

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
February 5, 2008**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Library Community Room February 5, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., there being present upon roll call the following members:

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

Woody McEvers)	Members of Council Present
A. J. Al Hassell, III)	
John Bruning)	
Loren Ron Edinger)	
Deanna Goodlander)	
Mike Kennedy)	

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bloem.

INVOCATION was led by Reverend Ron Hunter, Church of the Nazarene.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilman Edinger.

PRESENTATION: STUDENT ATHLETE RECOGNITION: Coeur d'Alene High School Principal Randy Russell introduced Girls Basketball Head Coach Dale Poffenroth and Assistant Coach Jamie Thacker who accepted certificates for participation in the random drug testing program to: Natalie Stewart, Dayna Drager, Kama Griffitts, Sadie Simon, Ali Johnson, Amy Warbrick, Carli Rosenthal, Whitney Heleker, Deanna Dotts, Heather Baughman, Rachel Crawford, Amanda Buttrey, Chelsea Martin, Joy Day, Kelsi DeHaas, Faith Hazard, and Kelsy Bybee. Lake City High School Varsity Cheerleader Coach Jennifer Bassett accepted certificates for Michaela Starnes, Brianna Sullivan, Kelsey Tibbitts, E'Lissa Raynor, Natalie Brown, Faith Thompson, Mara Makinson, Michelle Butterfield, Christy Rolfe, Heather Holton, Mitchell Kennedy, Lindsey Clausen, Raelynn Peterson, Lauren Ong, Jenna Hall, Brittany Sampson, Kendi Atterberry, Ashlin Cox, Elise Logan, and Ashley Sampson.

PRESENTATION: DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATE AWARDS: Amy Dreps, Disability Action Center, presented the Disability Rights Advocate Awards in professional and volunteer categories. The recipient of the professional award went to Angie Goucher, Director of Special Needs Recreation, and the volunteer award went to Lisi Frum of the Women's Center. Ms. Dreps also presented certificates of appreciation to Jill Mikel, a Special Education teacher in the Coeur d'Alene School District; Bob Driscoll of the Department of Health & Welfare, and Dr. Bob Colonna of the Silver Valley Community Resource Center in Kellogg.

PRESENTATION: LAKE CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT: Tony Berns, Executive Director of the Lake City Development Corporation, presented their annual report. Mr. Berns discussed the history of the Lake City Development Corporation and reviewed aerial photographs of the Lake and River Districts. The Lake City Development Corporation was formed by the Mayor and Council in 1997. The Lake District was established in 1997 and sunsets in 2021. The River District was established in 2003 and sunsets in 2027. Mr. Berns also introduced the Board of Directors, and indicated that they are volunteers who are appointed by the mayor. Two people left the board last year -- Paul Anderson, after serving for 10 years, and Dixie Reid, after seven years of service. Councilman Al Hassell is the newest member of LCDC. LCDC is run by five committees: Acquisition, Parking, Finance, Housing, and Marketing.

Mr. Berns reviewed the 2007 accomplishments. In regard to workforce housing, Mr. Berns stated that LCDC is focused on learning their role. They are partnering with IHFA for a mid-town project. LCDC is also working on the educational corridor project. In addition, they are partnering with the North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation on the acquisition of 5.25 miles of Union Pacific rail line for the Prairie Trail. The Prairie Trail is a bike/pedestrian trail that will add huge value to the community and will allow a north/south commute into the downtown area.

The LCDC is working on quite a few partnerships in regard to infill development initiatives. They also feel that it is very important to bring the ULI (Urban Land Institute) to Coeur d'Alene. Their next visit will be on March 5th and they will be discussing workforce and student housing at the Coeur d'Alene Resort from 8:30 to 11:30.

LCDC supports through partnership a lot of the Coeur d'Alene Downtown Association programs which bring many benefits to the downtown area. They also are continuing their efforts with community outreach.

