



**CITY OF PONDERAY
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
August 7th, 2023**

MAYOR GEIGER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Geiger, Councilmember McNearney, Councilmember Mitton, Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember Larkin

ALSO, PRESENT: City Clerk Peterson, Attorney Marshall (Via Zoom), Chief Cornelius, Parks & Community Dev. Director Brubaker, Planning Director Miller, City Engineer Tadic

ABSENT:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND/OR DISCLOSURES:

AMEND AGENDA:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Bill Rengstorf, 256 Jasper Loop, Ponderay Idaho
 - Retreat Neighborhood Association.
 - Park cleanup – Budget 2024
 - Dirt
 - Grass seed
 - Wood Chips
 - Developer
 - Extension of Culverts
 - Debris cleanup
 - Seeding in the ditches
 - Swale
 - Fencing
 - Dale Mason Warge, 256 Jasper Loop, Ponderay Idaho
 - Path is not safe to walk.
 - A foot of fill between driveway and culvert.
 - Councilmember Mitton
 - Need to reach out to the developer to clean up debris left behind.
 - Like to help/see the above issues resolved.
 - Councilmember Thompson
 - When does the City of Ponderay take over Street.
 - 3 years (2024)
 - When the punch list is complete.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Approve Bills \$66,956.61.
- 2) Council Minutes for July 17th, 2023.
- 3) Acknowledge Police Report

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Larkin/Mitton. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/UPDATES

MAYOR:

- Mayor Geiger
 - Field of Dreams Groundbreaking Ceremony
 - August 4th, 2023

- Approximately 50-60 people were there.
 - Local Option Sales Tax at Work.
- Yoke's Entrance on Bonner Mall Way
 - Discussion on entrance changes.
 - David Birchem
 - Look into better circulation.
 - Kirsten Stycket
 - Traffic impact studies.
 - Planning and zoning.
- Cygnus, Emerald Industrial Park Drive Discussion
 - Jack Ambrosiani
 - The road needs work or full repair.
- Donna Daugherty, 2nd & Birch, Ponderay Idaho
 - Would like to see the projects started 30 years ago finished.
 - Drainage ditches.

CLERK:

- City Clerk Peterson
 - 2023 City of Ponderay Elections
 - Notice of Candidate filing
 - Publishing August 25th, 2023
 - Candidate filing period.
 - Opens - Monday August 28, 2023, 8:00 a.m.
 - Closes - Friday September 8, 2023, 5:00 p.m.
 - Forms will be available at City Hall - August 28, 2023, 8:00 a.m.
 - 3 seats open
 - Mayor (4-year term)
 - 2 - Councilmembers (4-year term)
 - **ACTION ITEM** FY 2023 – 2024 Tentative Budget Approval

Questions/Comments by Councilmembers and Public.

- Councilmember Thompson
 - Post Office Revenue
 - Reflects the current lease agreement.
- Councilmember Mitton
 - Current Wages & Wage Increases Options
 - Discussion followed amongst the Councilmembers, Mayor, and Public.
 - Public comment – If you have the funds available, you should pay your employees a comparable rate to keep them.
- David Birchem
 - Tax Dollars
 - State receives an estimated 25 million in Sales Tax from the City of Ponderay.
 - The city receives less than \$160,000.00 in sales tax revenue from the State.

Motion to Approve the Tentative Budget for 2023-2024, with a wage increase of \$100.00 a month for the Mayor and each Councilmember, in the amount of \$11,960,777.00.

Councilmember McNearney/Thompson. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- **ACTION ITEM** ADD/Remove Checking Account Signatures – All Umpqua Accounts
- Current Signers on the Umpqua Accounts.
 - Mayor Geiger, Councilmember McNearney, and Parks & Community Dev. Director Erik Brubaker.
- Remove Erik Brubaker.
- Add Kayleigh Miller.

Motion to Approve adding Kayleigh Miller as a signer and removing Erik Brubaker on all accounts except the Neighbor Day Account.

Councilmember Thompson/Mitton. Roll Call Vote. Councilmember Larkin stepped out. Councilmembers Thompson, Mitton, and McNearney Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

POLICE:

- Chief Cornelius
 - Field of Dreams Groundbreaking Ceremony
 - Was well planned out and executed.
 - Planning Director Miller
 - Enjoyed Officer Simeral playing on the field with the kids.

STREET/PUBLIC WORKS:

- City Engineer Tadic gave project updates.
 - Field of Dreams
 - Groundbreaking Ceremony, August 4th, 2023.
 - Great turnout.
 - Bathroom Facility Estimate
 - 1.1 million
 - Strategic Initiatives Grant Application (McNearney Road)
 - Connecting McNearney Road to Oneida Road.
 - Discussion followed.
 - Two lane vs three lane.

PLANNING, PARKS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- City Planner Miller gave project updates.
 - Oak Ave. Sewer Laterals
 - Completed and ready for paving.
 - Replaced one culvert.
 - Overlay to start late August - early September.
 - 7th Street, 6th Street, Oak Ave., and 5th Street.
- Parks & Community Dev. Director Brubaker gave an update.
 - Provolt Land Surveying
 - Block corners are set.
 - Big Thank You to Friends of the POBT.
 - Removal of trailer at the Wolters Property
 - Blackrock Design 30%
 - Signage and fencing.
 - Bid Package for next May/June.
 - Removed the dock - \$2,000.00.

- **ACTION ITEM** Schweitzer Plaza Extension, Lender Cost Reimbursement Request

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

Comments/Questions by Council.

- Discussion followed.

Motion to Approve \$4,000.00 (after October 1st, 2023) towards the Cost of the Extension. Councilmember Larkin/McNearney. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- **ACTION ITEM** Time Extension Request, File UP22-089
- **ACTION ITEM** Time Extension Request, File UP22-093

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

Comments/Questions by Council.

- Discussion followed.
 - Agreed on a 2-year extension.

Motion to Approve Both Time Extension Request, File UP22-089 & File UP22-093.

Councilmember Thompson/Larkin. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- **ACTION ITEM** Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhood Grant Opportunity

Presentation by Parks & Community Dev. Director Brubaker.

- Federal Grant Program - 5-year pilot funding
 - Possible funding for the underpass.
 - Welch Comer will have numbers.
 - \$15,000.00 out of pocket.
 - Application due September 28th, 2023.

Motion to Approve Applying for Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhood Grant.

Councilmember Larkin/Mitton. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CONTRACTS:

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Bill Rengstorf, 256 Jasper Loop, Ponderay Idaho
 - Requested a walk through at the Retreat.
 - Contractor debris.
 - Future sidewalks?
 - Mayor Geiger
 - No sidewalks at this time.
 - Out of Town August 9th – 18th 2023.

- **ACTION ITEM** Executive Session – ID Code 74-206, Subsection 1-f.
 - 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.

Motion to Enter Executive Session – ID Code 74-206, Subsection 1-f.

Councilmember Thompson/McNearney. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

Entered Executive Session at 8:14 p.m.

Motion to Exit Executive Session – ID Code 74-206, Subsection 1-f.

Councilmember McNearneyLarkin. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

Left Executive Session at 8:29 p.m.

Motion to pursue acquisition of the property as discussed in the Executive Session.

Councilmember Larkin/Thompson. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

Councilmember Larkin/Thompson

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 p.m.

City Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Peterson

Mayor Steve Geiger