

**City of Notus**  
**NOTUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday May 18, 2020 @ 7:00PM**  
at Notus City Hall, 375 Notus, ID, 83656

***Clerk Note: This meeting was held using GoToMeeting application to encourage social distancing during the COVID19 health threat as per the suggestions from Idaho Governor. Everyone was encouraged to attend the meeting using their computer, tablet, smart phone, or landline telephone. Council chambers was open to a limited number of visitors.***

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor, David Porterfield 7:04 PM.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken with the following results: Councilwomen Bonnie Emly, Michelle DeGiorgio, and Treasurer, Marie Eilers attended by telephone. Councilmen Nathan Wells and Steve Ahlborn, City Attorney, Todd Lakey, Mayor, David Porterfield, City Clerk, Loretta Vollmer, Public Works Supervisor, Tyler Martin, Engineer, Antonio Conti, and Western Alliance rep, Tina Wilson all attended by computer.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Amended Meeting Agenda Approval**

Wells motioned to approve the meeting agenda as posted. It that was amended, adding 2008 Ford F250 Repair because it is currently in Caldwell Auto for repair. Ahlborn seconded. Roll call was taken with the following results: Wells; yes, Ahlborn; yes, DeGiorgio; yes. Emly; yes. Motion passed.

**5. PUBLIC HEARING for the purpose of public comment regarding review of the Notus Comprehensive Plan amendments**

- 5.1** Mayor opens Public Hearing  
Mayor opens the public hearing noting that there is no audience in attendance at City Hall Chambers with him.
- 5.2** Verification by City Clerk that Public Hearing was correctly advertised  
City Clerk verifies that the public hearing was correctly advertised and published.
- 5.3** Review of Comprehensive Plan Amendments  
City Clerk reviews the amendments to the City of Notus Comprehensive Plan dated 5-18-2020. Required additional chapters titled, Property Rights, School Facilities and Transportation, Agriculture, National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors and Public Airport Facilities.
- 5.4** Written Correspondence Submitted for the record  
No written correspondence was submitted for the record.
- 5.5** Public Testimony from those in support  
NONE
- 5.6** Public Testimony from those neutral  
NONE
- 5.7** Public Testimony from those opposed  
NONE
- 5.8** Comments from Mayor and Council  
DeGiorgio commented that this meeting should not be taking place giving the current situation (COVID19). Mayor stated that City Hall Council Chambers is open for the public to attend if they wanted or they could join the meeting, same as the Council. ( GoToMeeting application) Tina Wilson reminds Council that the public will have every opportunity to give their input going forward.
- 5.9** Mayor closes Public Hearing

Mayor closes public hearing at 7:22 pm.

**6. Public Concerns, Comments**

None

**7. Consent Agenda, Action Items**

**7.1 Disbursement List**

DeGiorgio questioned the bill for water tower repair. Mayor stated that repair was a necessary one and within the maintenance budget. Emly motioned to pay the disbursement list of \$6,736.17 for 5-18-2020. Ahlborn seconded. Roll call was taken with the following results: Emly; yes, Ahlborn; yes, DeGiorgio; yes, Wells; yes. Motion passed.

**7.2 Council Meeting Minutes**

DeGiorgio motioned to approve the meeting minutes of 5-4-2020. Emly seconded. Roll call was taken with the following results: DeGiorgio; yes, Emly; yes, Wells; yes, Ahlborn; yes. Motion passed.

**7.3 Committee Meeting Minutes: Library, Community Events**

NONE

**8. Staff Reports**

**8.1 Treasurer**

Treasurer, Marie reported that she is working on a detailed summary of the wastewater sewer project and funding sources report for Council. It will be completed soon.

**8.2 Public Works**

Public Works Supervisor, Tyler reported that the water tower leaking valve has been fixed. He will need to fill the tank again but will need to turn up the booster pump because today he tried and created low water pressure in town. DeGiorgio commented that if he would just let residents know what was going on, she is sure they would understand.

Tyler stated that he and Cleve have pulled weeds around lagoon ponds, about 6 dump truck loads. Its looking much better. He is still waiting for bill from Star Construction for the Gary Ave and Notus Rd water leak.

**9. Business, Action Items**

**9.1 Comprehensive Plan Amendments**

Mayor asked Council if they had any questions or comments on the amendments discussed in the public hearing. None were given.

**9.2 Comprehensive Plan Resolution, approval**

Emly motioned to approve the Comprehensive Plan with amendments and Resolution 20-2. Wells seconded. Roll call was taken with the following results: Emly; yes, Wells; yes, DeGiorgio; yes, Ahlborn; yes. Motion passed.