Mr. Berns reviewed the 2008 and beyond LCDC Strategic Priorities which include Education, Workforce Housing, Public Space, Job Retention/Job Creation, Public Parking, and Midtown Redevelopment. In regard to education, he stated they would like to bring the educational corridor to fruition and, in addition, they also want to bring the Sorenson and Winton schools into the Lake District.

The LCDC would also like to create new public spaces, when they can, through partnerships. Mr. Berns cited Riverstone Park and Mill River Park as examples, and further stated that LCDC also played a key role in the new Library and the Kroc Center. They would also like to play a key role in developing McEuen Field.

In regard to job creation and retention, Mr. Berns stated that LCDC had helped to create almost 1,200 new jobs and retained approximately 266 jobs in 2007. LCDC would also like to play a key role in getting a public parking structure underway and will also partner

with the city on redeveloping mid-town on Fourth Street from Lakeside to Harrison with street amenities and place-making initiatives.

2008 Tactical Goals include further defining the LCDC role regarding workforce housing, LCDC/Council workshops, continued outreach to community stakeholders, continued alternate site search for an American Legion ball field, and learning more regarding connectivity infrastructure in Coeur d'Alene.

Councilman Kennedy stated that in regards to the American Legion ball field, there are people that feel very strongly about the ball field and its current location, and asked Mr. Berns to explain LCDC's role. Mr. Berns explained that LCDC is trying to facilitate finding a new location for the ball field pursuant to the McEuen Field master plan as developed by the Committee of Nine. The master plan proposed that the ball field be moved to an equal or better place. LCDC is trying to find a new location within their realm of interest.

Councilman Edinger asked if LCDC would assist with the property owners' LID in mid-town. Mr. Berns stated that LCDC's involvement has not yet been determined. They are waiting for the council to give the green light to look at it and then they will meet with 4th Street property owners. Mr. Berns confirmed that the changes that are being proposed do not have anything to do with changing the direction of the streets but that the elements that they put in would not restrict the city from being able to go back to a two-way directional system if they decided to do that.

Councilman Kennedy commented that there is a legislative bill being proposed that would change how money from school district maintenance and operations goes to the LCDC. Mr. Berns stated that LCDC has been working on that issue and is trying to be proactive, along with the Association of Idaho cities. The LCDC would support any changes that make sense for the community.

Councilman Kennedy asked Mr. Berns to explain the mid-town workforce housing project. Mr. Berns stated that LCDC is partnering with the Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) on three lots just north of the Idaho Youth Ranch. They are working to create a mixed use building that has retail on the street level and residential units above street level. It will be restricted workforce housing. IHFA is coaching them on the best model to use. The land is LCDC's equity on the project.

Discussion ensued regarding the impact that LCDC has on taxpayers. Mr. Berns stated that LCDC impacts taxpayers slightly and does not impact school districts. The city and county, highway districts, and North Idaho College are impacted by the urban renewal districts. Mr. Berns explained that LCDC does not have the authority to give rebates or to not take revenue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

TRANSITION FACILITIES IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS: Susie Snedaker, 821 Hastings Avenue, spoke regarding the issue of commercial entities in residential neighborhoods. She stated that a house in her neighborhood was operating as a boarding house in violation of the zoning ordinance. A court order a couple of years later closed the operation. During that time the city knew of a couple of houses that were operating in violation of the ordinance. An article in the Press stated that 13 transitional homes currently exist in Coeur d'Alene. Ms. Snedaker stated that there were 4 homes last year and wondered why the public has not been notified of these homes and why those homeowners didn't apply for permits. She stated that it appears to be a very booming business in Idaho and that she believed there are businesses in residential neighborhoods and that twelve people in a home impact a neighborhood. It is completely unfair for the city to impose one set of standards for bed & breakfasts and allow other operators to ignore the laws. She asked the city to address this issue and adopt standards to protect the safety and livability of our neighborhoods.

