



FINAL / APPROVED

CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Shelby Rognstad presiding in Council chambers at Sandpoint City Hall, 1123 West Lake Street, Sandpoint, Idaho.

Due to COVID-19 social-distancing requirements at City Hall, 25 seats were available to the public in Council chambers. All seats were filled, and additional members of the public remained present outside the building during the course of the meeting. Many others participated remotely online or by phone, and the City also live-streamed the meeting online.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilors Shannon Williamson*, Deb Ruehle*, Joel Aispuro, John Darling, Kate McAlister, Andy Groat

Absent: none – all present

**participated remotely*

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Item Number:	7A PRESENTATION
Topic:	COVID-19 Update from Panhandle Health District

Don Duffy, who is the Panhandle Health District Health Services Administrator and Incident Commander for COVID-19 Response, provided an update on COVID-19 and fielded questions from the Mayor and Council members. Information only. No Council action.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Several members of the public spoke and addressed the Mayor and City Council on a variety of topics.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Item Number:	6A APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Topic:	July 15, 2020, Regular Meeting

Item Number:	6B APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Topic:	July 22, 2020, Special Meeting/Budget Workshop

Item Number:	6C APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Topic:	July 29, 2020, Special Meeting/Budget Workshop

Item Number:	6D APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Topic:	August 5, 2020, Special Meeting/Executive Session

Item Number:	6E APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
Topic:	August 12, 2020, Special Meeting/Fees Workshop

Item Number:	6F APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT
	\$1,443,210.50 (\$770,909.33 for regular payables and \$672,301.17 for payroll)

Item Number:	6G MONTHLY REPORT
Topic:	Treasurer's Monthly Report on Cash and Investment Transactions – June 2020

Item Number:	6H RESOLUTION 20-036
Topic:	Audit Engagement Letter for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020
Description:	Approval to engage Magnuson, McHugh & Company, P.A., for the City's annual audit.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Passed
Moved by:	Groat
Seconded by:	Aispuro
Voted Yes:	Williamson, Ruehle, Aispuro, Darling, McAlister, Groat
Voted No:	
Abstained:	
Absent:	

7. OLD BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Item Number:	7B PUBLIC HEARING
Topic:	FY2021 Budget and Intent to Reserve Right to Recover Forgone Increase in Subsequent Year

Mayor Rognstad reported that, on July 15, 2020, Council adopted the preliminary budget, declared intent to reserve the right to recover the forgone increase in a subsequent year and, pursuant to Idaho Code § 50-1002, scheduled a public hearing for this meeting, with notice published twice in the Bonner County Daily Bee.

City Administrator Jennifer Stapleton reported that two budget workshops had been held previously and provided a brief presentation on the FY2021 Budget. With the City's decision to participate in the State of Idaho's Property Tax Relief Program (Resolution 20-032), City of Sandpoint property tax payers will see an estimated \$926,127 in property tax relief (\$91.85 per \$100,000 taxable property valuation, with homeowner's exemption claimed). Because City staff was still awaiting firm figures and final reporting forms from the State, staff recommended approval of the FY2021 Budget, as presented, but that Council table adoption of the Annual Appropriation Ordinance and approval of the Resolution to Reserve the Right to Recover Forgone Increase in a Subsequent Year. She also addressed questions surrounding the \$200,000 set aside for park property acquisition, confirming that these funds are not yet allocated to the purchase of any specific piece of property.

Mayor Rognstad announced the public hearing rules and procedure and opened the public hearing to accept public testimony on the FY2021 Budget and the City's Intent to Reserve the Right to Recover the Forgone Increase in a Subsequent Year. No one testified, and the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Item Number:	7C PROPOSED ORDINANCE
Topic:	Annual Appropriation Ordinance, FY2021
Description:	Pursuant to Idaho Code § 50-1003, City Council shall, prior to the commencement of the new fiscal year, pass an ordinance to be termed the annual appropriation ordinance.

