

MINUTES

City Council
City of Arco
October 23, 2023

Mayor Parsons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and lead those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor Grady Parsons, Council Members Ben Tessmer, Bobbie Reese, Danny McCurdy, City Clerk Maribel Cahalan, guests in attendance were Rebecca Lange, Tom Cammack, Justin and Kelsey Rose. Victor Sutherland, Sheriff Dave Hansen, Butte County School District Superintendent Joe Steele, Richard Dean, Patty Bedwell, Donna Murray and Rosanne Smith.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Public Comment – Butte County School District Superintendent Joe Steele shared information about two grants that the School District is working on. 1) Securing the future grant that the District will use to install blinking crosswalk signs that will operate during school hours. A solar powered electronic speed limit flasher is also planned to help motorists monitor and reduce speeds in the School Zone. 2) An application is being made to the Idaho Career Ready Students program that would allow Butte County School District to expand Career Technical Education (CTE) for middle and high school students by the purchase of the old Smitty's garage. This would create a Career Training Center (CTC) site in Butte County. The District plans to move the existing Welding program to a larger space. A CTC as, Dental Assistant, Automotive, or Natural Resource Management.

Next up., Arco resident Rebecca Lange materials for an application to present to the Council with the suggestion that the Council consider applying for either an LHTAC bridge grant or a bridge grant under the IDT's Leading Idaho Local Bridges (LILB) program to replace the Era Street canal culvert with a bridge. LHTAC bridge grants are due January 18, 2024. Ms. Lange suggested that the Council look at having Forsgren Associates to complete a detailed Application.

Amend Minutes for 08/28/2023 – The City Council reviewed modifications to the Council Minutes for August 28th that included the Public Hearing for the 2023/02024 City Budget. The Minutes needed clarification in order to document the Motion and second to approve the 2023/2024 City Budget. The Council approved the revised Minutes after reviewing them.

Victor Sutherland – Conditional Use Permit for Pick-Me-Up – Mr. Sutherland, Realtor and Property Manager has preliminary questions about applying for a Conditional Use Permit to convert the once commercial Pick-Me-Up building to a residential building. Councilman Tessmer advised Mr. Sutherland to speak with the City Clerk to get a CUP application, then complete the application and notification process. At that time the CUP would come before the Council for consideration.

Sheriff Dave Hansen – update Council – Sheriff Hansen informed the Council that the Sheriff's Office staff have been very busy these last ten months so far in 2023. Sheriff Hansen also reported that criminal cases are higher than 2022, and citations issued are also higher from 2022. There were 114 total arrests so far in 2023, higher than the previous year. Only six of those arrests were juveniles. Out of the 114 arrests, almost sixty percent were made within the City of Arco. Sheriff Hansen reported that the Butte County Jail System will be installing a Video Visitation System for the Jail Dayroom. This will allow inmates to communicate via video link without being restricted to Jail visiting hours. The jail will also be getting Tablets that the inmates can use to access the Law Library online without leaving the building. Sheriff Hansen also reported that Butte County received funding to replace the Jail roof, but that the contract for the work will not go out in time for work to be completed before winter. And last, Sheriff Hansen stated that the pay scale increase authorized this year by the Butte County Commissioners allowed the Sheriff's Office to keep the Deputy position fully staffed since the pay increases were authorized.

Justin Rose – update on Rec Hall/Turkey Trot – Fun Run for 11/18/2023 – City Rec Hall volunteer program coordinator, Justin Rose and wife Kelsey Rose shared details of the upcoming Turkey Trot Fun Run to be held November 18, at 10:00 am. Mr. Rose requested assistance from both the City and the Sheriff's Office to barricade or to supervise the Fun Run route during the run and share the proposed route with the Council. The City Council and the Sheriff agreed to help coordinate safety for the Fun Run. There will be a 1 mile run and a 5-kilometer run. Also, Mr. Rose handed the

Council the proposed activity plan for the 2024 Rec Hall activity year. Mrs. Rose asked whether the City would support pursuing an ice-skating rink on the newly vacant lot next to the Fredricks Building. The Mayor said that it would be a great activity for the City to support. Justin and Kelsey Rose will be looking into more details on what would need to be done to make this happen. Another new activity that the Roses have planned for this fall at the Rec Center is Pickleball. For spring, Mr. Rose is looking to add an Ultimate Frisbee League. After Justin Rose finished with his presentation, Councilman Tessmer shared that he had received comments from citizens concerned that the Rec Center might be hosting Home School classes. Mr. Rose said that there have been no Home School classes at the Rec Center, but that any group can apply for available space at the Rec Center for recreation activities.

Bills – bills in the amount of \$22,291.40 were reviewed and approved for payment.

Roundtable – Clerk Cahalan informed the Council that Kurt Hibbert, Comp Plan Planner is available to meet on either November 2nd, or November 16th, in the evening to work on getting the Comp Plan ready for Public Hearing. Council members agreed to meet on November 2, at 6:30 p.m. to meet with Mr. Hibbert, if he confirms the date.


Mayor Parsons asked Clerk Cahalan to get Jared Norton on the Council agenda for the near future, so that Mr. Norton can update the Council on planned airport changes and repairs.

Councilman Tessmer voiced his concerns that there have been several times when the Council is not able to meet to authorize necessary purchases to replace or to repair City equipment in a timely manner. Councilman Tessmer suggested the Council meet to discuss either increasing the purchase authority for the Mayor and/or create a pre-authorization process for specific equipment that City staff has asked the Council for. Council members agreed to meet at 6:30 p.m. on November 16, for a working meeting on this issue.

As there was no additional business, the Council adjourned at 7:38 p.m. The next meeting for the Arco City Council is Monday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Office.



Grady Parsons, Mayor



Maribel Cahalan, City Clerk