Mayor Bloem asked City Attorney Mike Gridley if any of the homes have come forward and asked for a special use permit. Mr. Gridley stated that he was not aware of any but if people are aware of a problem, they should contact code enforcement as the first step to investigate it.

Ms. Snedaker suggested that the city should review the ordinance regarding the number of persons allowed per square footage in residences and that it is a big safety issue. She further stated that the city should address the zoning and parking issues and that the city should be proactive rather than reactive and address the problem.

Councilman Kennedy mentioned that regulating the facilities as suggested by Ms. Snedaker could result in facilities such as the Women's Shelter being closed. In addition, the Americans with Disabilities Act provides protections that the city cannot override.

SCHOOL ZONE CONSISTENCY: Roy Wargi, 2022 Coeur d'Alene Avenue, thanked the council and, especially, Councilman Edinger for their assistance in getting a third school crosswalk. He stated that he is concerned about school zones in that they are all different. He would like to see the school zones standardized throughout the city and the county. He is also in favor of increasing school zone fines.

Captain Ron Clark, CDA PD, stated that they are working with the legislature and are trying to standardize the school zones as best as possible. Other entities are also having the same difficulties.

LAKE CITY PLAYHOUSE: Dan Gookin, 714 W. Empire Avenue, expressed appreciation to Mr. Berns for a good presentation, and stated that the city council does have oversight of the LCDC. He further stated that the Lake City Playhouse is

putting on a show coming up later this month – “An Evening of Vaudeville.” The show will be presented on February 15th and 16th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lake City Playhouse. For more information you can call 667-1323 or visit lakecityplayhouse.org. The facility is completely run by private donations.

IMPACT FEES: Dennis Hinrichsen, 946 E.Spruce Avenue, commended the mayor and council regarding the excellent snowplowing. He further stated that the Boise City Council is looking at adding an impact fee for police, fire, and parks for all new residences and commercial projects going on. It might cut into the affordability of houses going into the area but it would give a break to existing taxpayers that have been paying for decades and wanting to remain in their houses. Mr. Hinrichsen stated that the city needs to find a way to meet expansion. Councilman Hassell commented that the city does have impact fees for parks, streets, fire, and police.

Mr. Hinrichsen asked for a report at the next city council meeting regarding whether anything can be done to increase our police. Councilman Kennedy responded that the main tool would be a local option tax and the state does not allow for that. The state also does not allow for impact fees for schools. The city has advocated for a local option tax and it would be great for citizens to write letters to your legislators. The only tool the city has right now is the urban renewal district.

Mr. Hinrichsen commented on the quality of the snowplowing efforts. Mayor Bloem stated that the city crew is plowing more miles than they ever have and doing it in less time than ever. Coeur d’Alene is the only city in the state to use the snow gate. There are some hardships this winter. The best thing you can do is get together as neighbors and help each other out. Mayor Bloem commented that the City of Coeur d’Alene is as well plowed as any city you will find in the State of Idaho.

NEW COUNCIL MEETING LOCATION: Jeff Crowe, 4011 N. 21st Street, stated that the move to this new facility has been fast and pretty effective so far. He expressed appreciation to Doug Eastwood and Howard Gould, Councilman McEvers, Richard Pruitt, Donna Patterson from North Idaho College, his assistant Kyle, and Andy Finney.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Hassell, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

1. Approval of minutes for January 15, 2008 and January 22, 2008.
2. Setting the General Services Committee meeting for Monday, February 11, 2008, at Noon, in the Library Community Room, and the Public Works Committee meeting for Monday, February 11, 2008, at 4:00 p.m., in the Library Community Room.
3. RESOLUTION 08-006: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO AUTHORIZING THE BELOW MENTIONED CONTRACTS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE CITY OF COEUR D’ALENE INCLUDING DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY AND

AUTHORIZATION TO GO TO AUCTION - FIRE DEPARTMENT; APPROVAL OF AN ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH J-U-B ENGINEERS FOR DESIGN OF REPLACEMENT PUMP FOR THE WASTEWATER PUMP STATION; APPROVAL OF AN ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH TRINDERA ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN OF ELECTRICAL AND STANDBY POWER SYSTEMS FOR THE WASTEWATER PUMP STATION.; APPROVAL OF S-9-06 MEADOW RANCH FINAL PLAT APPROVAL, SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND BOND; BID AWARD AND CONTRACT WITH TML CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE 2007 ARMSTRONG PARK BOOSTER STATION REPLACEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS – WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT.

