

City of Glenns Ferry City Council Meeting September 22, 2020

The regular City Council meeting of the City of Glenns Ferry was opened and called to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, September 22, 2020, by Mayor Monty White.

Members Present: Dani Martinez, Kenny Thompson, Billy Galloska, Mayor Monty White

Staff Present: Teresa Parsons, Johnny Hernandez, Jennifer Trail, Derik Janousek, Christy Acord

Others Present: Monica Janousek, David & Annette Payne, Donn Carnahan, Mickie Zuiderveld, Sheriff Hollinshead

To observe appropriate social distancing guidelines, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the public joined the City Council Meeting remotely from their computer, tablet or smartphone.

Public was invited to join from their computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Item 1. OPEN MEETING/ROLL CALL:

Parsons: Roll call.

Susan Case Dani Martinez Ken Thompson Billy Galloska
 Mayor Monty White

For the Record: Councilwoman Case – Absent

Item 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Item 3. MOTION TO: [ACTION ITEM]: Adopt Agenda:

Item 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Please Sign in to Speak: For information purposes only on items not placed on the agenda. No action or decision can be made on public comments. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. *SEE BELOW*****

Item 5. MOTION TO: [ACTION ITEM] Consent Agenda.

A. City Council Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2020.

B. Accounts Payables for September 2020.

C. Library Board Meeting Minutes for August 3, 2020.

Thompson: I'll make said motion.

Martinez: I'll second.

Mayor White: All in favor, all-ayes.

Item 6. ITEMS MOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

Item 7. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Donn Carnahan: Keller Associates: Airport (U89) Improvements: Project #216044-004: Invoice #0000009: \$10,746.

Carnahan: The Airport is now at a spot where Central Paving can come back in, soft spots were repaired, fixed up combination of the City and the (inaudible). Central Paving is planning somewhere around the 12th or 16th October to come in and do the paving. Keller Associates also donated over \$11,000 of labor and effort towards the City match with aeronautics also. They will have a day or two of grading, and a day or two of paving.

Thompson: What about the runway, the aprons out front?

Carnahan: The apron and taxi ways, the aeronautic was successful with getting the additional grant for that, but they wanted us to get through the airport, before they have us take on the aprons.

Hernandez: We got a lot of material out of there and a lot of material back in, thanks to Justin and his staff.

Martinez: We are already budgeted for that amount?

Mayor: Yes.

Martinez: I'll make the motion.

Galloska: Second.

Mayor White: All in favor, all-ayes.

Item 8. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Christy Acord: Chamber of Commerce: Strawbales Along Commercial.

Acord: I am asking permission to place ten (10) strawbales along Commercial by the lap posts down to Smiths Hometown Hardware. It would begin October 1st through about Thanksgiving Holiday, it would be for our Fall Harvest competition. This is individuals to be able to decorate a strawbale for our competition and it would be for a fund raiser for the Chamber of Commerce.

Thompson: This question is for you Johnny, how do you feel about strawbales, you'll have to clean up after.

Hernandez: It's fine.

Martinez: I'll make the motion to do strawbales.

Thompson: Second.

Mayor White: All in favor, all-ayes.

Item 9. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Christy Acord: Chamber of Commerce: 2020 Wine Walk: Street Closure.

Acord: We are planning a wine walk in town. We were talking about possible closing the street between Hanses and the Log Cabin building, just for the Wine Walk. I don't think the girls are going to have any live entertainment for that event.

Zuiderveld: As far as I know there is going to be no live entertainment, we are going to play music at the Chamber Corner which will not affect the streets.

Acord: So, we don't have to worry about closing the street.

Zuiderveld: No.

Item 10. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Mayor White: Office Closed/Open on Fridays.

