

HOMEDALE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Homedale City Hall
31 W. Wyoming Street

November 13th, 2024

6:00p.m.

Council Meeting Minutes

Presiding: Mayor Gheen Christoffersen

Council Present: Steve Atkins, Aaron Tines, Kim Murray (on phone), Mike Aebischer

Staff Attending: Alice E Pegram, Jeff Eidemiller, Jacob Hyer

Guests: See Attached

Attorney: Stephanie Bonnie

Approve Agenda Discussion/ Action: Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the agenda; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Motion carried by full Council.

Approve Council Meeting Minutes from the October 9th, 2024, Meeting: Discussion/Action: Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Motion carried by full Council.

Golden Howl – Golden Retriever Festival, Discussion/Action: Kimberly Rodriguez reported on the results of the Golden Howl in October, 2024. She stated they recd. \$18,000 in donations. (\$250 from the High School kids) She asked about reserving the park October 11th, 2025. The Mayor and Council discussed the car show being in October and they should have first pick of the dates. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the Golden Retriever Festival in October with the date to be determined after the Car show picks their date, Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Aebischer seconded. Motion carried by full council.

Mayor Christoffersen closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing:
Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant for City's Water System:
Andrew Kimmel spoke about the reason for the \$500,000 proposed block grant. (see attached) Andrew said they will be replacing several dead-end lines and several older lines. The City will be putting in a new well and well house by the old well on Ustick.

There were several High School Seniors in attendance and some of their questions were:
will the water taste better; not really,
more water pressure; some areas,
will the cost go up; yes, but not as much as the sewer rates increased,
what is the life expectancy: approx. 20 years for the well and 40 years for the pipe
will there be a shut down while the tank is painted; yes, but not more than 8 hours,
will the streets be dug up to replace pipes; some streets will be dug up.

Mayor Christoffersen thanked the HS Seniors for their participation.

Mayor Christoffersen closed the public hearing and reopened the regular meeting.

Community Development Block Grant Application – Discussion/Action:

Mayor Christoffersen asked the Council if they had any questions; none. Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the Community Development Block Grant Application; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Full Council approved the motion.

Police Report: Jeff reported they had 3 of the participants in the drive by shooting that took place. Councilman Tines commended the Homedale police and other agencies for their efforts in a quick response.

Public Works Report: All Public Works Items are Discussion/Action Items:

Jacob spoke about each of the following:

1. Grease Trap/Interceptor Action Item: Would like it to be mandatory at my discretion on all Commercial Kitchens in our City limits to have Grease Trap/Interceptors installed by June 2025 and routine inspection by my department thereafter.

He spoke about the need for grease traps/interceptors in the restaurants. He added they spent \$2,000 to have two lift stations cleaned of grease. Our current ordinance states it is at the City's discretion about the need; he feels we should send out letters to the restaurants giving them a date to comply and he would like the Council's backing. Jacob added we need to draw up a plan for enforcement, but he would like to start with the letter. Stephanie suggested we need to develop a fee. The Council agreed and asked him to reach out to the restaurants and let them know what will be expected.

2. First Responder Action Item: Would like the Council to publicly acknowledge that the Homedale Public Works Department is a recognized First Responder Group for our City. (see attached)

Jacob explained the benefits of recognizing the Homedale Public Works Dept. as first responders; it will open opportunities for grants and other funding. He added they are first on the scene sometimes. (Example: a lady was in the river, removing downed trees) He said they could train with the police or fire dept. on some first aid training; also, some equipment could be purchased at a sizable discount if they are listed as first responders. He added the Federal Government recognized public works departments as first responders in 2003. Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to recognize Homedale Public Works Department as first responders; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Motion carried by full Council. Jeff added he could add them as part of the Homedale Action Plan for Homedale.

3. Lemna Service Contract Action Item: Approval for the City to go into contract with Lemna Environmental Technology for Bi-Annual Site Visit Services for a sum of \$10,400.00. (see attached)

Jacob spoke about the contract with Lemna Service. They will do the maintenance for the lagoons; they will do sludge testing and double check the care of the lagoons. They do the maintenance for other City lagoons. Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the contract, Councilman Aebischer made the motion and Councilwoman Murray seconded. Motion passed by the full Council.

4. GPR Purchase Action Item: Would like approval to Purchase a Leica DS2000 at the cost of \$19000.00

Jacob spoke about the need for a ground penetrating radar. He said it would save the city money. He could use it to map all pipes, their diameter and construction, they could mark the citizens' water and sewer lines. It's about the size of a lawn mower. The company would like to come and do a demonstration if the city is seriously considering the purchase of \$19,000.

The full council suggested having the company come and do a demonstration, they would consider the purchase.

Jacob added the guys are working on the park for the Christmas parade.

Engineer Report:

Andrew spoke about the following:

1 Transportation Plan Funding: Discussion/Action: Andrew said this will be necessary for the LHTAC grant. The grant is up to \$50,000 with an approx. 10% match. They have about 3 weeks to get the grant in. They need letters of support from other highway districts. Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve applying for the Transportation Grant Funding; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Motion approved by full Council.

2 Wastewater Engineering Amendment: Discussion/Action: After the system was running, they discovered high water flows going into the lagoon. The issue was a section of town that was not part of the project. It was determined to be from ground water coming from some of the manholes. USDA said we could repair them as part of the bid, but we must put it out for public bid. The amendment is to put together the plan, engineering fees, specifications and put it out to bid. The project will pay for smoke testing on some of the manholes and then seal the ones that need it. Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the wastewater engineering amendment; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded. Motion carried by full Council.

City Hall Update: P & Z Report: Alice reported several projects were in process, but they are not far enough along to report on.

Attorney Report: No report

Mayor and Council Member Report

Approve the Bills Discussion/Action.

Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to approve the bills; Councilman Tines made the motion and Councilman Atkins seconded; motion carried by full council.

Executive Session: in Accordance with Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (c): To acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency:

Mayor Christoffersen asked for a motion to go into executive session, roll call

Councilman Atkins yes

Councilman Tines yes

Councilman Aebischer yes


Councilwoman Murray yes

Full Council approved:

Mayor Christoffersen adjourned the meeting.



Mayor Gheen Christoffersen

Attest: 

Alice E. Pegram, City Clerk