

**CITY COUNCIL WORK MEETING  
JANUARY 17, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.  
IONA COMMUNITY CENTER**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Brad Andersen, Council President Dan Gubler, Council Member Dan Garren, Council Member Rob Geray, City Clerk Shara Roberts, Public Works Director Zech Prouse, and Chief of Police Karl Bowcutt.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Kathy McNamara.

**VISITORS:** Stephen Pinckard, Jeremy Harris, and Building Inspector Allen Eldridge.

**Recycling Containers – PSI Environmental Services:** Stephen Pinckard and Jeremy Harris presented information regarding roll away recycling containers. Mr. Pinckard explained the option to do comingled or cardboard only recycling. The fee to provide such a container would cost \$45.00 per month with an additional fee of \$120 per haul. Mr. Pinckard informed the City Council if they would like to do a trial run for the first 3 months they could waive the rental fee of \$45.00 per month.

After further discussion, Mayor Andersen expressed to the representatives from PSI they appreciated the information and would make a decision during the City Council meeting. Additionally, he thanked them for their involvement and donation of the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) Adopt-A-Family Christmas Project.

**Unlawful Occupancy at 3784 Dayton St.:** Building Inspector Allen Eldridge reported last month he received concerns about an unlawful occupancy located at 3784 Dayton St. He explained he made contact with the home owner, Mike Fox, in which he informed Allen he was not living in the home. At a later date, Allen found out Mr. Fox had been living in his home without a Certificate of Occupancy. Allen provided “Exhibit A” as reference material for the Council’s review regarding unlawful occupancies according to The International Residential Building Code.

Mr. Eldridge further explained after Clerk Roberts brought it to last month’s city council meeting, the Council directed her to send a letter from the City office outlining the expectation and a deadline to resolve the issue. Mr. Eldridge reported since then Mr. Fox has been in communication, and has been completing necessary inspections. Mr. Eldridge updated the Council that he has granted Mr. Fox a temporary Certificate of Occupancy with the understanding all exterior finishes need to be completed by June 12, 2017. Mr. Eldridge inquired if the City Council wanted Chief Bowcutt to follow up with a citation or fee in addition to what action has already taken place.

After further discussion, the City Council expressed to Mr. Eldridge they felt the matter had been resolved as Mr. Fox was communicating and displaying follow through action to rectify the situation and no further action needed to be taken at this time. They further directed Mr. Eldridge and Clerk Roberts to follow the same process in future situations by making contact,

documenting the issue, giving individuals the opportunity to rectify the situation, and involving Chief Bowcutt as necessary.

**Inactive Building Permits:** Building Inspector Allen Eldridge reported the Building Department has quite a few unfinished or inactive permits, some of which are 6-7 years old. The process he has in place is every 6 months he directs Clerk Roberts to send a letter to the homeowner or contractor notifying them their permit is getting ready to expire as they haven't scheduled an inspection in the last 180 days, and as long as some type of correspondence is received he extends the permit. However, it is becoming time consuming on office staff to gather the information that is needed to accomplish this.

Mr. Eldridge explained he has building software at the City of Ammon which allows him to run a simple report, which helps to eliminate the time consuming efforts that go into this process when software doesn't exist. He expressed if the City continues to grow it might be something worth investing into as it helps building activities run more efficiently and creates increased accountability.

After further discussion, the Council directed Mr. Eldridge and Clerk Roberts to continue with the process which is in place, but if they aren't receiving any communication from the homeowner or the contractor to go ahead and expire the permit.

**Library Improvement Proposal:** Council Member Garren reported he made contact with Karen Johnson who is the Chairman of the Friends of Iona Library to discuss the proposal of a computer lab. She expressed to him it was a great idea, but needed to discuss it further with other individuals who oversee the Library. They are scheduling a meeting to discuss this, and will get back with Council Member Garren when they know more information. Mayor Andersen directed Clerk Roberts to update the donor via email.

**Dog Licenses:** Clerk Roberts reported she received some feedback from her inquiry into what other cities do in regards to dog licensing requirements. She read from Attorney Jerry Mason response to her inquiry as follows:

*“When I was working for the city of Rathdrum we heard from the local humane society and the city's animal control officers that approximately 10% of the dogs in the city were licensed as required by ordinance. Neutered dogs required proof. Higher fees for un-neutered dogs mostly meant they weren't licensed because the fees were a barrier. Annual renewal was a recurring nuisance that burdened the city and the pet owner. Most people want to do the right thing - and they often do the right thing without being pushed. They need basic education and regulations that support sound ownership practices.*

*Rathdrum simply requires each dog to have a collar that carries an ID tag giving address and ownership info and a current rabies vaccination tag. That helps animal control find the owner and provides some evidence of rabies protection. Public funds are spent on education about best practices.*

*The approach isn't perfect, but it is far better (in my opinion) than a 10% compliance rate and frustration among responsible pet owners who must comply with a maze of requirements that*

*encourage non-compliance. I would encourage anyone interested to examine Chapter 5-2 of the Rathdrum City Code.”*

After further discussion, the Council appeared to be in favor of just requiring an identification tag and getting rid of the annual license renewals. Due to time constraints this was discussed further during the City Council meeting, and a final decision was made.

**E-Billing Resolution:** Due to time constraints this was discussed during the City Council meeting.

**Rockwell Annexation:** Due to time constraints this was discussed during the City Council meeting.

**Water System Update:** Due to time constraints this was discussed during the City Council meeting.

**REPORTS:** None.

Meeting adjourned 6:58 p.m.

COUNCIL APPROVED: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

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Brad Andersen, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Shara Roberts, City Clerk