City of Tetonia Tetonia City Council Regular Meeting Minutes May 13th, 2025 @ 7PM

OPEN MEETING

- Call to order by Mayor Schindler
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Schindler

Roll Call by City Clerk – In attendance, Councilmembers: Blaine Ball, Ryan Bonilla, Mandy Rasmussen, Aaron Hansen and Mayor Brent Schindler. Also in attendance: City Attorney Bart Birch and via phone, City Planner Ashley Koehler and Public Works Director Clint Moulton.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Schindler opens up the meeting for any public comments at 7:02 PM.

Josh Weltman commented that he would like to start a summer concert series in the Tetonia City Park to raise money for various causes around the City. He would like to have the first event on July 12th of this year. Mayor Schindler advised him to get the proper Temporary Use Permit application and follow the steps needed.

PUBLC HEARING: Land Use Code Text Amendment, Gym- Action

Mayor Schindler opened the public hearing regarding the Land Use Code Text Amendment to allow Gyms in the Commercial Downtown (CD) zoning. This code amendment was requested by an applicant and has already been reviewed by the P&Z who have recommended approval. Ashley reviewed that this usage would still be held to all of the current land use codes regarding parking, signs and lighting. Ashley reminded the Council that this code amendment would be for any future gym in any area of the CD zoning, not necessarily for only this applicant.

Liz Caldera, applicant, commented that she would love to add a gym to the Tetonia community for people in the North end of the Teton Valley.

Hansen moves to accept the amendment to Title 9 Ch 10 Section 3, District Use Schedule, to modify the Land use term "Health Club, spa, weight reduction salon" to instead read "Gym, Health Club, Spa" and make this use Permitted in the CD zone based on the finding that they comply with the Comprehensive Plan. Ball seconds. Motion approved.

ACTION ITEMS

Ordinance 2025-02- Action

Rasmussen moves to waive the rules of ordinance adoption and adopt Ordinance 2025-02 by reading the title only. By roll call vote: Bonilla-Yes, Rasmussen-Yes, Ball- Yes, and Hansen- Yes. Motion approved.

Hansen reads the Title: An Ordinance of the City of Tetonia, Idaho amending Title 9 of the Tetonia City Code, The Land Development Code, regarding Chapter 10 Section 3 to add "Gyms" as a permitted use in the CD zone and establishing an effective date.

Rodeo Committee Purchasing and Reimbursements- Action

Kayden Driggs introduced the members of the Rodeo Committee as Cindy Hatch, Jim Jackson and Tyler Jones. Kayden stated that the committee is feeling frustrated and would like some questions answered regarding processes within the City. Kayden asked about the money that the Rodeo Committee has gathered and if it will go into a separate line item within the City budget. Mayor Schindler explained that there is currently a separate revenue and expense line in the current City budget. He also asked if any budgeted money left in the year's line item will be rolled into the next year. Mayor Schindler explained that it could be possible to move money over if needed. Kayden asked where any Rodeo Ground rental money go and was assured it would count toward the Rodeo revenues. Kayden also asked about the lights and who would be paying for the usage. Mayor Schindler told the committee that eventually, the goal would be to break even from the fee gathered to be able to pay for the light and power usage.

Councilman Ball suggested looking into grant funding for swapping the rodeo lights to the LED options.

Kayden asked about purchasing policies for the committee and how much they can spend without having to ask the Council. He also asked what the difference was between "sponsored" and "budgeted money" was regarding their committee. Mayor Schindler explained that all money, donations and/or fees would need to be put into the City budget and the expended through City procedures but that some purchases could be administratively approved.

Hansen moves to approve that Clerk and/or Mayor can approve up to \$1200 of purchases administratively for Rodeo Ground expenses. Bonilla seconds. Motion passed.

Mayor Schindler stated that the City isn't trying to over complicate things, but that it's necessary to still follow City finance rules. The City relies on the committee for guidance and is appreciated for the help they give the City of Tetonia.

Staff Insurance Budget- Action

CONSENT AGENDA

- April Claims-
 - Clerk requested that the following claims also be approved for payment: Ashley Koehler invoice for April services in the amount of \$1275.00, Sunrise Engineering invoice for the comprehensive plan invoice for April in the amount of \$4466.00, as well as the Chemwest invoice for 3, 55g chlorine for the sewer lagoons in the amount of \$945.00.0.

Ball moves to approve the claims as presented w/ the 4 additional invoices listed above. Hansen seconds. Motion passed.

- April Minutes-
 - Rasmussen moves to approve the April minutes with clerical edits. Hansen seconds. Motion approved.
- Past due accounts were reviewed by the Mayor and the Council. Notice letters will be sent to accounts that were flagged as past due.
- Staff reports were presented and reviewed.

