

**MINUTES
PAYETTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 17, 2008**

6:30 Public Hearing

The City of Payette, Idaho, proposes to increase its non-resident patron card rates for patrons living outside the boundaries of the City of Payette beginning May 1, 2008, by an amount which exceeds one hundred and five percent (105%) from the previous year.

The proposed rate increase is due to the additional costs of operations and maintenance of the municipal library infrastructure. Proposed rate increase will raise the patron subscription to library services in the amount of \$5.00 per year annually on May 1 of each year, through the year 2011 when the subscription fee reached \$40.00.

John Held, Payette, ID, addressed the Council as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Payette Public Library. Mr. Held stated the Library has not changed the non-resident fee for close to 10 years now. Mr. Held stated that the Ontario Library is charging \$30.00, the Weiser Library is charging \$35.00, and the Boise Library is charging \$67.00. The library feels it's time to raise the annual fee, so we are more in-line with the local community. Last year we brought in \$4,600.00 in rural dues, and they are on pace this year to do \$4,200. When it's all said and done, if we don't lose any rural customers in the next 4 years that amount will go up an additional \$4,500.00 for the library. Mr. Held think it is fair and it's justified. We did what to do it in increments so we didn't scare people off going from \$20.00 today and \$40.00 come May. That's the reasoning behind the increment basis. Councilor Williams asked Mr. Held on the patron count what percent are citizens within the City limits and what percent comes from the rural areas. Colleen Bonnell stated that 10-15% come from the come from the rural. Councilor Williams stated it appeared to him that the citizens of this city this last year we had estimated we get about \$167,000 in property taxes. It doesn't sound like the rural people are paying their percentage compared to the citizens of Payette. Held agreed. Held continued that if someone has a property value of \$50 thousand dollars, after the homeowner's exemption, they are paying \$37.80 of their property tax toward the library. Someone with a higher value, such as his, pays around \$70 per year. Maybe the proposed increase is a little low, but we need to be in line with what the neighboring districts are doing.

The public hearing adjourned at 6:35pm.

7:00 Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Payette City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Henderson in the City Council Chambers of Payette City Hall, 700 Center Avenue.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Henderson, Ivan Mussell, Jeff Williams, Mark Heleker, Georgia Hanigan, Lee Nelson

Members Absent: Les Cochran (excused)

Also Present: City Attorney Bert Osborn; Police Chief Mark Clark; Fire Chief Jeff Sands; WWTP Superintendent Randy Schwartz; Brandi Mack, Independent Enterprise;

John Held Library Board President; Sollie Callendar; Vonnie Paul; Johnna; Carol Bruce; Allen Massey; PMDC Guy; Captain Dave Platt; Linda Williams; Twana Morin; Kathy Clements; Jody Clements; Dave Jeffries; Susan Jeffries;

PLEDGE

Mayor Henderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Heleker and seconded by Nelson to amend the agenda to add a letter from the Mayor and the Killebrew sign issue.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented to the Council for approval.

APPROVAL OF BILLS & PAYROLL

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Williams to approve the City Bills & Payroll in the amount of \$192,439.36

At the roll call:

Ayes: Williams, Hanigan, Mussell, Nelson, Heleker

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

Letter from the Mayor

Mayor Henderson read a prepared letter into the record.

17 March 2008

City of Payette,

Let it first be said that I strongly believe that our city needs a new Fire Station. We have invested a great deal of research and investigation into our current plan for the implementation of this need and I am very confident in all aspects of that plan except the timing. While I believe that this is an urgent need that must be dealt with as soon as possible, I have reconsidered my opinion that now is the time to put this issue before our citizens. With consistently rising fuel prices and increasing costs related to our currently weak national economy, I don't believe now is the time to ask our citizens to take on any new financial burdens on their lives. It is my intent to ask the City Council to reverse the decision we made in our 3 March 2008 meeting and postpone this proposed bond election until fuel costs have stabilized and our economy is back on track. Let it be known that I take responsibility for pushing the timing of the original decision and appreciated the Council's support in that original decision. But I now feel that the responsible action would be for us to wait before asking for our

citizen's support to construct this much needed new facility. I have discussed this matter with Chief Sands, and he supports this decision. This community has been very supportive of our Fire Department and our Fire Department has been very supportive of our community. And, when the time is right, I am confident that this community will support building a new fire station, but now is not that time.

