

This regular meeting of the Jerome City Council was called to order by Mayor Davis at 5:30 p.m. While council chambers were open to the public, the meeting was also held by teleconference and the public was encouraged to continue with social distancing. The video conference was conducted via Zoom and was made available to all members of the public in a format that allowed all participants to hear the meeting, including all deliberations by members of the Council and other speakers addressing the Council, whether in person or via virtual connection, and to comment if so desired, all of which was noted in the agenda, email, and notices at council chambers and on the city's website.

Present: Mayor David M. Davis, Councilman Chris Barber, Councilman Jason Peterson, Councilman Brent "Oop" Johnson, and Councilman Bryan Craig.

Also present were staff members: City Clerk Bernadette Coderniz, Legal Counsel Ted Larsen, City Administrator Mike Williams, City Engineer Tyson Carpenter, Public Works Director, Brian Ahrens, Building Official Dave Richey, Wastewater Director Gilbert Sanchez, IS Director Carlos Hernandez, Finance Director Ross Hyatt, Accounting and Budget Manager Lori McCrae, Human Resources and Planning Services Director Esmeralda Chavez, and Police Captain Anthony Gratzer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Davis led the audience in recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**INVOCATION:**

An invocation was given by Reverend Dick Goetsch with the Calvary Episcopal Church.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Those items contained in the consent calendar are as follows:

1. Approve the minutes of the May 16, 2023 regular meeting
2. Approve DEQ-WW1403 and DEQ-WW1502 loan payments
3. Approve purchase of Sulzer XFP 33HP Pump for the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Councilman Barber made the motion to approve the consent calendar as presented.. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Craig. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Craig, Councilman Barber, Councilman Johnson, and Councilman Peterson. **NAYS:** None.

**FREEDOM FEST 2023 – LANTIS PRODUCTIONS:**

Ms. Coderniz stated the agreement before the Council is for the public display of fireworks at Freedom Fest. Lantis Productions provided the fireworks for last year's show and there were no known issues. Upon approval and execution of the agreement a 50% deposit will be sent with the balance due just prior to the show. Mr. Williams confirmed the Jerome School District has approved use of the grounds for the fireworks show. Upon inquiry by Mayor Davis, Ms. Coderniz confirmed the cost of the show is the same as in 2022.

Councilman Barber made the motion to approve contract with Lantis Productions, Inc. for the public display of fireworks at the 2023 Freedom Fest Fireworks show and authorize the mayor to execute the same. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Peterson. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Craig, Councilman Barber, Councilman Johnson, and Councilman Peterson. **NAYS:** None.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilman Barber announced a Community Spirit Committee meeting will be held tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

Councilman Craig inquired if the public works department was fully staff with seasonal help, and Mr. Ahrens stated staff is still short by two seasonal employees but the parks are fully staffed. Additionally, parks staff have been and will continue to spray for weeds around the trees rather than utilize a weed eater. Councilman Craig spoke of weeds in alleys and resident responsibilities, and Mr. Williams stated an article was printed in the Northside Journal addressing weed control and maintenance. He also spoke of weeds in the City parking lot behind the CSI Jerome Center along with those at the library, and Mr. Ahrens stated staff will be getting those under control. Regarding a water leak last week, Mr. Williams stated a water line was hit by the contractor working on the new police station. Mr. Ahrens stated staff has pressure-washed the sidewalks, and noted that staff will attempt to utilize a borrowed street sweeper while the City sweeper is out for repairs. Councilman Craig requested an update on the street sweeper repairs, and Mr. Ahrens stated the quote for repairs came to approximately \$35,000. The repairs will be further discussed during upcoming budget meetings. He also spoke of quotes to purchase an additional sweeper. One will fit the bike path and will most likely be purchased at a future date; Mr. Ahrens stated the end goal is to have two street sweepers available.

Mayor Davis spoke of the first meeting in July scheduled for Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Council agreed to move the meeting to Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Coderniz will make note of this change and ample notice will be given to the public.

Councilman Peterson inquired about traffic patterns at the new school site, and Mr. Williams stated the access points will be off of S. Tiger Drive, and E. Avenue D. Site plans have been approved.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mr. Williams stated staff is going through initial department budget meetings. A budget workshop will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>; this meeting last year proved to be beneficial for both Council and department heads. Budget books will be available for review prior to the workshop.

Several significant City projects are scheduled this year with some occurring now and others to commence later in the year. Mr. Williams suggested that a project tour be held on August 29<sup>th</sup> to see improvements to the new headworks facility along with updates on the water tank and park projects expected to begin later in the year. Council agreed to hold a special meeting for the projects tour rather than include the tour as part of a regular Council meeting.

Mr. Williams also spoke of the Community Spirit Committee meeting to be held tomorrow; the committee will discuss details of the upcoming Freedom Fest to be held on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and he thanked Council for approving the fireworks contract earlier this evening. He stated the fire department was pleased with the communication efforts of Lantis Productions last year. The committee will also discuss the Carl Nellis Day of Service which will be held on September 10<sup>th</sup> (the National Day of Service is September 11<sup>th</sup>). Clean up projects will be held in honor of

Carl Nellis, and Mr. Williams advised Council to advise of any specific areas or projects needing attention.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilman Barber made the motion to enter into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated at 5:47 p.m. Second to the motion was made by Councilman Johnson. After consideration, the motion passed unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Councilman Craig, Councilman Barber, Councilman Johnson, and Councilman Peterson. **NAYS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being nothing further to discuss, Mayor Davis reconvened and adjourned this June 6, 2023 regular meeting of the Jerome City Council at 6:12 p.m.

By:

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Mayor David M. Davis

Attest:

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Bernadette Coderniz, City Clerk