



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

October 08, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Jeremy Grimm called the special meeting of the Sandpoint City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council chambers at City Hall, 1123 W. Lake St., Sandpoint, Idaho.

PRESENT

Mayor Jeremy Grimm
Councilor Deb Ruehle, Council President
Councilor Joel Aispuro
Councilor Justin Dick
Councilor Kyle Schreiber
Councilor Pam Duquette
Councilor Rick Howarth

As required by the City's adopted Code of Ethics and Civility, as the presiding officer, Mayor Grimm identified law enforcement personnel serving as sergeant-at-arms for the meeting: Lt. Michael Aerni.

Mayor Grimm led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bills Approval

1. Motion to approve the October 1, 2025, Payables Report and payment of bills in the amount of \$684,822.38 for regular payables.

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Howarth.

Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

Executive Session

2. Motion by Councilor Schreiber to convene in executive session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent and Idaho Code § 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, seconded by Councilor Ruehle.

Prior to the vote on this motion, Councilor Aispuro moved to amend the motion to state that Fonda Jovick would be included in the executive session. Following discussion, the amendment to the main motion was approved by majority vote of Council as follows:

Motion made by Councilor Aispuro, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.

Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber

Voting Nay: Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

Vote on the main motion to convene in executive session:

Motion made by Councilor Schreiber, Seconded by Councilor Ruehle.
Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber,
Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

3. The executive session was convened at 5:37 p.m.

Legal Services Agreements

With the executive session concluded, Mayor Grimm reconvened the meeting at 8:19 p.m., followed by remarks from the Mayor regarding the resolution of the issue surrounding the status of the City's appointed legal counsel.

4. Consideration of Temporary Legal Services Agreement with Herrington & Associates

Mayor Grimm relayed that the temporary agreement with Herrington & Associates included a clause allowing for termination with 48 hours' notice and that he would be providing such termination notice to the firm the following morning. Council took no action on this item.

5. **Resolution 25-037** Revised Legal Services Agreement with Lake City Law Group, PLLC

Mayor Grimm introduced this item with a suggestion, for clarity, to amend clause #2 in the agreement to state, "Fonda L. Jovick of Lake City Law is hereby confirmed as the appointed City Attorney", where this clause would state the following: "Fonda L. Jovick of Lake City Law is hereby confirmed as the appointed City Attorney for the City, as prescribed by Idaho Code Section 50-204 with all protections of Idaho Code Section 50-206."

Councilor Schreiber concurred and made a motion to amend the agreement with the change suggested by the Mayor, along with the Councilor's suggestion under clause #7 in the agreement, which was reflected in the document included in the meeting packet, to amend the verbiage at the end of this clause from "on a 'for cause' basis" to "for any cause deemed sufficient", as this language would align with Sandpoint City Code. Also for purposes of maintaining consistency with City Code, Councilor Schreiber included in his motion an additional amendment within that same clause, replacing "by a supermajority approval of council" with "by the affirmative vote of one-half (½) plus one of the members of the full council." With these changes, clause #7 would state the following: "This agreement shall be in effect until terminated by mutual agreement, or termination of the contract by the affirmative vote of one-half (½) plus one of the members of the full council for any cause deemed sufficient."

Councilor Ruehle seconded the motion.

Following further discussion and recommendations from Ms. Jovick, Councilor Schreiber agreed to include with his motion the following amendments to the Resolution: 1) In the recitals, strike the statement, "The agreement expired on September 30, 2025", and 2) add appointment confirmation language at the end of the first resolution paragraph, where it would state, "The Revised Legal Services Agreement with Lake City Law Group, PLLC, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully incorporated herein, is hereby approved, and confirmation of the appointment of Fonda L. Jovick is hereby effectuated."

Councilor Ruehle agreed to second the motion for the additional amendments to the proposed Resolution, followed by a vote to approve all of the stated amendments to both the Agreement and the Resolution, unanimously approved by Council.

Motion made by Councilor Schreiber, Seconded by Councilor Ruehle.
Voting Yea: Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Dick, Councilor Schreiber,
Councilor Duquette, Councilor Howarth

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that the foregoing minutes, prepared by the City Clerk, were approved by City Council during their meeting held _____, 2025.

Jeremy Grimm, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Ward, City Clerk