

April 5, 2022

This regular meeting of the Jerome City Council was called to order by Mayor Davis at 5:30 p.m. While council chambers were open to the public, the meeting was also held by teleconference and the public was encouraged to continue with social distancing. The video conference was conducted via Zoom and was made available to all members of the public in a format that allowed all participants to hear the meeting, including all deliberations by members of the Council and other speakers addressing the council, whether in person or via virtual connection, and to comment if so desired, all of which was noted in the agenda, email, and notices at council chambers and on the city's website.

Present: Mayor David M. Davis, Councilman Chris Barber, Councilman Jason Peterson, Councilman Brent "Oop" Johnson, and Council Bryan Craig.

Also present were staff members: City Clerk Bernadette Coderniz, City Administrator Mike Williams, City Attorney Ted Larsen, City Engineer Tyson Carpenter, Public Works Director Brian Ahrens, Building Official Dave Richey, Wastewater Superintendent Gilbert Sanchez, IS Director Carlos Hernandez, Finance Director Ross Hyatt, Accounting and Budget Manager Lori McCrae, Library Director Linda Mecham, Human Resources Manager Esmeralda Chavez, Fire Chief Mike Harrison, and Police Chief Duane Rubink.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Davis led the audience in recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION:

An invocation was given by Elder Randy Varney with the First Christian Church.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Those items contained in the consent calendar are as follows:

1. Approve the minutes of the March 15, 2022 regular meeting
2. Approval renewal of Barracuda Backup Server 890a, second payment of \$22,569.09

Councilman Barber made the motion to approve the consent calendar as presented. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Johnson. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Peterson, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Craig, and Councilman Barber. **NAYS:** None.

CITIZEN CORRESPONDENCE:

The clerk read a letter of appreciation from PG Construction to Mr. Richey.

OATH OF OFFICE, POLICE CAPTAIN:

Mayor Davis administered the Oath of Office to newly promoted Captain Dennis Clark and congratulated him in his new position.

ROAD SCHOLAR AWARDS:

Dan Coonce, T2 Center Director of the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council appeared before Council to award Road Scholar Certificates to two City employees. Mr. Coonce

explained the T2 Center provides training and technical assistance to every local highway jurisdiction whether it is the city, county or highway district. The technical assistance portion of the T2 Center is the connection between the staff and resources or information when requested by entities. The training portion of the T2 Center is offered in the form of classes (ten months out of the year) during the spring or fall schedules. To ensure the information given is retained, the classes require a passing grade of 80%. Mr. Coonce stated there are two completion levels: Road Scholar and Road Master. The Road Scholar program consists of eleven core classes and four electives, and students are allowed up to four years to complete the program as classes become available. The Road Master program requires an additional four years beyond the Road Scholar and consists of four core classes and five electives. Road Scholar certifications were presented to Public Works Technician Chris Owens and Management Assistant Carla Colfack. Mr. Coonce concluded with noting that the City's true assets are the staff members, and he appreciated the opportunity to have staff trained through the T2 Center.

PROCLAMATION – CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH:

The clerk read the proclamation in full:

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, child abuse is a serious and growing problem affecting more than 3.2 million of our nation's children annually and thousands of children locally; and

Whereas, this societal malignancy called child abuse respects no racial, religious, class or geographic boundaries, and, in fact, has been declared a national emergency; and

Whereas, Head Start/Early Head Start through its support of parent aide programs, parenting classes, educational programs, and community service activities with the Magic Valley Prevention Coalition is making significant progress in stopping this crime against children and families.

Now, Therefore I, David M. Davis, Mayor of the City of Jerome, Idaho, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2022 as

Child Abuse Prevention Month

and urge citizens to use this time to better understand, recognize and respond to this grievous problem. I would like to congratulate CSI- Head Start/Early Head Start and the Magic Valley Prevention Coalition for their continued success in helping families break the cycle of child abuse and neglect.

Council signified support with unanimous "ayes." Mayor Davis noted that he anticipates participating in an annual walk to promote awareness although the weather may hinder those efforts.

PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLE PURCHASE:

Mr. Ahrens expressed appreciation to Council for the ability to upgrade vehicles as needed and spoke of the 1992 GMC truck needing replaced as it was used to pull implement trailers, the old crack fill machine, etc. Staff determined that the allowed budget of \$33,000 was insufficient to purchase a new vehicle and used options were considered. Streets and Parks Supervisor Mike Hensley found the 2016 truck with low miles and equipped to meet the

department's needs (four-wheel drive, snow plow harness and hand-held controller unit, accomodates Western plows, etc.). Upon inquiry by Councilman Barber, Mr. Ahrens stated there is no plow yet although the budget for this year allows for the purchase of two plows. The truck will be purchased from P&R Auto Sales in Pocatello. Mayor Davis inquired about the type of plowing, and Mr. Ahrens stated jobs will include, but not be limited to, the library and city hall parking lots.

Councilman Barber made the motion to approve the purchase of 2016 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup with plow harness from P&R Auto Sales, Pocatello, ID for the amount of \$30,600.00. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Peterson. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Peterson, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Craig, and Councilman Barber. **NAYS:** None.