**9.3 2008 Ford F250 Repair**

Mayor stated that some repairs were needed to the pickup. Estimate was \$500 without the brakes and approx. \$650 with the brakes. After they started the repairs, it was discovered that the was a gear oil leak as well. Mayor was hesitant to give the OK to fix but if it leaks on the brakes, we may have to them again. The serpentine belt need replaced too. DeGiorgio stated that we need a second opinion. She asked if Tyler could do these repairs. Tyler stated that he could do some but needed a place and tools. Mechanic inspection noted repairs needed of oil change, belts, brakes, air filter. DeGiorgio commented that repairs list should have been given owner to do. Wells commented that owner was asking \$12,500. After a good test drive, they told owner that Council had only approved \$11,000 for a purchase, would he be willing to take that. Caldwell Auto estimated the value of the pickup to be \$10,500. Councilmen Wells and Ahlborn along with PW Tyler all concurred to buy the pickup. Ahlborn motioned to do the repairs for \$1,100 to get this completed. DeGiorgio seconded. She would like a maintenance log kept on all vehicles. Roll call was taken with the following results: Ahlborn; yes, DeGiorgio; yes, Emly; yes, Wells; yes. Motion passed.

**9.4 Possible Water and Sewer Rate Increases**

Mayor commented that we need to let the school know if we are thinking of rate adjustments for their budgeting. Our current water base rate is \$30.75. Sewer rate is \$48.60. This rate is scheduled to be \$54.35 according to our USDA loan agreement. AIC has projected a 6.35% decrease for this quarter with a 4% increase per next quarter. DeGiorgio commented that she thought rates would stop at \$54.35. Wells commented that the City needs to stay with a 3% yearly increase to keep up with the inflation. We need to be at \$54.35 by next year. Mayor wondered if we need to make the next step (increase) towards that \$54.35 now.

**CLERK NOTE\*\*** Councilwoman DeGiorgio left the meeting at 8:37.

Mayor commented there are future purchases needed. A special boat to use for cleaning the aerators, supplies, increase of chemical costs, boat dock, and equipment maintenance. Ahlborn is ok with increases within reason. Mayor commented a sewer increase of \$2.00 this year then going up to the \$54.35 the following year. Ahlborn, Wells and Emly are in favor of that. Maybe ok a rate increase now but not apply it right now. Wells suggested passing a rate increase and then not collecting it for a couple months. Attorney commented that maybe the City could do a months rate "Holiday". But need to decide if you need a rate increase or not. Mayor stated that we have been doing a 3% water rate increase to keep up with costs. We need to do the tower cleaning and inspection and then the painting will need to be done soon. Mayor will hold a discussion with the school district.

**9.5. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Culvert Replacement Progress**

Antoni Conte commented that there is a grant from Lhtac emergency fund capped at \$100,000 with a 10% match. Office of Emergency Services is not capped but a 10% match and the last is Army Corp of Engineers is not capped but is a 25% match. He will meet with Tina Wilson to see what is in the best interest of the City. He will keep looking into these options.

**9.6 Contract Renewal Negotiations:**

Sanitation Services Contract, Westown Disposal and Fox Sanitation  
Rise Broadband  
Safelink

Mayor stated we will work on the Sanitation contract only tonight. The sanitation contract has some suggested changes to terms. This will auto renew yearly till September 30, 2030 unless either party decides not to renew and notifies the other 90 days prior to renewal date. Also, annexation section 1.5 would be any new accounts will be assigned by the City and commercial entities would contract directly with provider. The section 1.4A changes the use of the alleys only where necessary. The other change is the amount the City keeps for administration fee. Wells motioned to approve the changes discussed. Ahlborn seconded. Roll call was taken with the following results: Wells; yes, Ahlborn; yes, Emly; yes. Motion passed.

**9.7. Surplus Auction**

Mayor stated that the surplus item can be disposed of by a silent auction or scrapped if of no value. Elected officials and City employees involved in the surplus action can not purchase. Wells motioned to salvage list of all the equipment that has no value. Motion dies for lack of second. We need to get an itemized list with specific items to be declared of no value.

**9.8 Web Site Upgrades—Professional Photographer**

Ahlborn has talked to a photographer that may be willing to do some picture for the City. He prefers landscapes. But is willing to work with us. He would like some compensation. Wells would like pictures of businesses for our website. Ahlborn suggested maybe start with one kind or type of picture and see if we like it. Wells commented that we do not want to insult him by offer to little or too much. Ahlborn suggested that Council meet with him.

**10. Executive Session; (Idaho Code 74-206(1) (b))** (b)to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student.

NONE

**11. Mayor & Council Comment**

NONE

**12. Adjournment**

Wells motioned to adjourn at 9:48 pm. Ahlborn seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted by Loretta Vollmer, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by David Porterfield, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_