

CITY OF POCA TELLO, IDAHO  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION  
JUNE 11, 2009

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Council President Gary Moore called the City  
ROLL CALL Council Study Session to order at 9:00 AM.  
Council members present were Roger Bray, Eva  
Johnson Nye, Robert Richway, and Brian Underwood. Council member  
Ron Frasure arrived at 9:02 AM. Mayor Roger Chase was excused.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Tina Noreen, Disabled Citizens ADA/504  
DISABLED CITIZENS Coordinating Committee Chair Person, and Ron  
ADA/504 COORDINATING Binggeli, Staff Liaison, discussed the  
COMMITTEE UPDATE Committee's goals and projects, as well as  
Council policies and expectations. Mr.  
Binggeli stated that the ADA Coordinating Committee has been in  
existence since 1992. He mentioned that the City of Pocatello was  
in the forefront by creating the Committee in 1992 and it is an  
asset to the community as the Committee looks at issues that affect  
disabled citizens.

Ms. Noreen stated that the City of Pocatello is very accessible for  
persons with disabilities. She mentioned that the Committee has  
received very few complaints or issues from disabled citizens. Ms.  
Noreen informed the Council that the ADA Celebration will be July  
20<sup>th</sup> and the celebration is a joint effort of the ADA Coordinating  
Committee and the Pocatello Regional Transportation Department.

In response to comments from the Council, Ms. Noreen clarified that  
the Committee does not seek grants for individuals to upgrade their  
facilities. However, there are grants available that private  
groups can apply for.

In response to a question from the Council, Mr. Binggeli stated  
that there are numerous corners that need to be made accessible and  
the City continues to work on the curb accessibility issue.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Diane Peck, Friends of the Cemetery  
FRIENDS OF THE Committee Chair Person, and Martin Peace,  
CEMETERY COMMITTEE Staff Liaison, discussed the Committee's  
UPDATE goals and projects, as well as Council  
policies and expectations. Ms. Peck informed  
the Council that over 200 individuals went through the Brady Chapel  
on Memorial Day. She mentioned that last year new carpet was  
installed and painting was completed at the chapel. Ms. Peck  
reminded the Council that the iron fence around Mountain View  
Cemetery needs repair and that Cemetery staff is investigating the  
cost to replace the fence.

Mr. Peace informed the Council that it could cost as much as  
\$600.00 per ten foot section to replace the fence and that staff is  
discussing ways to deal with tree roots that are affecting the  
fence. He estimates that 25 sections of the fence need to be

replaced and an additional 40 sections need to be repaired. The Committee has also provided recommendations on the fees that could be charged at the Cemetery.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Greg Albright, Golf Advisory Committee member, and Jerry Sepich, Staff Liaison, GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE discussed the Committee's goals and projects, as well as Council policies and expectations. Mr. Sepich mentioned that the Golf Advisory Committee is a very active group.

Mr. Albright overviewed the Committee approved projects that have been completed at the Golf Courses. He mentioned that due to the weather, use of the tees that were renovated in 2008 has been delayed. Mr. Albright informed the Council that the golf cart paths at Riverside have been repaired and trees at both courses have been trimmed. By doing these projects the appearance of the courses has greatly improved. He mentioned that the irrigation systems at the golf courses need to be updated and additional improvements, as outlined in the Master Plan, need to be completed.

Mr. Sepich mentioned that cost estimates for improving the irrigation systems are being requested. He reminded the Council that improvements, as outlined in the Master Plan, are being completed in stages.

General discussion was held on the capital fees that are collected from the golfers and how they are used to improve the golf courses.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Marv Hoyt, Idaho Director Greater GREATER YELLOWSTONE COALITION Yellowstone Coalition, presented the Coalition's position on the Blackfoot Bridge Mine Proposal. Mr. Hoyt stated that the Coalition was created in 1983 as a non-profit group to maintain the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. He mentioned that the group became involved with mines when it was discovered that selenium was contaminating the water systems. Mr. Hoyt informed the Council that there are approximately 160 miles of streams that have been contaminated by selenium. The Coalition's position is that the mine sites need to be cleaned up. They also want to make sure that new mines do not add to the pollution problem. Mr. Hoyt informed the Council that Monsanto did present information to the Coalition on how they were going to prevent selenium contamination at the Blackfoot Bridge Mine. He mentioned that the Coalition has questions about the procedures Monsanto will use to maintain the selenium on site and that the Blackfoot Bridge Mine Environmental Impact Statement must demonstrate that no selenium will enter the Blackfoot River. One of the concerns of the Coalition is that the Bureau of Land Management is proposing a forty-five day comment period on the Environmental Impact Statement which is a short

amount of time to look at all the documents. Therefore, the Coalition will ask for an extended period of time to examine the Environmental Impact Statement. If the Blackfoot Bridge Mine can be operated safely and not add to the selenium contamination then the Coalition will not be opposed to the project.

