

Meridian City Council Work Session

January 9, 2024.

A Meeting of the Meridian City Council was called to order at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 9, 2024, by Council President Joe Borton.

Members Present: Joe Borton, Luke Cavener, Liz Strader, John Overton, Ann Little Roberts and Doug Taylor.

Members Absent: Robert Simison.

Also Present: Chris Johnson, Bill Nary, Jeff Brown, Joe Bongiorno and Dean Willis.

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

☒ Liz Strader	☒ Joe Borton
☒ Doug Taylor	☒ John Overton
☒ Anne Little Roberts	☒ Luke Cavener
☒ Mayor Robert E. Simison	

Borton: Good afternoon. It is 4:30 on Tuesday, January 9th. Time set for our workshop agenda. Welcome. Missing the Mayor. So, we will run in his absence right now. We will begin today's workshop meeting with roll call attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Borton: Item No. 2 is the adoption of the agenda.

Strader: Mr. President?

Borton: Ms. Vice-President.

Strader: Taking a look I don't see any changes in our work session agenda, so I move that we adopt the agenda as published.

Cavener: Second.

Borton: It's been moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. All those in favor say aye. The agenda is adopted. Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

CONSENT AGENDA [Action Item]

- 1. Adler Industrial Project Green Water Main Easement (ESMT-2023-0159)**

- 2. S. Benchmark Way and W. Cobalt Drive Water Main Easement No. 1 (ESMT-2023-0182)**
- 3. Ten Mile Marketplace Water Main Easement No. 1 (ESMT-2023-0183)**
- 4. Ten Mile Marketplace Water Main Easement No. 2 (ESMT-2023-0184)**
- 5. Approval of Task Order 11230.i for Aeration Basins Retrofit & Upgrade Software Integration for the Not-to-Exceed amount of \$430,787.00, as well as authorization for the Procurement Manager to sign the Purchase Order for the Not-to-Exceed amount of \$430,787.00**
- 6. Approval of Equipment Contract to Lone Star Blower and Compressor for the supply of Lone Star Blowers to be included in the Aeration Basins 1-4 Retrofit and 9 & 10 Expansion project, for the Not-To-Exceed amount of \$1,082,727.00**
- 7. First Amendment to City of Meridian Parks & Recreation Department Meridian Youth Baseball/Softball, Inc. Amendment to Development and License Agreement**

Borton: Item No. 3, the Consent Agenda.

Strader: Mr. President?

Borton: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: I move that we approve the Consent Agenda, for the Council President to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Cavener: Second the motion.

Borton: It's been moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as published. There are no questions or discussion. Mr. Clerk.

Roll Call: Borton, yea; Cavener, yea; Strader, yea; Overton, yea; Little Roberts, yea; Taylor, yea.

Borton: Consent Agenda is approved.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

ITEMS MOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA [Action Item]

Borton: There are no items been removed from the Consent Agenda.

DEPARTMENT / COMMISSION REPORTS [Action Item]

8. Discussion of City Council Appointments as Department Liaisons and Appointments to Interagency Boards, Committees, and Initiatives

Borton: Brings us to the Department/Commission Reports. Item No. 8, discussion of City Council appointments department liaisons, inter-agency boards, committees and initiatives. So, this is the annual start of the year where we shift around different duties and assignments amongst Council Members. Those who have been here know that they have been in different departments and served as liaisons and there is some committees and boards that we have existing City Council Members serving on. So, some quick context to the assignment of liaisons for Council Members now. It's not quite as climactic as a -- as a sorting hat and an announcement of different doors or where you get placed, it's already public and published. But the idea is there is not a set science to who gets assigned where or a specific rotation, other than to try and provide opportunities for every Council Member to have a variety of experiences with different departments. They generally change every year for every department, with some exceptions. Sometimes people have stayed two years, but generally they move around, trying to expose people to different areas, things that they have not been involved in or some areas where they have particular interest in and the role of the liaison continues to be that of a primary kind of a conduit between the Council as a whole or the Mayor and that particular department. So, an example might be if -- if you know John's running or being a liaison for the Parks Department and we need -- we wanted to know something that might be going on, a Council Member might call Councilman Overton and say, hey, are you aware of this issue in Parks or what's going on or what do you think about it? Maybe bring that up to your director and -- and we will see if it becomes an agenda topic or something we discuss as a whole. It's much more efficient for our directors to use the liaisons and have liaisons serve with the directors, so we don't give them six questions, you know, at the same time, have directors who are going to be very polite to our requests then have to give us six answers. So, we have been -- this has been the process for a number of years. So, to the liaison to the department that you get assigned to, reach out to your director early, very soon, have a cup of coffee, to lunch and visit with how that director likes to communicate, what makes -- how you can help them share information with us. Listen to their ideas. They all are different in how they -- they work. Some are more independent, some need more Council direction. So, please, get actively involved and, then, be available so when Council Members have questions for that department we are going to try and turn to you and ask you first if you have heard something or know about something or think of a constructive way to bring it onto the agenda. So, that's kind of the broad brush picture of liaison assignments. So, as we shift around, in no particular order, Public Works, Enterprise Fund, which is a big lift, Doug -- to Councilman Taylor. So, thank you for taking that one on. It's a fantastic department. They all are, but I'm coming from Public -- Public Works, so now you and Laurelei will work great together. Councilman Overton, who was with Parks most recently I believe, is now shifting over to Community Development. Another large item to tackle and in hitting the ground running with -- with

