



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 08, 2025 at 5:30 PM

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

Call to Order

The special meeting of the Sandpoint City Council was called to order by Mayor Jeremy Grimm at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, in Council chambers at City Hall, 1123 W. Lake St., Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

PRESENT

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

*Councilor Aispuro was absent at roll call, arriving at 6:07 p.m.

Under the City's adopted Code of Ethics and Civility, Mayor Grimm identified Cpl. Mike Hutter as law enforcement personnel in the room serving as sergeant-at-arms for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Grimm led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Mayor Grimm recited the rules and procedure for public comment, followed by an opportunity for comments from the public regarding the Consent Calendar, Old/New Business items on the agenda, and other topics relevant to the business of the City of Sandpoint. Information only; no Council action.

Consent Calendar

Central Services Director Cheryl Hughes fielded Council questions, followed by a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Motion made by Councilor Dick, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.

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

Absent: Councilor Aispuro

1. The minutes from Council's December 18, 2024, Regular Meeting were approved as presented.
2. **Resolution 25-001** Approving PO #25-1443 to Owen Equipment Company / Ben-Ko-Matic Co for Purchase of Vactor Truck Mounted Single Engine Combination Sewer Cleaner
3. **Resolution 25-002** Memorandum of Understanding for Amendment to the 2024-2027 Article 17 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Association of Firefighters Local 2319

New Business

4. **Resolution 25-003** Directing Submission of a Letter of Interest (LOI) to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for Future Funding of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Replacement

Public Works Director Holly Ellis introduced this item and, along with representatives from the City's consultant, Keller Associates - Vice President Jim Mullen and Engineer/Coeur d'Alene Office Manager Kyle Meschko, who provided a brief presentation - fielded questions from the Council members.

Councilor Schreiber moved to amend the proposed LOI to indicate that the City would be willing to participate in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Green Power Partnership, a voluntary program designed to reduce the environmental impact of conventional electricity generation by encouraging organizations to purchase electricity generated from renewable sources like solar, wind, and geothermal power, thereby minimizing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions associated with traditional energy sources. Councilor Duquette seconded the motion, and all Council members concurred.

Motion to approve the Resolution Directing Submission of a Letter of Interest (LOI) to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for Future Funding of Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement.

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Duquette.

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

Following approval of the Resolution, Mr. Meschko provided a general update on the wastewater treatment plant project.

Executive Session

5. Motion to convene in executive session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(c) to acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency 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.

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Aispuro.

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

Mayor Grimm asked those not participating in the executive session to please exit the room and announced that the meeting recording and remote online attendance would end.

6. The executive session was held. No final action was taken, and no final decisions were made during the session.

Reconvene and Adjourn

Following conclusion of the executive session, the meeting was reconvened and then immediately adjourned at 8:07 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 regular meeting held on _____, 2025.

Jeremy Grimm, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Ward, City Clerk