Sincerely, Mayor Henderson

COMMUNICATIONS

No comments heard.

PLANNING & ZONING

None heard.

OLD BUSINESS

None heard.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Sollie Callendar

-Economic Impact of Council Actions

Sollie Callendar, 7th Avenue North, Payette addressed the Council. He wanted to come in front of us to talk about the fire house. He's still going to talk about the fire house. He's always wanted to talk about the conditions of Payette and the capacity of the people of Payette to meet the needs real and imagined. One of the 1st things he did in the 70's was to be in FHA, build and they will come. They would meet at the city hall by the flag pole. Money was unlimited. The "You build it and they will come" does not work. We went in and put the sewer and water across from the school busses, and that dirt across from the school busses it was there and ready. But if it didn't happen then, why would it ever happen now.

Mr. Callendar continued that there are 2600 checking accounts in this town, and 70% of them have no money left when they sit down and pay their bills. They are un-employed or retired. It is not going to get any better. The world has never seen the depression or the recession that the world we may be seeing. The 70 percent who can't pay their bills now are going to have problems. Couples, who are retired with pensions and retirements, have to dig into their savings to pay their average bills. They come to places where the cost of living is low. The largest percentages of people who buy homes are retired couples. If we don't attract those people, our homes are going to lose their resale value. Payette is a poor town, and it is not going to get richer. Everyone who had increased salaries has already lost them due to the economy. The inflation is not going to get any cheaper. With the growth in Payette, taking out the annexation we have not had any growth. If you remember several years ago we had a and economic development thing down in the auditorium, and the speaker said forget the build it and they will come thing, take care of the people who are here. Take care of the 2600 residents who live in the City of Payette. This is the city council you shouldn't be thinking of anyone else. The firehouse, for example, if we're going to make a decision for the fire station he wants to talk to the rural people and say guys it's a new day. They should pass a taxing district, and let them bond their home. The chief said they are going to use 20% of the building. We need to think of the people who live in this town. There is a good chance that the budgets is already busted and were going to have cut backs everywhere. The increase in the

budget throughout the years has not been able to live up to this. He is ecstatic about us pulling the bond. We are living beyond our means. We are spending scarce and real dollars on a dream and a prayer. Thanks for your time and for pulling your bond.

**B. Jessie Watson La Grande, OR & Vonnie Paul Payette, ID
- Request for Placement of Banner on City fence for Soccer Camp**

Mrs. Paul would like to thank the Mayor, and she is very proud of the Mayor for his letter. Mrs. Paul stated that Eastern Oregon University will be holding a soccer camp June 16, 2008 thru June 20, 2008. Mrs. Paul would like to put up a banner on the City fence to advertise the clinic. Eastern Oregon University is 1 of 5 top colleges for value in Consumer Report. EOU is the only University around that has no out of state tuition. Mrs. Paul would like to introduce the head coach for the EOU Women's Soccer Team Jessie Watson. Mr. Watson stated that one of the commitments is we want to get out into the smaller communities and find the "Diamonds in the Rough".

Councilor Williams asked how many vehicles would be at the park. Ms. Paul said it would be a pick up/drop off situation.

A motion was made by Heleker and seconded by Nelson to allow the banner to be placed on city property.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

**C. Susan Jefferies, PHS Boosters President
- Request for Waiver of Building Permit Fees for Weight Room
Addition at High School**

Mrs. Jefferies would like the City building permit fees be waived. The boosters applied for the Intermountain Community Bank community match program. If the Booster's can raise \$10,000 the bank will match the amount. The boosters were approved by the bank. They would like to add an addition of 36x74 for the purpose of a new weight room at the high school. They are trying to find donations/contributions where all possible. Councilor Heleker asked Bert Osborn if there was a conflict of interest, as he is part of the school. Councilor Williams asked if the City could not waive all the fees would it make or break the project? Mrs. Jefferies stated that she would take whatever we contributed back to the boosters meeting and discuss other ways of raising or getting the money donated. Mrs. Jefferies goal is to give the athletes of Payette High School a place where they could train year round. Councilor Mussell thinks this is a great thing, and the council should try and help even if it's not the full amount. This facility was designed in mind to benefit the most amount of kids that they could. The new addition will be designed for all sports to use the facilities year round. Mr. Williams asked if there is anything we could do to help lower the costs. Mrs. Jefferies stated that they do have volunteers to help construct the building. Mayor Henderson asked if we could decide at the next meeting whether we would like to go forward or not. Mrs. Jefferies stated that it would be fine if we waited.

