uses only the match already paid except the City would modify the consultant scope of work to capture the RSA recommendations. \$800,000.00 to \$1.2 million would be available for right-of-way and construction.

Option B - Re-visit the other alternative designs. Move forward with designs previously considered at the December 2014 public meeting. The least expensive alternative (thru-u turns) would require \$2.3 million to \$3.5 million additional funds. Additional City obligation could range anywhere from \$390,000.00 to \$4 million.

Option C – Do nothing. Do not move forward with either the recommendations provided in the Road Safety Audit Report or with any of the designs previously considered. City would need to reimburse the State of Idaho \$1 million (\$349,000.00 cash and \$651,000.00 land.)

Mr. Jaglowski gave an overview of what staff supports and the most cost effective way to correct the issue. He feels Engineering staff is able to design the project and Street Department staff can modify the roads.

Mr. Mansfield explained the RSA team experienced the intersection for three days. Members on the team had never been through the intersection and looked at all of the different alternatives. The recommendations are based upon their findings.

A majority of the Council supported the recommendation outlined in option A.2.

Ms. Castillo mentioned obtaining right-of-way to implement the options in A.2 will need to be purchased in 2016. She explained the proposed concepts will need to be developed and approved before moving forward.

Council thanked staff for their efforts to develop the options.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Kim Smith, Human Resources Director and Nicole Harms, Human Resources Consultant, were present to give an overview of accepted bids from Blue Cross of Idaho, Regence, and Aetna. This presentation will include plan design comparisons and rate comparisons between the different plans for City employee health benefits.

Ms. Harms gave a brief history of the process used to compare health benefit rates and carriers. She explained over 15 employee meetings have been held to explain and discuss employee concerns regarding health benefits.

In response to questions from Council, Ms. Harms reviewed the Mercer Marketplace meetings with employees. She noted the following: 1) Prescription costs under the plan were a concern for employees. 2) Employees would have the ability to choose the plan(s) they prefer in the Mercer Marketplace. 3) Employees would like to know the deductible costs for initial start-up with the new plan. Mercer stated they will honor out-of-pocket amounts already paid toward an employee's deductible. 4) Employees are also concerned with VEBA amounts and 5) the impact of Fire Department employees leaving the City's insurance coverage.

The following proposed rates and anticipated cost for the City was reviewed:

Comparison of Blue Cross of Idaho 11.82% rate increase to Aetna and Regence were broken down by the following: Aetna 9.7% increase and Regence 9.9% increase. It was noted that these rates are outside the Mercer Marketplace plan.

Mercer Marketplace Plan Design rates were reviewed. General discussion regarding co-insurance for in-network providers and prescriptions were overviewed. It was mentioned the figures provided are not exact rates, but are representative of typical rates.

Estimated rates for employees based on current contribution rates were reviewed. The rates were broken down by the following deductible plans: \$800.00, \$1,500.00, \$2,500.00 and \$4,500.00. Different example scenarios of employee coverage and costs were discussed.

Human Resources staff recommended Mercer Marketplace because of the following benefits: cost control, technical platform, gives employees a choice, one-stop shopping, and provides employees with decision making tools. It was noted that the cost for distribution between the City and employee cannot be determined until April. Staff is looking for direction from Council regarding moving forward with the Marketplace concept.

General discussion continued regarding proposed health coverage plans, employee costs and City costs. It was mentioned the intent of VEBA dollars being deposited in an employee's account was to help with higher deductibles. As a result, there were reduced costs for the City and employees.

Council appreciates the efforts made by Human Resources staff to reach employees to discuss health benefits. City employees have spoken-up and shared their thoughts regarding their benefits.

Mayor Blad adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

BRIAN C. BLAD, MAYOR

ATTEST:

RUTH E. WHITWORTH, CMC, CITY CLERK