

# MINUTES

City Council  
City of Arco  
April 10, 2023

Mayor Parsons called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and lead those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor Grady Parsons, Council President Travis Gilchrist, Council members Ben Tessmer, Bobbie Reese, Danny McCurdy, Deputy Clerk Dana Jensen, and Maintenance Supervisor Tony Chisham. Guests in attendance were Tom Cammack, Rosanne Smith, Rebecca Lange, James Riemenschneider, Karen Pyron, Shelly Blackner, Wayne Ouellette, K.J. Babcock, and Camille Miller via Zoom.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Minutes from the last Council meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup> were reviewed by the Council and approved upon motion.

**Public Comments** – no residents signed up for Public Comment.

**Camille Miller/Forgren – via Zoom** – The City sent a request to Forsgren Associates, Engineering Firm for a proposal to assist the City with the inventory of city water line material types. The State Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) is requiring this inventory of all municipalities before the end of October 2023. Forsgren collected some of this data for the 2014 water meter installation project and will be working with Tony Chisham, City maintenance supervisor, to collect information on lines that were not inventoried in 2014. The proposal from Forsgren estimated around \$10,000 will be needed for this “time and material” contract. If no existing material information is found, Forsgren will then send out homeowner’s surveys or conduct excavations to expose pipes for identification. Maintenance supervisor Chisham stressed that the City must complete and submit this survey before the due date or risk being fined by DEQ. Council President Gilchrist requested that Ms. Miller prepare the project contract and bring it to the next Council meeting for review.

**Reschedule Work Meeting on Flood Ordinance** – Mayor Parsons asked the Council members and emergency management coordinator K.J. Babcock for a date when all can meet to discuss and write this ordinance. K.J. asked Council Clerk Blackner if she would request a member of the County Planning and Zoning Board if they could attend. The Mayor, Council members and Mr. Babcock agreed to meet on April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at the City office.

**Pretty City Committee – Karen Pyron & Shelly Blackner** – Karen Pyron attended the Council meeting to announce that she is stepping away from the Pretty City Committee and that Shelly Blackner will be taking on the leadership of the committee. Ms. Pyron said that the annual May Cleanup is being planned and that maintenance on the Greenbelt pathway will be important this year. Ms. Blackner the addressed the Council, stressing her goal to continue the County/City collaboration on clean-up activities, especially the jointly maintained Greenbelt Pathway. Ms. Blackner plans to build on the past efforts and activities of the Pretty City Committee.

**Wayne Ouellette – Approve License for Car Show** – representing the local Lions Club, Mr. Ouellette brought the completed car show license application and fee to the Deputy Clerk. The Car Show date is August 19<sup>th</sup>. The show will be held at Bottolfsen Park. There will be food and music for the event. Council President Gilchrist made a motion to approve the car show license application. Motion carried.

**Authorize Resolution to Raise Sewer Rate** – Council President Gilchrist summarized the research and information found about State laws regarding utility fees. Increases to existing utility fees may be made by resolution if the increase is less than five percent of an existing fee. The City resolves to increase the

sewer fee to \$36.03 per month, just under five percent increase. The other utility fees are not changing currently. Council President Gilchrist made a motion to suspend the meeting rules in order to read the resolution by title only. The motion was second and passed. Council President Gilchrist read aloud the resolution title, after which Council member Tessmer made a motion to authorize the fee increase resolution. The motion passed and the Mayor signed the resolution.

**Tony Chisham – Boom Truck** – Maintenance supervisor Chisham reported that the City's boom truck bucket is nearly at the end of its useful life. The boom truck was purchased back in 2005; used. Mr. Chisham explained that the boom truck is needed by the City for light replacement on streetlights, tree trimming, and event lights and banner replacements. Mr. Chisham said he thought that he had located a boom truck surplus by the Idaho Transportation Department for \$7000, but no longer available. Mr. Chisham said he will continue to look for a suitable boom truck replacement but will also research cost and availability of a replacement bucket and report back to the Council. The Mayor said that the City is also looking for a storage container for the City sewer facility.

**Bills** – Council members Bobbi Reese and Danny McCurdy reviewed the bills presented at the meeting. After reviewing and verifying, Councilwoman Bobbie Reese made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$32,623.84. Motion was seconded and approved.


**Roundtable** – Mayor Parsons announced that the City crews will wait for roads to dry out before starting spring road grading and work on potholes.

Council member Tessmer shared that he had been in communication with the Hawkbill Base group and announced that for Atomic Days the group will be placing bronze plaques at the Arco Science Center to honor Sailors who served on the historic Hawkbill submarine. In addition to some of the octogenarian veteran sailors, the Hawkbill Base group invites the Arco Mayor and community to participate in the ceremonies.

Council member McCurdy mentioned that local county resident Harvey Walker offered to donate a 1930s vintage dump truck that once served the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Mr. Walker suggested the City put in on display at the Science Center or at another appropriate location. Council member McCurdy is looking for feedback from the Council on this offer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

The next regular City Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the City office.

  
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Dana Jensen, Deputy Clerk

  
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Grady Parsons, Mayor