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Mussell to allow Councilor Heleker to speak on the issue.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

D. Councilor Heleker Payette, ID

-Weight Room Issue

Councilor Heleker stated that similar type facilities have been provided in our neighboring communities. When people come to our area and start looking to which schools they want to send their kids to, one of the things they look at is the facilities. They look at how good the school is in football, and why are they that good. Community efforts put those facilities in our neighboring communities, and he is hoping that the citizens of Payette would understand that it's important to stay on a level playing field. The community would not have the opportunity for facilities like this without the Boosters efforts. Councilor Heleker thinks that whatever we can do to help with this, will be great for the community. Mayor Henderson stated to the Council, we have roughly \$3,300 left in our budget and we are not even half way through the budget year. If we did the full amount we would be \$400 away from telling people "no" for the next 8 months. Mayor Henderson just wants the Council to consider this.

E. Approval of Blood Draw Agreement Between Payette County Paramedics and the Payette Police Department

The County is going to charge the Payette Police Department \$100 for each blood draw that they do. Councilor Williams asked who initiated the agreement. Chief Clark stated that Rick Watkins was the one who initiated it. Second question was if we were to ignore this what will happen? Chief Clark stated that they will refuse to do any of our blood draws. Chief Clark initially refused to sign the contract because he felt that they were being double taxed. Chief Clark stated that he is not 100% behind it, but he does not want to cause problems for his officers. Councilor Williams stated that if we do not have anyone to draw the blood, then we could possibly loose a conviction over it. Councilor Nelson asked what we would be paying if we do not use them, and we use someone else. Chief Clark stated that he does not have the exact figures, but it will be around the same price. What he runs into is border issues, and finding someone to draw the blood. Councilor Nelson asked how many blood draws we do a month now. Chief Clark stated that we only did 4 blood draws last year. He sees that going up since they changed the laws, to allow forced blood draws. He anticipates up to one a month. Councilor Hanigan asked if up to this point there has been no charge for them to come. Chief Clark stated that they billed him, but he didn't pay them. Councilor Williams asked if they have sent the same request to the City of Fruitland, City of New Plymouth, and the County of Payette. Chief Clark stated that they have and they signed off on it. Mayor Henderson asked if this is something we could re-coup if there was a DUI conviction. Chief Clark stated that they could re-coup restitution.

A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Nelson to approve the Blood Draw Agreement.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

F. Jody Clements Boise, ID -Twana Morin, Payette, ID /Apple Blossom Committee -Request for Waiver of Park

Twana Morin would like the Park usage fees for Apple Blossom to be waived. The Committee has a contract with the City that was signed May 31, 1989. John Franks, Dick Butcher, and Floyd Moyer were the signers of the contract. The Committee is being charged and extra \$2,000for fuel by the Carnival Company. With all the rising cost from

last year to this year they never know what to budget. Mrs. Morin stated that the Committee gets a percentage off of all the pre-sale tickets that the Committee sales. The Carnival Company then breaks down their costs of what it is to run the carnival, and to get here. This then makes the Committee's percentage go down because their costs have inflated. Mrs. Clements stated that the Committee tried to negotiate with the Carnival Company to reduce their fuel costs. The Carnival Company said they couldn't, it was standard across the board with every town they deal with. Mayor Henderson asked if there were other carnivals. Mrs. Clements stated that the other Carnival Companies are doing the same; it's 25% across the board. Mrs. Morris stated that the Committee runs off the money they get from the Carnival Company on the pre-sale tickets. Mrs. Morin stated that without the carnival there would be no Apple Blossom Festival.

Councilor Nelson asked if they only get a percentage of the pre-sales not of the total take. Mrs. Morin stated that they get \$100 for each food concession stand, \$75 for every game station, on top of the pre-sale percentage. Councilor Nelson asked how much the park usage fees were. Mayor Henderson stated the fees are \$100. Mayor Henderson asked if the Committee was moving all the events from both parks to just Kiwanis. Mrs. Morin stated they will have activities in both areas this year. Councilor Hanigan would like to see a breakdown of the Apple Blossom expenses for future planning/budgeting. Apple Blossom would like to put in more power by the band stand. If the Apple Blossom paid half and the City paid half there would be more.