Mayor: I have a citizen call me again and wanted me to put this about the offices being open or closed. I have no problem bringing that back up. To tell you the truth, I have only had four people that have ever approached me about being closed on Fridays. I looked up the reasoning behind why they closed it to four (4) days a week. Originally, we were supposed to open at 7 but not open to the public till 8, and run until 5:30. Right now it is open to the public at 7 does not close down at noon and we run till 5:30, four (4) days a week. I don't know if the Council wants to bring this up. Since I have been Mayor, I have had three or four people not happy with the hours at the office, but it seems to work well for us. I think the people have more than enough time to do business Monday through Thursday. This wouldn't affect the road crew because I am adamant that we stay to a ten (10) hour day, four (4) days a week with those folks, because we get out there water pipe breaks late in the afternoon, they can stay. Whereas if we had eight (8) hour days we would be spending a lot more money on overtime. My other thing is, we only have...

Teresa is the Clerk/Treasurer, she is available to fill in because that is where she came from, she knows how to run that up there. We only have one full time and one part time person Monday through Thursday. She comes in at 9 and leaves at 3. This would impact, if one person gets sick or Lori is out, and I have to bring that part time person back in or I have to pull Teresa off her duties. Which we shouldn't be doing, she is the Clerk/Treasurer and there is plenty of work there. It would put an impact on how, whether we entertain hiring somebody full time, so we have two full time positions out there. I just don't recommend

that, unless there is a great swell of people that come in here and tell me that they are being impacted somehow, I'm not inclined to change. If the Council decides they want it open five days a week, I will do it, it is a Council decision. It is not a Council decision on what hours, that falls to me. Is there any discussion?

Thomson: At one point in time, I was wanting us to have a five-day week. As I have been on the Council, I have changed my mind, I no longer feel that way.

Hernandez: I was to put input on Public Works, kind of what I have seen. A lot of people come in after work and it really helps people being open so late. A lot of our calls for example, are turn on and shut off are when people get home from work. So, it would affect it a lot. Even here at the office, burning after hours most of the crew would be gone at 2:30/3:30 at that is the time most people come home from work and realize we have a leak or they need to get ahold of someone. So, by being open until 5:30 really helps, I think the people in the town, the working folks. The people that are retired or stay at home it doesn't affect those people either way. That just what I have seen, firsthand here in the office with the girls and out in the field. So, you are going loose somewhere, if you expand it more, you are going to lose it somewhere.

Thompson: I think there are pros and cons, on either side of the picture.

Mayor: I do too. I can live with it, or I can stay with it. What I am trying to say is, I haven't seen any reason to change. I haven't had a great of many people come to me and say this is really impacted me. I've only had three or four people that have talked to me about it. One of the people, I could understand his frustration because he was trying to sell a house, he needed some information for City Hall. Finally got ahold of me, which is why I put the system in there. If you call down here at midnight and push four (4) its going to ring at my house. So that's what he did, he finally frustrated, pushed number four, it rang down there. I rallied the troops we came down and go the information for him. It was frustrating for that person, yes, but we accommodated him. I would say that there is very few Mayors that your can push four and get them at their house.

Thompson: Probably not. The other thing is, it could happen to him on Tuesday, it just happened to be Friday.

Mayor: I can go either way. Lori and them, she didn't express, she expressed frustration they feel like they are going one hundred miles an hour, but she said if the Council wants that, then she will make every effort to make it work.

Thompson: The other thing is, it has been about ten years we've been on this.

Mayor: Eleven.

Thompson: By now most people really should be, excepting.

Mayor: I guess the Council would reconsider if we got an upswell in people and letters being written, that we wanted to stay open on Fridays, but that hasn't occurred. I'm not saying it won't. We put this out, I told the people we would put it on the Agenda, and here it is.

Martinez: I agree with the four-day weeks, I think it gives them a lot better, but if a lot more people complaining that they are not open at a decent time, maybe one of the ten hours days, open at nine and stay till seven, or something to accommodate more. I don't agree with the five-day work week.

Mayor: We as a staff would make every effort to accommodate those people if they have something after hours or there's... I get it if you have a real estate deal coming down and you can't get information, it's a panic situation for you, because you may not get that sold. I understand that. We made every effort to get that information for him. Any other discussion?

Thompson: Let's leave it alone.

Mayor: Ok.

Martinez: I agree.

Mayor: Thank you.

