

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR CITY OF PAYETTE COUNCIL MEETING HELD
NOVEMBER 20, 2006, AT 7:00 P.M, IN CITY HALL, 700 CENTER AVENUE.**

MAYOR DOUG HENDERSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

ROLL CALL

Ivan Mussell, Mark Heleker, Lee Nelson, Jeff Williams, Georgia Hanigan and Vallery Klitch were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council, Mayor and audience cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Heleker moved to approve the public hearing and regular meeting minutes of November 6, 2006, as written. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Klitch and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

BILLS & PAYROLL

Councilman Williams moved to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$287,773.51. Councilman Nelson seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Rick Greif – Proposal to Purchase the Payette Airport

Rick Greif, 2085 Shelley Drive, Payette, was present on behalf of Bob Blaha, with an offer to purchase the airport and surrounding property for \$1,000,000 from the City of Payette. Mr. Greif said a letter was presented at the golf course and the Council should have a copy of it. Mr. Grief approximated the land to be 110 acres. Mayor Henderson said the Council does not know what the land is worth so perhaps Mr. Blaha should have the property appraised and a legal description drafted. Also, the ground has not been declared surplus and the Council would conduct a public hearing to receive public comment regarding such determination. Councilwoman Klitch said there was no letter in the packets and asked for a copy. Councilman Heleker said he forwarded the letter to the City Clerk, Mary Cordova. Ms. Cordova is on vacation and Mr. Greif said he would contact her when she returned next Monday. Councilman Williams said there is no need to discuss a sale until an appraisal is completed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Sharon Carrell – Variance to Payette Municipal Code section 7-24-040 (e)
Accessory Buildings, to construct a pole barn for vehicle storage**

Jim Weaver, 4185 County Line Road, Emmett, Idaho, was present on behalf of Ms. Carrell. The applicant would like to construct a 3 car pole barn on the property for storage of 2 vehicles and a shop. The building would meet setback requirements but is larger than the allowable 400 square feet for an accessory building. The code was recently changed to allow larger accessory buildings,

however the Carrell's application was received prior to such change. There is limited parking on the property and off street parking is also limited. The structure would match the house, fit in well with the neighborhood and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval. Councilman Heleker moved to approve the variance as requested by Sharon Carrell at 1115 1st Avenue South. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Idaho Community Review – A Community Visitation and Assessment Program

Mayor Henderson said the deadline for application is approaching and asked if the Council was interested in involving our City. There are some costs involved, not more than \$2500. The community decides what areas they want assessed and a team meets with city and business leaders and citizens to discuss these areas. The team then reports back to the City with suggestions and observations. The Council suggested meeting ½ hour before the next regular meeting to determine what areas, if any, they would like to be assessed.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 1272 A or B – An Ordinance of the City of Payette, Idaho, Amending Section 13.08.070 of the Payette Municipal Code to Change the Sewer Rates; Setting and Effective Date; Establishing Severability; Allowing for Publication by Summary; Establishing a Repealer

Councilwoman Klitch moved to introduce Ordinance 1272 A and B by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mussell and passed by a unanimous voice vote. City Attorney, Bert Osborn, read the title. The current ordinance requires \$1.50 of the base rate to be placed into a rehab fund for the sewer system and plant and such requirement is not in the proposals. Treasurer Kellie McCombs said \$6,000 a month is placed into the fund as a budgetary practice and it exceeds the required amount. It was suggested the requirement not be deleted because there would be no guarantee at a later date that funds are being set aside. Councilman Williams said \$8.33 of the proposed base rate should be placed in the rehab fund. The proposals do not include an increase for users not attached to the water system and those users should also receive an increase. Doug Argo said if the Council does not implement ordinance 1272 A the city will be in an operational deficit next year. Councilwoman Klitch said the Council has known since March that sewer rates needed increasing. We should only raise the rate to cover what is in the current year's budget. Mr. Argo said the City should also be collecting funds to help save for an emergency. Right now there is not money for that. Councilman Williams said the reason why we are in this situation is because of poor communication with the public. The city should start listening to the citizens. He felt the citizens weren't informed during the budget process that sewer rates would be increasing and he wasn't sure if all of the Council knew about it. The City has censored citizen's ability to speak and has done so with arrogance. It is time to start listening to the citizens of Payette. Councilman Williams moved to send Ordinance 1272 to a second reading as

option C. Option C will have the rate figured to bring \$330,000 of sewer revenue for the current budget year; have \$8.33 of the base rate placed in the rehab fund; increase the non water metered users rate to \$22.60; and vacant properties to be billed for base rate. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mussell. Before the Council voted Mayor Henderson explained the reason why rates need to be increased is because the Council has spent a lot of money over the past 3 years. He said some Council members think is more logical to spend the City's savings rather than raise fees and after doing so for a few years, the savings is depleted. He said everyone knew the budget included a sewer fee increase, it was mentioned in committee and Council meetings. Granted, the Council could have done a better job over the years, but this is the reality. Councilman Klitch said 3 Council members voted no on the budget and there are many factors involved with the sewer budget. Perhaps the Council should've managed things differently, but the City is not in dire straights. The Council voted on the motion and it passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilman Heleker said he voted yes to continue with the process and receive more information and Councilwoman Hanigan concurred.

Tort Claims

Ore-Ida Council, Boy Scouts of America

Steve Hemenway

City Attorney, Bert Osborn, said the standard procedure is to deny the claim and forward it to ICRMP, the City's insurance carrier. There was discussion regarding paying the Hemenway's because the claimants door had been knocked in by the police department. It was mentioned the City's annual premium is not affected by the number of claims. Councilman Heleker moved to deny the claims as presented and forward them to ICRMP, the City's insurance carrier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mussell and passed by a roll call vote. Council members Williams and Klitch voted no on the Steve Hemenway claim.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Henderson said he will be appointing Mary Cordova as Clerk/Municipal Services Coordinator at the 1st meeting in January for a period of one year.

Claude Bruce, audience member, asked why it is so difficult to get on the agenda, why the public can't ask questions during a Council meeting and why the Citizen's Input item was taken off of the agenda. Mayor Henderson said the Council meeting is a business meeting, not a public hearing. If a citizen has an issue or complaint they can go through the procedures and be placed on the agenda. If action needs to be taken, the item needs to be on the agenda. Many times citizens would ask something or request something that can't be handled until the next meeting anyhow. Sollie Callender said the public is allowed 3 minutes for comments, questions and answers in a public hearing and that is not enough time. There was discussion about the Council receiving their packets on Thursday rather than Friday to allow them more time to prepare for the meeting.

ADJOURN

Councilman Heleker moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams and passed by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting ended at 8:40 P.M.

Mayor Doug Henderson

ATTEST: _____
Mary Cordova, City Clerk