ENFORCEMENTS, COMPLIANCE UPDATES

There have been a few aggressive dog complaints. One instance had a police report made. There have also been some complaints made of kids on 4 wheelers not being safe, running stop signs and driving too fast.

DISSCUSION

Sunrise Engineering, Future Growth and Planning Options

Rob Heuseveldt introduced Josh Balls with Sunrise Engineering and the City of Tetonia sewer back up operator Jared Gunderson.

Rob reviewed the gallon usage charts from previous years and broke down what the potential of fast growth would look like for Tetonia's infrastructure. Rob told the Council that the conversations of an expanded sewer system needs to be started now to stay ahead of potential growth. He suggested these steps moving forward.

1. Review water and sewer ordinances to best represent and protect the City infrastructure.

2. Start aggressively looking for grant money. It's difficult right now to find a lot of funding sources, but Rob thinks Tetonia could be successful because of the current low median income in Tetonia.

3. Update the Facility Planning Study for waste water.

4. Drinking water storage needs to be updated for more storage capacity.

Updates were given around the Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Plan that are currently being updated for Tetonia.

Rob addressed the need for Tetonia to expand the staff size to stay sustainable. Backups are needed and a bare minimum of 2 public works are needed to begin with. The recommendation is also to add one public works employee for every 200 connections after that.

Rob also suggested that some things can be contracted out if needed in the meantime. But Tetonia would save money by having competent staff.

Josh then proposed doing an updated water and sewer rate study to evaluate the cost and fees. The purpose of these studies would be to evaluate the amount charged for hookup fees to make sure it's realistic to support the maintenance of the systems.

Josh also mentions that rates studies are not a study that you would have to adopt like a Facility Planning Study and could use the data immediately.

Council decided that the rate studies will be added to next month's agenda as an action item.

Teton Valley Parks and Recreation District

Sarah Warhol represents the North end and West side of Teton Valley for the Teton Valley Parks and Recreation Sistrict and updated the City Council regarding this newly formed committee.

Sarah said that they have recently acquired funding to help boost their public presence. Their committee has also been working on training, insurance and legal presence. They are in the process of hiring an office assistance.

She asked the Council for any ideas that they could help support within Tetonia. They are anticipating \$1.7 million in tax base for the next fiscal year.

Councilman Hansen asked if Cities would be able to ask for "grants" from the TVP&R and if those funds can be shared between entities. Sarah said that the fund could be shared while prioritizing things that are multi use.

Sarah will send the Tetonia staff a questionnaire to see what kind of projects we could use help with currently as well as in the future.

Set FY2026 Goals, Set Budget Priorities

A quick reminder of the special budget work session planned for May 27th at 7pm. Council was asked to bring their budgeting priorities to that meeting.

III-A Vision, Dental, Mental Health Insurance for Councilman

III-A Health Insurance offers plans for council members for Vision, Dental and Mental Health. Plan prices were shared and the Council was updated on how to sign up during open enrollment if they have the need for any of these services.

Planning and Zoning Education Materials

Mayor Schindler provided some planning and zoning videos to the City Council for training purposes.

Floodplain Program Status Update

Mayor Schindler updated the Council as to the status of the City's participation in the Floodplain program. The draft ordinance is currently waiting for the Tetonia Planning and Zoning committee to review.

Mayor Updates

- East of town there was a damaged weir that led to questions about water rights.

- Local Option Tax updates were given and the Council was reminded to help educate residents on the subject.

- Monument update were given and donations for this project have been offered but not acquired yet.

- Softball diamond dirt can be ordered at any time but the field needs to be properly prepped and weeded before this can happen. The summer league uses have started already. This project will most likely happen in the fall.

- The State Rails to Trails rep, Abigail, has resigned. No updates have been received about the proposed paving project and there has also not been any updates on who will be Abigail's replacement.

- A local youth group is sponsoring a City Park Cleanup day on Saturday if anyone would like to volunteer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION per IC 74-206 to discuss personnel.

Ball moves to go into executive session to discuss personnel by roll call vote. Hansen seconds. Roll call vote:

Bonilla-Yes, Rasmussen-Yes, Ball-Yes, Hansen-Yes.

Executive session begins at 9:09 pm.

Executive session to discuss personnel ended at 9:26 pm.

Hansen moves to approve, at the Mayors discretion, staff leave of absence that would include paid insurance up to a total of 4 month after any staff paid time off runs out. Rasmussen seconds. Motion approved.

Hansen approves Mayor to evaluate and hire a new staff member. Rasmussen seconds. Motion passed.

ADJOURN MEETING

Hansen moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 PM, Ball seconds. Meeting adjourned.

Brent Schindler, Mayor

Attest: _____

Jacque Beard, City Clerk