Item Number:	7D PROPOSED RESOLUTION
Topic:	Reserve the Right to Recover Forgone Increase in a Subsequent Year
Description:	Pursuant to Idaho Code § 63-802(1)(f), if the City elects to budget less than the maximum allowable increase in the dollar amount of property taxes, it may reserve the right to recover all or any portion of that year's forgone increase in a subsequent year by adoption of a resolution specifying the dollar amount of property taxes being reserved.

Motion to approve the FY2021 Budget, as presented. A brief discussion ensued, with Ms. Stapleton and Mayor Rognstad fielding questions from City Council.

Result:	Passed
Moved by:	McAlister
Seconded by:	Groat
Voted Yes:	Williamson, Ruehle, Aispuro, Darling, McAlister, Groat
Voted No:	
Abstained:	
Absent:	

Motion to table items 7C and 7D until Council's next regular meeting on September 2, 2020.

Result:	Passed
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Moved by:	Darling
Seconded by:	Groat
Voted Yes:	Williamson, Ruehle, Aispuro, Darling, McAlister, Groat
Voted No:	
Abstained:	
Absent:	

8. NEW BUSINESS

Item Number:	8A PRESENTATION
Topic:	Treasurer’s Quarterly Financial Report 06/30/2020

Finance Director Sarah Lynds provided a brief presentation, and several members of the public commented. Some were not allowed to continue when it was determined that their comments were not germane to this topic and/or pertained to COVID-19/masks, a topic about which Council was specifically not taking verbal comments during this meeting, as noted on the meeting agenda.

Item Number:	8B REQUEST FOR MASK MANDATE IN CITY OF SANDPOINT
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Councilwoman Ruehle provided a brief presentation regarding her request, followed by a motion for City Council to adopt an ordinance creating Title 4, Chapter 9, Sandpoint City Code, granting the Mayor temporary emergency powers to preserve the public health in response to the COVID-19 virus, specifically to issue an order requiring social distancing and masks or face coverings where social distancing cannot be maintained in the City of Sandpoint.

Mayor Rognstad called for a second. In response to a question from Councilman Aispuro, City Attorney Andrew Doman clarified that debate could proceed without a second.

Councilwoman Williamson seconded the motion, and discussion ensued, with the Mayor and all Council members weighing in and Mr. Duffy, Police Chief Corey Coon, and Ms. Stapleton fielding questions. The City Clerk reported that Council had received 883 comments from the public over the course of the preceding few days prior to the meeting and provided a breakdown of the number supporting a mask mandate and the number in opposition, as follows:

Total Number of Comments	883
Total in favor	415
<i>In favor - City resident</i>	102
<i>In favor - not a City resident</i>	72
<i>In favor - residency unknown</i>	241
Total not in favor	470
<i>Not in favor - City resident</i>	81
<i>Not in favor - not a City resident</i>	97
<i>Not in favor - residency unknown</i>	292

All comments were forwarded to City Council prior to the meeting.

A member of the public in attendance was directed by Chief Coon to leave, and he did leave the room, following his disruption of the meeting.

Councilwoman Ruehle requested enforcement of the mandate, following precedent set by other jurisdictions that have instituted a similar mandate, to include a fine and possible imprisonment. Following discussion, she made a motion to amend her original motion to include a provision for a misdemeanor penalty and fine of \$300. This motion to amend died for lack of a second.

Result of Councilwoman Ruehle’s original motion for City Council to adopt an ordinance creating Title 4, Chapter 9, Sandpoint City Code, granting the Mayor temporary emergency powers to preserve the public health in response to the COVID-19 virus, specifically to issue an order requiring social distancing and masks or face coverings where social distancing cannot be maintained in the City of Sandpoint.

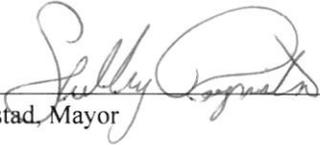
Result:	Failed
Moved by:	Ruehle

Seconded by:	Williamson
Voted Yes:	Ruehle, McAlister
Voted No:	Williamson, Aispuro, Darling, Groat
Abstained:	
Absent:	

5. ADJOURN

Mayor Rognstad adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that these minutes, prepared by the City Clerk, were approved by City Council during their regular meeting on September 2, 2020.



Shelby Rognstad, Mayor

Attest: 

Melissa Ward, City Clerk