JOE MAMA'S:

Carl McEntarffer appeared before Council to request commercial use of both ICCU and Veteran's Memorial Parks for the annual Joe Mama's Car Show. He spoke of the activities throughout the two-day event along with a beer garden on Friday night. Jerome County Fair will be providing the beer (license is leased from Greg Dodson, formerly with Diamondz), and Mr. Dodson will be assisting with providing security. Additionally, there will be a rib-eating contest and Mr. McEntarffer inquired about the approval of a burn out contest. A video of a similar burnout contest (filmed at the Bountiful Rotary Coats for Kids Car Show) was shown to the Council for a better understanding of the requested activity. Mr. McEntarffer stated the vehicles go slow and no more than 100 feet, and the winner of the contest will get a new set of tires. He stated these types of events will hopefully bring more attendees and encourage them to stay downtown for a longer period of time.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding the request for use of the parks for different activities. Topics of the discussion included: the burn out contest and allowing attendees to drink beer while enjoying the activities as in the past (area blocked off and away from the splash pad and skate park) on Friday only; minimal damage to the road; Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) approval for the road closure and activity along Main Street; jersey barriers (concrete blocks) for safety of the crowds on both sides of Main Street; beer garden in ICCU Park only from 5:30 p.m. to approximately 10:00 p.m.; other activities to involve families (i.e. karaoke); signs for open container laws applicable beyond allowed beer garden boundaries; control and security over the beer garden and keeping the beer on one side of Main Street (i.e. ICCU Park); the possibility of having additional law enforcement presence; wristbands issued for those drinking beer; closing off the skatepark on Saturday morning for a remote control car demonstration; a kids pie-eating contest; the loud muffler contest sponsored by Master Muffler; liability issues associated with the burn out contest and required insurance coverage; jersey barriers and chain link fencing behind them for crowd control and protection; the concern of flying tire rubber flying into the crowds; reaching out to the Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP) to ensure there are no issues with the activities; and, adequate separation between the splash pad and the beer garden. Mr. McEntarffer stated that the last large beer garden in 2020 had no incidents nor issues with beer patrons. Council agreed to allow the activities as long as the safety measures discussed were implemented.

Councilman Barber made the motion to approve the application of Carl McEntarffer to hold the annual Joe Mama's Car Show on August 19-20, 2022 in ICCU and Veteran's Memorial

Parks, and waive applicable fees due to the public nature of the event. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Peterson. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Peterson, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Craig, and Councilman Barber. **NAYS:** None.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman Barber spoke of parking concerns along Main Street and requested that public works staff paint parallel parking stripes so that vehicles do not take up more space than is necessary. Mr. Ahrens stated this can be done although not immediately, and Councilman Barber stated the downtown business owners will be pleased with this effort. There was brief discussion on whether this was done regularly in the past. Upon inquiry by Mayor Davis, Mr. Ahrens stated staff will paint parking lines wherever Council requests they be added. He further stated the work will not be very labor intensive once the distances between lines are determined. The first two blocks along east Main Street from Lincoln will be marked first, and Mr. Ahrens commented on the difficulty with clearing the area of vehicles to do the work.

Councilman Barber also spoke of the need to address parking along 8th Avenue E south of Forsyth Park. Specifically, when sports spectators park along the road some take up much of the westbound lane; families with children cannot safely walk around their vehicles and the congestion is a safety hazard. Extensive discussion ensued and topics of the discussion included: the possibility of partnering with the Jerome Recreation District (JRD) for a pedestrian sidewalk or pathway; seeking a grant similar to that awarded for the 10th Ave E sidewalks; an ordinance prohibiting parking along 8th for certain vehicles; pedestrian paths on either side of 8th; access through the road for public emergency vehicles; changing parking from angled to parallel and thus reducing the number of cars but also causing parking issues elsewhere around the park; reducing recreation space to add a parking facility; overflow parking at Horizon Elementary; parallel parking and a walking path as a good case for a grant; a meeting between City staff and JRD for a workable solution to present to Council at a future meeting; paved parking to the east of the park in the lot owned by JRD; diagonal parking on one-lane roads; and, open space parking around the park but the risk of fly balls in the area.

Councilman Craig spoke of the play structure at Shepherd's Park and the material beneath it. He inquired if another material can be placed there (sand, wood chips, rubber pieces, etc.) for the safety of the children. He also spoke of the shrubs and flower beds in and around City Hall along with the existing sign needing replaced, and asked if there were funds budgeted to clean up those areas. Mr. Williams stated he will visit with staff and address the concerns, and Mr. McEntarffer suggested that project would be good for the Citywide Clean Up Day.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mr. Williams stated the Citywide Clean Up Day will be held on May 7th. Groups will be gathered to assist with the clean up efforts. The annual Association of Idaho Cities Conference will be held June 22-24, 2022, and any Council member wishing to attend should reach out to Ms. Coderniz. The lighting system will be installed at the tennis courts soon; courts will be surfaced when the weather warms up to 65 degrees. Mr. Williams is hopeful the high school students will be able to use the courts this summer. Additionally, sidewalks will be installed this spring. The Urban Renewal Agency will consider submitting a letter to taxing districts notifying them of an early close out of Area 2; the board will review and potentially approve the letter at the April 7th meeting. Closing out the area will have a significant effect on the budget. Upon

inquiry by Councilman Barber, Mr. Williams stated the body of the letter to taxing districts will notify them of the Agency's intent to close out the area; a surplus of funds in Area 2 are predicted and will assist those entities as part of their budgeting process.

Mr. Richey stated his staff is working on the clean up in front of City Hall; bushes have been trimmed and, weather permitting, the sign will be repainted. Additionally, staff is working on Council chambers and will start patching and painting the walls this week.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being nothing further to discuss, Mayor Davis adjourned this April 5, 2022 regular meeting of the Jerome City Council at 6:33 p.m.

By:

Mayor David M. Davis

Attest:

Bernadette Coderniz, City Clerk