tonight's agenda at 6:00 o'clock. Council Woman Little Roberts, who is well versed with the liaison process and you know how all of this works, you are now Fire. So, congratulations. Thanks for taking that on. Councilman Cavener, a cagey veteran as well, is now the liaison for the City Clerk's Office, as well as the Police Department. Our Vice-President Council Woman Strader has three different departments, Human Resources, IT and Legal, which work pretty closely together. And, then, lastly, I will be the liaison for Parks and Rec, as well as the Mayor's Office and Finance. The last two being more traditionally Council President roles. As you know, one of the larger items that we tackle every year is the budget process. As a whole the Council does, so the Council President has year over year been the liaison to the Mayor's Office and in Finance. So, that's the process. That's the role of liaison that -- that most of you are well versed on and those are the assignments. They will be effective today as part of the resolution and with that stand for any questions from my colleagues.

Cavener: Mr. President?

Borton: Mr. Cavener.

Cavener: No questions, just a comment. Appreciate the breakdown and certainly appreciate your heavy lift. I think the Mayor's Office and Finance -- I like that idea of them kind of being brought together, but also recognize that's a heavy lift for you in your role. So, just want to say thanks for taking that on. Appreciate it.

Borton: You got it. Gladly. If there is not any -- any other discussion, comments, questions on it, this is effective until the next January.

Little Roberts: Mr. President?

Borton: Council Woman Little Roberts.

Little Roberts: I would just like to say I am honored to be the liaison to Fire and look forward to working with the department again.

Borton: You got to whoot from Fire. Now you are kind of compelling everybody to -- to whoot advocate for -- here is another -- yeah. We won't go around the room and have our cheers. Another I think a really critical role for the liaison is have the difficult conversations with your department. If they want to -- because we want to have good, honest feedback early on. If there is something they want to bring forward or have concerns about something that happened, be the strong voice for the Council. You are not necessarily tasked with speaking on behalf of all six of us, that's not really your role, but you can give some good feedback and -- and exchange ideas, which is going to help the directors be more effective as well. So, you are speaking as one, but you really are leading the voice of the group there, so --

9. Resolution No. 24-2429: A Resolution of the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Meridian Approving City Council President's

Appointments of City Council Members to Serve as Department Liaisons, and Providing an Effective Date

Borton: If there is no other questions or comments that moves us to Item 9 on our -- on our workshop agenda, which is Resolution No. 24-2429. Mr. Clerk, do we need to read the resolution? No?

Johnson: I'm happy to, but it doesn't have to be read.

Borton: Okay.

Strader: Council President, I move that we approve Resolution No. 24-2429, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council approving the appointments to serve as Department Liaisons and providing an effective date.

Overton: Second.

Borton: It's been moved and seconded to approve Item No. 9, Resolution 24-2429. Is there any questions or discussion? If not, all those in favor say aye. Any opposed same sign. Resolution is passed.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

10. Resolution No. 24-2430: A Resolution of the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Meridian Approving City Council President's Appointments of City Council Members/City Staff Members to Serve as Interagency Boards, Committees, and Initiatives Representatives, and Providing an Effective Date

Borton: Leads us to Item 10.

Strader: Mr. President?

Borton: Yes.

Strader: I move that we approve Resolution No. 24-2430, Item No. 10.

Overton: Second.

Borton: It's been moved and seconded to approve Resolution 24-2430. Any questions or discussion from Council? If none, all those in favor, please, say aye. Any opposed same sign. Resolution passes.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(c): To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency and 74-206(1)(f): To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

Strader: Mr. Council President?

Borton: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: I moved that we go into Executive Session per for Idaho Code 74-206(1)(c) and 74-206(1)(f).

Cavener: Second.

Borton: Moved and seconded to go into Executive Session per the code sections cited. If no questions or discussion, have roll call. Mr. Clerk.

Roll Call: Borton, yea; Cavener, yea; Strader, yea; Overton, yea; Little Roberts, yea; Taylor, yea.

Borton: We are in Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (4:39 p.m. to 5:23 p.m.)

Strader: Mr. President?

Borton: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: I move we come out of Executive Session.

Cavener: Second.

Borton: Moved and seconded to come out of Executive Session. All those in favor say aye. Motion carries.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

Borton: Take a motion to adjourn.

Strader: Mr. Council President?

Borton: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: I move that we adjourn.

Borton: Been moved to adjourn. All those in favor say aye. We are adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED: ALL AYES.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:23 P.M.

(AUDIO RECORDING ON FILE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS)

_____ COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOE BORTON	_____ DATE APPROVED
---------------------------------------	------------------------

ATTEST:

CHRIS JOHNSON - CITY CLERK