

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANDPOINT CITY COUNCIL
January 3, 2018

OPENING Mayor Rognstad called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, in the Council chambers at City Hall, 1123 Lake Street.

ROLL CALL Council members Ruehle, Aitken, Camp, Williamson and Eddy were present. Councilman Snedden was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Rognstad led the Council and the public in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Administrator Jennifer Stapleton introduced Nicole Goes as the City's new Human Resources Director/Risk Manager. Available positions within three City Departments will be posted within the next two weeks.

Mayor Rognstad acknowledged that this is Councilman Camp's final attendance as City Council member. He stated that Councilman Camp brought a lively and diverse debate and a fresh perspective to Council. He noted that he overcame a challenging illness during his term. **Councilman Camp** commented that several changes have been made during his term, particularly with the appointment of a new City Administrator. This has been a good accomplishment, as it changed our City from an old regiment to modern technology. He said there will be challenges for City Council and City staff for the next four years. He advised the new Council members to rely on City staff's wealth of knowledge and get to know City employees. He noted that, three years ago in January, he received the news that he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He thanked everyone for their prayers and well wishes, which helped him overcome his struggles during surgery and treatment. He suggested reinstating the invocations at the beginning of the City Council meetings. He thanked everyone for their support.

PUBLIC FORUM

Constance Albrecht, Sandpoint resident, stated that there will be air quality challenges in Sandpoint due to the proposed silica smelter plant near Newport, Washington. Due to weather patterns, pollutants from the smelter plant will travel to our area. There are articles and information on-line regarding the proposed smelter plant. A citizen group was formed in Idaho opposing the proposed smelter although Idaho has no permitting power. The stack at the smelter plant will not only release silica heavy metals, carbon dioxide and nitroxide, there will also be large stock piles of silica transported from Canada on Highway 95. These materials could be transported by rail or by truck. She encouraged the City to oppose the proposed silica plant by resolution. In the past, Sandpoint was designated as a nonattainment air quality area. She asked if the City wants to go back to nonattainment of air quality as a result of a silica smelter plant that will be located on the other side of the state line.

Michael Moll, Sandpoint resident, noted he was a former weather forecaster in the military for 20 years. A majority of the prevailing winds from Newport travel northeast with 40% of the winds coming from the southwest. When an inversion of winds occurs, as it did during the forest fires in Montana last summer, pollutants from the smelter plant will be trapped in Sandpoint. The amount of product transported by trucks will amount to 60,000 tons of finished product per year from the smelter with 2,400 truckloads hauled per year. There will be 318,000 tons of raw product hauled by rail or truck with 12,000 truckloads per year. This will equal to 83 trucks per day that will travel on

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Highway 2.

Pat Rademacher, Sandpoint resident, thanked Councilman Camp for his years of service on City Council and his support on railroad quiet zones in Sandpoint. He noted that trains traveling through town have become much quieter. He said he spoke with Christine at the Federal Railroad Administration in Tacoma, Washington. He hoped that Christine had an opportunity to communicate with the City's Public Works Director. He acknowledged Emma Lou Hook's service on City Council who served on Council from 1976 through 1980.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilwoman Williamson moved that items A-1 through B be approved. **Councilman Camp seconded the motion.**

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

Councilwoman Ruehle	Yes
Councilman Aitken	Yes
Councilman Snedden	Absent
Councilman Camp	Yes
Councilwoman Williamson	Yes
Councilman Eddy	Yes

The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Council present.

A MINUTES

A-1 City Council regular minutes of December 20, 2017

A-2 Sustainability Committee minutes of August 17, 2017

B Bills in the total amount of \$145,010.13 for regular payables.

NEW BUSINESS

C. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

City Clerk Maree Peck administered the oath of office to Shannon Williamson, Joel Aispuro and John Darling (four-year term) for City Council. Each signed their oath and received a certificate of election from the Mayor.

H. ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Eddy nominated Councilwoman Williamson for Council President. **Councilwoman Ruehle seconded the nomination.** **Councilwoman Williamson** accepted the nomination and to continue her service as Council President.

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

Councilman Eddy	Yes
Councilwoman Ruehle	Yes
Councilman Aitken	Yes
Councilwoman Williamson	Yes
Councilman Darling	Yes
Councilman Aispuro	Yes

The motion passed unanimously by Council.

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E. REQUEST SEWER CHARGE REDUCTION AT 102 SUPERIOR STREET

Councilman Aitken moved that City Council approve the recommendation from the Public Works Department to waive the sewer charge in excess of normal usage for the two months when the leak was present at 102 Superior Street. **Councilwoman Ruehle seconded the motion.**

A roll call vote of Council resulted as follows:

Councilwoman Williamson	Yes
Councilman Eddy	Yes
Councilwoman Ruehle	Yes
Councilman Aitken	Yes
Councilman Aispuro	Yes
Councilman Darling	Yes

The motion passed unanimously by Council.

F. RESOLUTION NO. 18-01 – RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

Councilwoman Williamson moved that City Council approve the proposed resolution, Resolution in Support of the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Application. **Councilman Eddy seconded the motion.**

A roll call vote of Council resulted as follows:

Councilman Darling	Yes
Councilwoman Williamson	Yes
Councilman Eddy	Yes
Councilwoman Ruehle	Yes
Councilman Aitken	Yes
Councilman Aispuro	Yes

The motion passed unanimously by Council.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Shelby Rognstad, Mayor

ATTEST:

Maree Peck, City Clerk