Item 11. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Mayor White: Adopt Ordinance. Amending Section 5-3B-1 of the Glenns Ferry Code. Relating to Keeping of Animals Within the City to Require an Administrative Permit for the Keeping of Youth Development Project Animals.

Mayor: Some years back they passed an Ordinance in Glenns Ferry that had a sunset clause on it, that dealt with the keeping of 4H animals inside the City Limits. If I remember right, those were the days when I didn't pay much attention on what was going on in the City, there was quite a firestorm, very angry on both sides, maybe you were here Kenny?

Thompson: I was right part, in the middle of it.

Mayor: There was some push and shove. Now we have one person that files a year for a permit to keep his 4H animals at his house inside the City Limits. I believe there is probably 4H animals within the City Limits that we are not aware of. Nor are we going to go patrol to try to find these people. We will correct the Ordinance if we had a complaint or something like that. I that is about the best background I got. We either reauthorize the Ordinance or its sunsets right now, its over with. That would make all the animals fall back to what's on the books now.

Thompson: Right, they would be allowed to have animals here in town.

Mayor: They would not be able to have animals inside the City Limits.

Galloska: Can I ask why there was a sunset clause placed?

Thompson: Because it was such a controversial thing. The idea at the time was to make sure that it was going to work and everyone was going to be happy with it and I don't think it really worked, but again its not hurting anything either. If you had my vote for it, I would probably vote against it, I don't think it does anything. Other than I like the one person that get a permit every year, and we don't need to have them break the law.

Galloska: Not only that but if the people did start following the rule, or God forbid they decided they don't need to follow the rule because it is not enforced, then somebody complains because we don't put it back in, now we have a whole bunch of people (inaudible).

Martinez: Now we have the Ordinance person, so if there is a complaint about an animal, he can go enforce the rule, then they can go get the permit.

Thompson: Actually, it falls on the Animal Control Officer.

Mayor: Yes, it does.

Thompson: She is the one that is supposed to enforce this particular Ordinance.

Mayor: If you guys would like to table it, I know I kind of wacked you with this, maybe you want to do some research. We wouldn't have to have this back in effect until sometime in April.

Thompson: Right because 4H won't be in until.

Mayor: The pigs come on around April, sheep's in May. Steers will be sometime in February.

Parsons: If they don't pass it, does that mean there is not 4H anymore.

Mayor: Yes, if they don't pass this Ordinance some place between now and when the animals show up then we have to go back to the City Ordinance, the way I read it.

Thompson: In reality we should be back already, because this Ordinance isn't affective.

Mayor: Correct.

Thompson: It only had a two (2) years life, and the two years were gone up.

Mayor: Would you like to table it and study it, bring it back?

Martinez: I would like the animals to be in town for 4H and stuff like that. So, we can table it now and have the Animal Control Officer come into a meeting.

Galloska: I think that we have to talk to our Attorney as well, find out if it is even legal for us to reinstate it at this point.

Mayor: I have already talked to the Attorney a little bit about this and what we would have to do is go back, just like it was a new Ordinance. We would have to do two or three readings by title and then we would vote and then if would go to the codifiers. You guys can put a sunset clause on it or take it off.

Thompson: I am with her, I think Dena needs to come in and tell us how well, how it works for her.

Martinez: Or not, what we can do to help her enforce that to get it (inaudible).

Mayor: I get a sense that the Council wants to study it a little more.

Thompson: I make a motion that we table it until next Council.

Martinez: I'll second.

Mayor White: All in favor, all-eyes.

Item 12. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Mayor White. Adopt Ordinance. Amending Section 8-4-1, Chapter 4, Title 8 of the Glenns Ferry City Code. Trees and Shrubbery. (ROLL CALL VOTE).

Mayor: Ordinance will be read three different days. All by title only September 8th, September 22nd, and October 13th. This is the Second Reading, is there any discussion, if any?

