AGENDA ITEM NO.  1: Mayor Brian Blad called the Special City Council meeting to order at 2:50 p.m.  Council members present were Heidi Adamson, Roger Bray, Rick Cheatum, Linda Leeuwrik and Beena Mannan.

Council member Jim Johnston was excused.

AGENDA ITEM NO.  2: Discussion on implementing the City’s Mission and Values Statements was held.

The City Council participated in a random drawing to determine what section of Pocatello they would evaluate. The City was divided up into 6 sections. The Council drew the following sections: Ms. Adamson - Section No. 5; Mr. Bray – Section No. 1; Mr. Cheatum - Section No. 2; Mr. Johnston – Section No. 4; Ms. Leeuwrik – Section No. 6; and Ms. Mannan – Section No. 3.

Each council member will evaluate their section and report their findings at the November 14, 2019 Work Session. Their findings will include ideas for beautification, safety concerns and other projects to implement the City’s Mission and Values Statements.

Mayor Blad explained the city was split up into 6 different areas based upon the sanitation route areas. He asked the Council to look at the section they are assigned and identify needs for the area. Mayor Blad reminded Council to keep the Mission and Value Statement in mind as they move forward.

Discussion regarding the implementation of ideas brought forth followed. It was mentioned the projects identified may need to be scheduled in Fiscal Year 2021 or contingency funds could be used. Staff will consider the Council’s guidance when making plans for future projects to beautify and enhance safety needs in the community.

Council asked staff to create a list of ideas for the November 14, 2019 Work Session. Staff was directed to look over areas and identify possible projects while performing their jobs out in the community.

Mayor Blad encouraged staff to drive out to the Pocatello Airport and come into the city like they are a visitor. Look at the area with a fresh set of eyes. He shared that he has started noticing other areas by taking an alternate route home.

Mr. Cheatum announced he serves on Portneuf Valley Partners. He mentioned entrances into the city from the interstate is one of the focuses of the group. Mr. Cheatum noted property and development in areas near the entrances are so varied. He feels when you come into Pocatello as a visitor you see several areas that do not have a good appearance.

Ms. Mannan would like the areas identified by staff and the Council for improvements to get equal attention. She noted that different projects will be appropriate in each area. One area may have a mural and a park could be created in another.
General discussion followed and many ideas were shared. Below is a partial list of ideas shared.

- Jefferson/Pocatello Creek vacant lot. Would like to see some trees planted or other landscaping.

- Difficult to condemn someone’s property if the City has property issues. Keep City property within compliance for weeds, etc. Railroad Property near the intersection of Gould Street and Oak Street has tumbleweeds piled along the fence. Work with Railroad officials to make the area more attractive with less maintenance.

- Replacement of broken sign in City Hall parking lot. Waiting for new City branding to occur. Also light poles in parking lot need to be replaced.

- Clean up route along city streets has been established. Crews pick up trash along the route. Staff has noticed a big difference in street appearance since they started the route.

- Center Street and Clark Street sidewalks are focal points for entrances and Idaho State University. Upgrades would help change the attitude of the area. Additional lighting through the area would be welcomed.

- Greenway trail/path in Old Town or near the Portneuf river.

- Change Bannock Highway to one-way in a section and allow access through the golf course to bypass private property to provide a trail.

- Main Street in Old Town. Make it one lane and widen the sidewalks to make the area more walkable.

- Pedestrian crossing on Olympus Drive at Baldy Avenue. Installation of solar traffic lights.

- Food Trucks – create a food truck street area and allow music, etc.

- Consolidate where students cross 4th Avenue to get to Idaho State University. There are crosswalks at every corner.

- Connection between Old Town and Idaho State University. Enhance the connection for students.

- A City department is going to inherit the maintenance of a project. Closely consider the project and include low maintenance. Use hardscape materials where possible.

- Various neighborhoods could have a common theme/features. The theme would enhance each area. (i.e. West side neighborhood has designated areas such as Railroad emblems)

- Decorative banners along the street.

- Seating area for visitors at City Hall.

Ms. Adamson asked that areas the City owns be identified. This list will be very helpful when she is touring the city.
Staff will put together costs to implement the ideas once Council identifies their preference. It was suggested that projects could be categorized based upon costs and priority.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: There being no further business, Mayor Blad adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

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BRIAN C. BLAD, MAYOR

ATTEST AND PREPARED BY:

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RUTH NEWSOM, CITY CLERK