A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Hanigan to waive the application fee for the Apple Blossom Festival.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

G. Informational Sign at the Entrance to the City -Killebrew Days

Councilor Heleker would like to talk about the Harmon Killebrew sign. He would like to get a sign made, to make this community special. Councilor Heleker stated of all the athletes that have come through Idaho's history, only one has been elected to the Hall of Fame, Harmon Killebrew. In past years we declared the 3rd Saturday of April as Harmon Killebrew Day in Payette. Mr. Killebrew has been back 2 of the 3 years, and is coming back this year. The School District brings back alumni that went to school with Mr. Killebrew. Last year they had a Golf Tournament, a banquet, as well as Old Killebrew Night at the baseball game. Mr. Killebrew and his team mates attend the baseball game. We see a lot of people who normally would never come into the community. It is a celebration here in the community. Councilor Heleker stated that with that being said, he would like to see something special put up. Councilor Heleker was assigned to see how much the School District would pitch in and help pay for the sign. Councilor Heleker stated he spent time discussing this with the school faculty. He stated the Business Department could make sign and banners. Mr. Heleker asked if the School District pitched in the in kind work, if they built the signs could they be placed at both entrances to Payette. Councilor Mussell asked Councilor Heleker how much the material would be. Councilor Heleker stated that the price would depend on what the sign was made out of. Councilor Nelson asked if the school could take care of completely as far as manufacturing the signs. Councilor Heleker stated he believes that can all be taken care of at the school. Councilor Williams asked Councilor Heleker to bring proposals and costs, and they will discuss at the next meeting. City Clerk Mary Cordova stated that according to IDAPA the community is only allowed one directional sign going in or out of the City, but did not specify the corridor. Ms. Cordova stated that the sign could be

separate, as long as it did not say "Welcome to Payette". Councilor Heleker asked what constitutes a directional sign. Ms. Cordova stated that she asked the IDAPA the same question, and she is awaiting a response. Councilor Williams asked if anyone has given any thought to a big permanent sign that could go on top of the "Welcome to Payette" sign. Mayor Henderson stated that yes; they had talked about it with Councilor Heleker. They talked about putting some sort slot system so they can change the sign for different events. Council Heleker would like to get some sort of approval for a sign, that way he could announce it at the Harmon Killebrew Day.

H. Ordinance 1292 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAYETTE, IDAHO, CREATING A NEW SECTION IN TITLE 12 ESTABLISHING POLICY GOVERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE PROVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR LICENSE APPLICATION PROCEDURES; SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; ALLOWING PUBLICATION IN SUMMARY FORM; ESTABLISHING SEVERABILITY; ESTABLISHING A REPEALER.

~First Reading

A motion was made by Mussell and seconded by Heleker to introduce Ordinance 1292 by title only.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

A motion was made by Heleker and seconded by Hanigan to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 1292 on its first reading

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

A motion was made by Heleker and seconded by Hanigan that Ordinance 1292 DO PASS.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

I. Ordinance 1293 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAYETTE, IDAHO, CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 6.10 IN TITLE 6 REGULATING EXOTIC ANIMALS; SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; ALLOWING PUBLICATION IN SUMMARY FORM; ESTABLISHING A PENALTY; ESTABLISHING SEVERABILITY; ESTABLISHING A REPEALER.

~First Reading

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Heleker to introduce Ordinance 1293 by Title only.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

A motion was made by Heleker and seconded by Hanigan to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 1293 on its first reading

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Williams that Ordinance 1293 do pass.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED.

J. Request to Purchase New Software and Enter into a Maintenance Agreement With Black Mountain Software

Ms. Cordova stated that we desperately need new software. Discussion Followed.

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Heleker to allow the purchase of the Utility related, Cash Receipting, and Budget preparation software.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED

K. Donation of Surplus Police Vehicle for use as Airport Courtesy Car

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Williams to approve the donation of the courtesy car.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED

L. Approval of Liquor License for Payette Municipal Development Corporation

A motion was made by Hanigan and seconded by Williams to approve the liquor license application at Scotch Pines Golf Course.

After a unanimous voice vote, the motion CARRIED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

None heard.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None heard.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The next Council meeting will be April 7, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Heleker and seconded by Councilor Hanigan to adjourn.

After a unanimous voice vote, the Council adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2008.

DOUGLAS E. HENDERSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary Cordova, City Clerk