Thompson: Second reading by title only which reads: AN ORDINANCE ON THE CITY OF GLENN'S FERRY, IDAHO AMENDING SECTION 8-4-1, CHAPTER 4, TITLE 8 OF THE GLENN'S FERRY CITY CODE, BY ADDING FROM SIDEWALK TO LOWEST BRANCH BE AT LEAST EIGHT (8) FEET ABOVE SIDEWALK AND THAT THE LOWEST BRANCH OVERHANGING A STREET OR ROAD BE AT LEAST FOURTEEN (14) FEET ABOVE THE STREET OR ROAD; ADDING A NEW SECTION PROVIDING THAT VIOLATIONS SHALL BE AN INFRACTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION BY SUMMARY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Item 13. DISCUSSION/MOTION: [ACTION ITEM] Mayor White: COVID-19 Update.

Mayor: The number I have seen are showing us staying about 350-380 new cases a day. I was not able to see if there was any deaths newly reported. I did get a phone call last night that said that we did have a active case her in the Schools of Glenns Ferry. School is closed today and tomorrow I believe.

Parsons: Yes.

Mayor: I haven't got anymore updates. People probably have more, kids in school probably have more updates than I have. If there is anything, I would entertain anything from the, anybody would like to put out that they know about the COVID-19, any of the situations that is going on right now. That is the information I have at this time. The little virus is still out there folks, I don't know what this will do, I don't know if this is just one case and it going to go away, or if we are going to have a spike here since the kids are back in school, I don't know what is going on there. At the Governors level we continue, he continues to monitor the situation and he has weekly meetings throughout the week. He gives updates there, this can all be found on the CDC Webpage. That is basically all the information that I have. If the Council has anything, they could share on COVID, I would be glad to hear.

Martinez: I just want to say, if you are sick or have a fever, you should probably stay home for at least ten (10) days.

Mayor: We encourage our staff here if they have any symptoms or sick in anyway that they should go home and not even report to work. Call me on the telephone we have lots of things we can do to help them so that they don't use up all their sick and annual leave. The City, we have the ability to put them on COVID-19 Administrative Leave. So, there is no reason for an employee to be sick and come to work. We try to alleviate that fear of people not having a paycheck.

Item 14. DISCUSSION/MOTION: DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT: [ACTION ITEM]

A. Sheriff Office – Sheriff Hollinshead/Lieutenant Burnett: Aug report 119 total events, 60 calls for service, 59 self-initiated events and 21 case numbers. That should bring us up to September which we will be reporting in two weeks. Are there any questions for us?

Thompson: What about the Code Enforcer?

Mayor: We are kind of in-between are we Sheriff? He goes to work for the City directly October 1st and he will be reporting directly to the Council at that time. Right now, we don't have a status on that, but we do know he is active. I get the phone calls to prove it.

Sheriff: Yes, I am working on it for you.

Mayor: I would like to publicly thank you for the other night, we had an incident down here at the City Hall. Officers did a great job, came immediately and took care of it. Tell the guys thanks, very professional.

Sherriff: Thank you, Mr. Mayor, I appreciate that.

B. Fire Chief – Derik Janousek: N/A

C. City Engineer – Keller Associates, Inc – Donn Carnahan, PE: Update on the 4th Street Bridge: Still waiting for that to get going from Cannon.

Thompson: So, by the middle of October, we will have our Airport back, so somebody can land on it?

Carnahan: That is what Central Paving has indicated to me yesterday.

Thompson: How does that affect our grant, is that still good?

Carnahan: Our grant is to the end of the year.

D. Public Works – Johnny Hernandez: A lot of water samples, ordered by DEQ, we just took ten samples. We picked certain locations, for certain reasons. We have done other sampling for DEQ for the sewer also. Patching this week. The airport was huge, with the limited crew and equipment we have, we did pretty good. Luckily, Justin came in with a bigger loader and bigger dump trucks, we were able to get it done in two days. Worked on some leaks. I have seen some good results out of Code Enforcement, houses get cleaned up a little bit. DEQ is emailing us, I purchased a tv for my office here to do webinars, not have to leave the city.

Mayor: How is the contract with Idaho Rural Water going?

Hernandez: It is going great, you know Jeff, he is training us, a lot of knowledge not only with he water plant but with the stuff we have here in town, but also stuff coming up in the future, rules and regulations. You will see two/three trucks at the water plant, training.