In response to questions from the Council, Mr. Hoyt mentioned that several of the mines that have been polluting have yet to agree to clean up their sites. He stated that when selenium is exposed to air and water it then enters the ground water. While there is a background of selenium in most streams the concentration of selenium is higher when the stream runs through a phosphate field. Mr. Hoyt stated that Monsanto's task at the Blackfoot Bridge Mine is to keep selenium from entering the water system. He mentioned that the State standard is 5 parts per million for selenium. Therefore, the Coalition wants to make sure the amount of selenium released by the Blackfoot Bridge Mine project does not exceed the limits in State and Federal regulations. Mr. Hoyt stated that the Coalition is an interest group that is concerned with pollution issues and there are others in the community who also are concerned with quality of life issues.

Rick Phillips, Simplot Public Relations Manager, introduced members of the Simplot Corporation who were in the audience.

Lori Hamann, Simplot Permitting Manager, mentioned that the cleanup at the Pole Canyon Mine is removing 75% of the selenium in the stream. She informed the Council of ways they are trying to decrease pollution.

John Bob, Simplot Plant Manager, informed the Council that the people that work at the Simplot plant provide a lot of support to the community. He also stated that phosphate helps with the food supply for the community and the nation.

In response to questions from the Council, Ms. Hamann stated that Simplot is meeting Federal and State requirements at their mines. She mentioned it took ten years for the selenium pollution to show up in a stream. Therefore, Simplot believes it could take up to ten years for the affects of the cleanup to show in the same stream. Ms. Hamann mentioned that the water nearest the cleanup project has shown improvement.

Dennis Facer, Simplot Mine Manager, overviewed the processes that have been used to help reduce the amount of selenium that is being released into the aquifer at the Simplot mines.

AGENDA ITEM NO.       6: Greg Lanning, Public Works Director, Cac  
LEVEES                   Turner, City Engineer, discussed the  
RECERTIFICATION       necessity of having the urban levees

recertified which could require the Council to declare an emergency to allow an expenditure that exceeds \$50,000.00 for a professional services contract. Mr. Lanning reminded the Council that the City entered into a contract with Williams Engineering to provide information on the levees and additional information is needed for the levees recertification process. The levees recertification document is due on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, staff is recommending entering into or amending a professional services contract with Williams Engineering to complete the levees recertification documents.

Mr. Lanning clarified that it could cost between \$75,000.00 and \$125,000.00 to recertify the levies. If the recertification process is not completed then FEMA, a division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, will declare that the levees do not exist and additional areas would then be considered to be in the flood plain.

It was the consensus of the Council that staff should proceed with the steps necessary to allow for a professional services contract for recertifying the levees.

Council President Moore called a recess at 10:45 AM.

Council President Moore reconvened the Study Session at 10:54 AM. Mr. Underwood did not return to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: David Swindell, Chief Financial Officer, FISCAL YEAR 2009 discussed proposed Fiscal Year 2009 Budget BUDGET AMENDMENTS Amendments. He reminded the Council of the reasons that a budget can be reopened and that the amendment process is evidence of the City's tight control of the budget. Mr. Swindell mentioned that if the Council approves moving forward with the amendments the Council will consider the items at the July 2, 2009, Regular City Council meeting. He overviewed the recommended budget amendments and provided options to the Council on how to help pay for the levee recertification program. He recommended that a loan be taken from the Sanitation Department and that the loan be paid back in 2010. However, Council will need to determine what Fiscal Year 2010 Budget funds will be used to pay back the Sanitation Department loan.

It was the consensus of the Council that Mr. Swindell proceed with the steps necessary to have the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget amendments considered at the July 2, 2009 Regular City Council meeting.

Council President Moore adjourned the meeting at 11:26 AM.

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APPROVED:

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ROGER W. CHASE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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RHONDA L. JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK