



# City Council

## Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

480 East Avenue North  
Ketchum, ID 83340  
<http://ketchumidaho.org/>

Robin Crotty  
208-726-3841

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Monday, August 19, 2019

4:00 PM

Ketchum City Hall

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**Present:** Mayor Neil Bradshaw  
Council President Michael David  
Councilor Jim Slanetz  
Councilor Courtney Hamilton  
Councilor Amanda Breen

**Also Present:** Ketchum City Administrator Suzanne Frick  
Ketchum City Attorney Matt Johnson  
Director of Finance & Internal Services Grant Gager  
Interim Fire Chief, Tom Bowman

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Neil Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 4pm.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCILORS

Council President Michael David talked about the dynamics in the community with school being back in session in the middle of August and how that has affected the economy.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw welcomed Truck #1 to the Fire Department. He gave thanks to Tom Ancona and Mike Witthar on getting the truck here.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC New Section

Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment.

Principal of Hemingway School Tish Short, and teachers Ross Parsons and Cam Newton came to thank the council on behalf of the school and thanked the community for their support of Hemingway as well as the STEAM School. Tish Short talked about an upcoming meeting with maintenance and ground crews to discuss zero scape at Hemingway.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

#### 1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting August 5, 2019

Councilor Amanda Breen pulled item 1 and advised that she did not support the \$18,000 for the Sustainability Committee and that it was actually Courtney Hamilton

**Motion to approve the minutes with the change as noted.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilor Courtney Hamilton
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Council President Michael David
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

2. Authorization and approval of the payroll register
3. Authorization and approval of the disbursement of funds from the City's treasury for the payment of bills in the total sum of \$715,266.63 as presented by the Treasurer.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton questioned the amount of poop bags bought for \$2,500. Director of Finance & Internal Services Grant Gager advised there are 600 wickets. Jim Slanetz would like biodegradable bags researched for future purchases.

#### **Motion to approve the bills**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Courtney Hamilton
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jim Slanetz
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

4. Monthly Financial State of the City—Director of Finance and Internal Services Grant Gager
5. Recommendation to approve contract 20380 with Alsco – Wastewater Superintendent, Mick Mummert
6. Recommendation to Approve Purchase Order 20386 with Aqua - Aerobics Systems, Inc. for Filter Cloth Media - Wastewater Superintendent, Mick Mummert

#### **Motion to approve items 2, 4, 5, and 6**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jim Slanetz, Councilor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Michael David, Council President
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

7. **ACTION ITEM: Request to approve several mutual aid/auto aid agreements between emergency agencies – Interim Fire Chief Tom**

Mayor Neil Bradshaw advised we are seeking approval of the mutual and auto aid agreements between the emergency service agencies. This is part of transitioning the Rural Fire District.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment. No public comment.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw advised the Council that Interim Fire Chief Tom Bowman is present to answer questions. Councilor Courtney Hamilton agrees that the agreements are important for the life and safety of our community. She does not want to change the mutual aid agreements, however, clarified, without the Rural Fire District contract, we need to be sure we are protecting Ketchum. Mayor Neil Bradshaw hopes over the next couple of years we will be operating under one organization that will be fully integrated and stated that he supports the contracts in the packets.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton asked Interim Fire Chief Tom Bowman what is best for the community and if the actions of Ketchum would be changing. Tom Bowman clarified that we all need each other, and he does not think we would ever jeopardize the coverage of our citizens due to this agreement. Council President Michael David asked if the agreement changes the nature of anything if our staffing levels are less. Tom Bowman said it is up to the shift captain if we can afford to send people out of district to help a sister agency. The cities will be there for each other. Courtney Hamilton made grammar corrections to the contract. Tom Bowman will make the corrections prior to having the Mayor sign the contract.

**Motion to authorize the Mayor to provide written notice to terminate the 2017 North Wood River Valley Fire Service Auto Aid Agreement.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Courtney Hamilton
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Amanda Breen
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

**Interim Fire Chief Tom Bowman clarified the termination date to be midnight, September 30, 2019. Motion was reclarified including the effective date.**

**Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into Agreement 20387, the 2019 North Wood River Valley Fire Service Auto Aid Agreement. Effective October 1, 2019**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Courtney Hamilton
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Amanda Breen
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

**8. ACTION ITEM: Request to renew Joint Powers Agreement with Mountain Rides—Mayor Neil Bradshaw**

Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment. There were no comments.

**Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into JPA 20388 to provide multimodal public transportation in Blaine County.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Michael David, Council President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Amanda Breen, Councilor
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

**9. ACTION ITEM: Third Reading of Ordinance No. 1199, Annual Appropriations Ordinance - Director of Finance and Internal Services Grant Gager**

Mayor Neil Bradshaw outlined the changes based on the conversations from the last meeting and talked about the Sheriff's contract.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment.

Joyce Friedman talked about the elimination of two fire fighters and gave an example of how the emergency crews have assisted her in the past.

Silvia and Nick Miller praised the Emergency Service Personnel. Nick Miller talked about the efforts used to save him and asked the council to not reduce staff by two because without the service he received he would not be here today.

Jamie Dutcher said with increased tourism, elderly, expensive homes, and increased fire danger, reducing fire fighters by 2 is the wrong thing to do. She talked about depending on volunteers to do what professionals do is wrong. She praised the Fire Rescue people and said we can't survive without them.

Ed Simon praised Ketchum for funding events that create the vibrancy in Ketchum. He agrees with the comments heard today and urges council to listen. He gave praise to the Firefighters of Ketchum and talked about LOT revenues going up and down and how in the past cuts were made equal across the board, including Mountain Rides and Visit Sun Valley. He also talked about the LOT Ordinance and what it was developed to do and urged Council to look at that.

Jane Mitchell, Ketchum Resident, said she is hearing confusion. She would like the community to have a comprehensive plan that includes personnel, equipment and facility prior to asking the community for funding. Jane Mitchell said nobody knows what is happening and that is unfortunate when going out for bond.

Richard Canfield, resident talked about the budget saying Ketchum has the most highly trained emergency response agency in the county and talked his position on eliminating 2 positions. He talked about retaining the Ambulance Contract. He praised the 11 responders in Ketchum and talked about the public safety service that is needed for the events, tourists, and premium properties. He talked about Council's responsibilities and asked them to place public safety at the top of their list of priorities.

Colleen Quindlen spoke as a Ketchum Volunteer Firefighter. She praised the training program giving credit to the full-time staff. If 2 people are eliminated, she worries about the stress of the

people left. Colleen Quindlen stated, they are an excellent department. because of the 11-core people.

Rob Shawblock is a visitor speaking on behalf of the employees of the Ketchum Fire Dept. He talked about the stress of the fire fighters and advised of the needs of his family, when on vacation in Ketchum. He urged Council not cut the positions. He talked about the importance of public safety and stated by reducing staffing, you are reducing the service to the community. He previously has worked with Ketchum's fire professionals during the Beaver Creek Fire and praised them for their professionalism.

Curtis Smith, Staff Representative for IFF praised the tower truck and talked about the staffing levels needed to man the truck in a safe and efficient way and what the national standards are. He talked about eliminating staff thru attrition and would like to work together with council, State and IFF to save these positions. He praised the department for their skill and asked Council to reconsider. Council President Michael David asked him to elaborate on attrition. Curtis Smith explained that by using the attrition method it would give time to create creative ways to save these positions.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw advised this is the 3rd reading of Ordinance 1199 and asked Council for questions and comments. Council President Michael David asked Mayor Bradshaw to summarize where we are in the process. Mayor Neil Bradshaw summarized the position of the City explaining that he has taken into consideration all of the comments he has heard from the council in previous meeting and that is the budget that is being presented this evening at the Council's request. Council President Michael David talked about Emergency Services stating after hearing all comments, we can't afford to cut Emergency Services at this time and talked about the attrition process. He advised he is at a loss and doesn't know how we can pay for this. Councilor Courtney Hamilton agrees with Michael David saying she would like to find a way to fund these positions. Councilor Jim Slanetz agrees as well and talked about dipping into the reserve. Councilor Amanda Breen advised if we keep these positions, we will need to make a drastic shift of funds. She talked about her support of bus service and the need to look at staffing levels throughout the City and questioned what staff is the most important right now? She went on to say that the public is saying it's the Fire Department. Michael David agrees saying we don't have the time to take a comprehensive look and would like to talk about different revenue sources. Councilor Amanda Breen voiced support for dipping into the reserves. Jim Slanetz suggested taking more money out of marketing. Council continued to deliberate.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw talked about what is important as a City and about the shifting in the budget that has already been done to get to the balance they are at tonight. Councilor Amanda Breen asked what eliminating the proposed 3% in wage increases would be looked like. Grant Gager advised it would be about \$110,000. Grant Gager clarified the attrition process in the budget and how it works. Mayor Bradshaw clarified that by law we have to approve a budget. Jim Slanetz asked about the budget for sidewalks. Grant Gager clarified it is \$100,000. Jim Slanetz suggested cut \$100,000 from sidewalks and \$50,000 from marketing. Grant Gager explained the funds that are being affected and how to go forward. Councilor Amanda Breen is not in favor of reducing Marketing costs. Michael David asked Attorney Matt Johnson about the

process for additional readings. Councilor Courtney Hamilton asked about the refund from the County for police services. Grant Gager explained that we received the check, but the funds have already been reallocated for increased police services contract budget.

Attorney Matt Johnson advised that we need to re-notice and have more readings because of the substantial changes. Special meetings and deadlines were discussed. Courtney Hamilton talked about investing in our own wildfire trucks in the future

Council President Michael David said it is most important to maintain public safety and suggested the cut of employee raises to those whom earn over \$55,000 or possibly \$100,000 and asked Grant Gager what that number is over \$100,000. Grant Gager advised that would be a savings of \$13,000. Councilor Courtney Hamilton asked if we could go back to the firefighters with \$143,000 to see what they could do. Interim Fire Chief Tom Bowman asked for a 5-minute break for staff to come up with a plan.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw called for a 5-minute break. Mayor Bradshaw reconvened the meeting at 5:37 pm.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw read aloud the suggestions from staff stating that Council wants to fund the \$200,000 for 2 people in the Fire Department. Council does not want to impact Visit Sun Valley or Mountain Rides. Staff is hearing that the Council would like to lower the reserve to 16.67% to get \$33,000, and take, \$100,000 from the sidewalk budget. Council would also like to reduce the contingency from Blaine County Sheriff's leaving the contingency set at \$10,000 and taking another \$20,000. By funding the 2 positions in the Fire Dept the City can use the \$35,000 that was budgeted for shift assist. With these changes we would get to \$200,000.

The process was discussed. The budget will need to be re-noticed. Director of Finance and Internal Services, Grant Gager explained the legal notice process and possible meeting dates. Attorney Matt Johnson advised that this will be a public hearing.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw tabled this topic.

**10. ACTION ITEM: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1201 ordering a bond election on the question of the issuance of a general obligation bond in an amount not to exceed \$11.5 million for design and construction of a Fire Station and acquisition of related equipment and apparatus – Mayor Neil Bradshaw**

Mayor Neil Bradshaw advised this is the 2nd reading for the bond language.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.

A Planning/Advocacy committee was discussed and Mayor Neil Bradshaw explained that we can inform only. He talked about independent groups working on advocacy. Council President Michael David asked about staff and council advocating. Attorney Matt Johnson advised that everybody has a right to their opinion, but no city resources can be used. He cautions City staff not to comment since they are paid.

Councilor Jim Slanetz questioned outstanding debts. Director of Finance & Internal Services Grant Gager explained the general obligation debt and how bonds work.

#### **STAFF AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no comments

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

##### **Motion to adjourn**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jim Slanetz, Councilor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Courtney Hamilton, Councilor
<b>AYES:</b>	Michael David, Jim Slanetz, Amanda Breen, Courtney Hamilton

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**Neil Bradshaw, Mayor**

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**Robin Crotty, City Clerk**