

October 7, 2019

The City Council of the City of Idaho Falls met in Council Work Session, Monday, October 7, 2019, in the Council Chambers in the City Annex Building located at 680 Park Avenue in Idaho Falls, Idaho at 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

There were present:

Councilmember Thomas Hally  
Councilmember Shelly Smede  
Councilmember John Radford  
Councilmember Jim Freeman  
Councilmember Jim Francis

Absent:

Mayor Rebecca L. Noah Casper  
Councilmember Michelle Ziel-Dingman

Also present:

Brad Cramer, Community Development Services Director  
Catherine Smith, Idaho Falls Downtown Development Corporation (IFDDC) Executive Director  
Randy Fife, City Attorney  
Kathy Hampton, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Hally called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. with the following items:

Calendars, Announcements and Reports:

Mayor Pro Tem Hally stated a Special Council Meeting will be occurring on October 17 regarding Fiber.

Mayor Pro Tem Hally stated he recently attended an AmeriBen conference. He noted approximately 18% of medical is part of the gross national product which will continue to increase, he believes this is not sustainable. He also stated he recently attended a legislative meeting at the College of Eastern Idaho (CEI). He briefly reviewed topics discussed.

Acceptance and/or Receipt of Minutes:

There were no minutes to accept.

Liaison Reports and Concerns:

Councilmember Freeman stated the Ice Arena recently opened; Boo at the Zoo will be occurring October 24-26; and, leaf collection maps have been modified with leaf collection occurring October 28-November 27.

Councilmember Smede stated an open house for the South Downtown Plan will be occurring on October 9. She also stated the Library is considering no charge for up to ten (10) copies as well as utilizing the conference room at no charge for Bonneville County residents.

Councilmember Francis had no items to report.

Councilmember Radford stated new sections of the community have opened for fiber services. He reiterated the Special Council Meeting on October 17.

Mayor Pro Tem Hally noted painting of the new fairgrounds office building and, a Ribbon Cutting at the Airport will be occurring October 22.

Idaho Falls Downtown Development Corporation (IFDDC) Parking Management Agreement Discussion:

Director Cramer stated this item includes an ordinance to modify Title 9 of City Code as well as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and IFDDC for a pilot project to enforce downtown parking. He noted Ms. Smith, on behalf of the IFDDC, requested funding at a previous Council Budget Session to assist with on-street parking management. IFDDC currently manages the City's lots for off-street parking. The MOU will outline the duties, obligations, enforcement, and, how the funds from violations will be used. Director Cramer believes this step is approximately ten (10) years in the making per a previous study from the Idaho Falls Redevelopment Agency

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(IFRdA). He noted one (1) of the first suggestions in this study was to place parking management under one (1) entity. Additional suggestions in the study, including better technology and assistance with funding, will also be fulfilled with the MOU. Mr. Kirkham noted due to the MOU, it was necessary to adjust City Code. He reviewed proposed changes in the ordinance, including enforcement agents, specific downtown parking areas, and, violations and procedures. Mayor Pro Tem Hally noted the IFRdA, through the Oppenheimer Group, manages the underground parking garage. To the response of Councilmember Francis, Ms. Smith stated a policy is currently in place to allow vehicles to be towed from the parking lots. This does not include the underground parking garage due to the ceiling height. Mr. Kirkham stated this ordinance would give the parking agent the same enforcement as the Idaho Falls Police Department (IFPD) for parking only. Councilmember Freeman questioned motorcycles. Mr. Kirkham stated the City does not currently permit certain vehicles, including motorcycles, on public sidewalks although there is an exception for the IFPD for parking enforcement. The exception has also been included for the City's parking enforcement agent. This would not include motorcycles. Mr. Fife stated IFDDC has purchased a utility vehicle (UTV) to be used for parking enforcement. Brief discussion followed regarding parking enforcement in other cities and booting of vehicles. Mr. Kirkham clarified the MOU does not provide for booting of vehicles. Ms. Smith stated very clear notifications will be placed on windshields. She confirmed there are no plans to boot vehicles although additional enforcement steps may need to be considered if problems persist. Ms. Smith reviewed the off-street and on-street techniques including metering, the UTV with a License Plate Reader (LPR), and, available apps, stating this will all be very customer-service focused. She noted there will no longer be chalk marks on vehicle tires. She also briefly reviewed the Downtown Park IF online portal. Mr. Fife stated the enforcement agent, on behalf of the City, can collect the revenues to build up a fund, in excess of their costs, which can be spent on a public facility or the program. He clarified there will be no profit made from enforcement for the City. Mr. Kirkham stated any public improvements will be directed by the City. He noted the City is not releasing control of streets to the IFDDC. He also noted the MOU also includes an annual report which can be demanded as needed. To the response of Councilmember Radford, Mr. Fife stated LPR information would need to be retained for a minimum of two (2) years. Councilmember Smede questioned overdue tickets. Ms. Smith stated IFDDC has the capability to pull overdue tickets into their software system, however, the IFDDC has decided to start fresh. Brief discussion followed regarding vehicles with wheelchair placards, tourist tickets, downtown business employees, loading zones, reporting dates to coincide with the Business Improvement District (BID) report, and, merchant validation (off-street parking only). This item will be included on the October 10 Council Meeting agenda.

It was then moved by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Smede, to move into Executive Session. The Executive Session is being called pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency. The Executive Session will be held in the City Annex Conference Room. At the conclusion of the Executive Session the Council will not reconvene into regular Work Session.

The City Council of the City of Idaho Falls met in Special Council Meeting (Executive Session), Monday, October 7, 2019, in the Council Chambers in the City Annex Building located at 680 Park Avenue in Idaho Falls, Idaho at 3:46 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

There were present:

Councilmember Thomas Hally  
Councilmember Shelly Smede  
Councilmember John Radford  
Councilmember Jim Freeman  
Councilmember Jim Francis

Also present:

Chris Fredericksen, Public Works Director  
Michael Kirkham, Assistant City Attorney  
Randy Fife, City Attorney

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The Executive Session was called pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency.

There being no further business, the Executive Session adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

s/ Kathy Hampton  
CITY CLERK

s/ Rebecca L. Noah Casper  
MAYOR