Mayor: All our sewer/water test are coming back great right?

Hernandez: Yes.

Mayor: We have not failed a test.

Hernandez: No. Everything is coming our really good, sewer high 90s, really clean. Important to do maintenance.

Thompson: How about the wash out there by the water plant?

Mayor: Donn gave me a purpose on what it would cost to bring in some people, plan how to do that. I am currently sitting on where we are going to pay for it. Probably have to bite the bullet and get that planned out.

E. Clerk/Treasurer – Teresa Parsons: I start conference for the next three days, its good training, its good refresher courses. I get to network with other Clerk/Treasurers around the state. It is all done online these last two conferences, which makes it nice, I am able to take more than one class in the same lotted time. We are getting toward the end of the fiscal year, I am working with the department heads getting all of our invoices in and coded to the right department, looking at least a month out so I can close out the end of the fiscal year and get audit set up, to come in and do their thing.

F. Economic Development – Christy Acord: Working on ordering all the park supplies and the equipment and getting a timeline set up to get the park installed at the museum. Updating Gem State Prospector, which is Idaho Department of Commerce, where we list all of our business listings. Updating all of that with all of our vacant business building in our area for sale or lease. Turned in our Carson City Shooting Range paperwork to the City attorney, for him to do the MOU/Lease agreement with the Elmore County Sportsman Association. I want to thank Johnny and the City Crew for helping me with this park, making sure we have everything together.

G. Librarian – Jennifer Trail: We did get approved to update our Wi-Fi network within our buildings, there was a grant opportunity. The computer company comes down and updates our routers, and how it sends out and everything. That will be happening, I think, the first week of November. It will shoot further into the parking lot and have a stronger signal. We are almost done with the 4/5-year-old kindergarten readiness program, then the 3/4-year-old program with start in October. The other grant we received, more global hotspots, chrome books tutor.com subscription, all of those things to support the businesses and schools, is starting to be set up. I'll have a training on how to use tutor.com, then we will start advertising it. Its going well.

H. Animal Control – Dena Marchant: Absent.

I. Airport Manager – Justin Wootan: Absent.

J. Historical Museum – Donna Carnahan: Absent.

K. Planning & Zoning – Kt Carpenter: Absent.

Item 15. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor: I continue to keep the staff separated here at the office. Lori is in here every day, Monday through Thursday. Kristian is in the office over lapping, of course making sure we stay distancing. Teresa is working from home, but she does come down to the office after hours. I pretty much slip in in the afternoon, starting next week I will probably be in a few more hours in the afternoon, but I will try to limit my exposure also. I have an office set up at my house, everybody that has wanted a meeting has met at gazebo at least once or twice. I will start coming into the office more, but I am going to limit my exposure as much as I can. I am in constant contact, probably more than these ladies and gentlemen like, we have our teleconferences Mondays and Thursday mornings. We discuss everything that is going on and for the week. I don't that there is really any disconnect, since we have the phones and computers. If you have some concerns about what we are doing and stuff, please give me a call. We only have two full time and one part time person out here, if one of them get sick. Lori and Teresa are somewhat cross trained, but there is nothing says that this COVID19 that both of them could be out at the same time. I tell ya, that would put a real crutch on the City's operation real fast. I maybe overcautious, but I'll continue to keep them separated, until this thing shakes out one way or the other.

Thompson: N/A.

Martinez: I keep hearing you say, how busy the girls are, it there a need for another full-time person.

Mayor: No, I think we can run it the way that it is as long as we continue the way we are. I wouldn't recommend increasing the staff right now. Johnny is shorthanded. I know Johnny is looking for people for the Crew.

Thompson: Fifty percent down.

Hernandez: I haven't had a day off for a long time.

Galloska: N/A.

Item 16. ADJOURN: [ACTION ITEM]

Martinez: I'll make the motion.

Galloska: I'll second.

Mayor White: All in favor, all -ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Approved by the City Council: _____ / _____ / _____

Monty R. White – Mayor

Attest: _____
Teresa Parsons - Clerk/Treasurer