4. Setting of Public Hearing for Fire Department Development & Operations New and Amended Fees for March 4, 2008.
5. Approval of Beer License for San Francisco Sourdough Eatery, 2392 N. Old Mill Loop
6. Approval of Beer/Wine License for Hampton Inns & Suites, 1500 Riverstone Drive

ROLL CALL: Goodlander, Aye; Kennedy, Aye, McEvers, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Edinger, Aye; Hassell, Aye. Motion carried.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COUNCILMAN EDINGER encouraged citizens that live by fire hydrants to remove the snow by their hydrants in at least a three foot diameter so the Fire Department can get to the hydrants. He also reminded citizens to not move snow into the streets. Mr. Edinger commended the Street Department who has done an excellent job.

COUNCILMAN HASSELL announced that the Public Works and General Services committee meetings will now be held in the Library Community Room so that these meetings can be televised. The meeting change will take effect on February 11th. The General Services meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. (noon), and the Public Works meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m.

COUNCILMAN MCEVERS commented that he believes that the Public Works and General Services meetings are more interesting than council meetings because there is more detail and questions are discussed at those meetings. He also presented a short snow video that he had put together.

COUNCILMAN BRUNING stated that on January 28th he attended a presentation of letters of commendation at the Police Department for recent law enforcement events at Lake City High School and the recent home invasion assault. He expressed appreciation to those officers who were awarded the letters of commendation and, also, to law enforcement leadership.

COUNCILMAN GOODLANDER commended all of the people who made it possible to be in the new Community Room tonight. She also thanked Councilman McEvers for his

assistance in the process. As a result of the move, there will be opportunities for other types of programs. Councilman Goodlander thanked Howard Gould and commented on the very high quality of people that work for the city. She also commended the Police and Fire departments and stated that she feels it a privilege to work with city staff as well as the mayor and council.

APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Edinger, seconded by Kennedy, to appoint Ben Wolfinger to the Civil Service Commission; John Schwandt, Carolyn Leege, and Steve Bloedel to the Urban Forestry Committee; Kendall Bodkin, Noelle Giddings, and David Tester to the Animal Control Board; Theresa Shaffer to the Arts Commission; Frank Costello and John Boraas to the Jewett House Advisory Board; and Barbi Harrison to the Childcare Commission. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Wendy Gabriel, City Administrator presented the Administrator's Report. In coordination with Commissioner Rick Currie from Kootenai County, Mayor Bloem has declared an emergency. This declaration is primarily to have the necessary processes in place for gaining emergency resources should conditions worsen. For now, city operations continue.

Patrons with overdue fines on their library cards can wipe the slate clean and help the food bank during the "Love Your Library . . . Food for Fines" drive beginning February 10th and continuing through February 23rd. The donation of nonperishable food items – either for people or pets – will result in the removal of late fees on a patron's record.

The first Citizen's Academy will be held from March 5th to April 26, 2008. The CDA PD is hosting the 10 week academy in cooperation with the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department and the Post Falls Police Department. Our goal is to increase our potential volunteer "pool" as well as recruit potential applicants for our upcoming "Citizens on Patrol" program. Efforts such as this will go a long way to bring the community and police together. Volunteers served 5,076 hours in 2007, which equals 2.5 full time employees. We are grateful for our volunteers.

The efforts of the Street Department were applauded for dealing with the record snow fall. Yesterday, she was informed by the Street Superintendent that we are 1 ½ inches away from the all time snow record in Coeur d'Alene. Also, thanks to PD and FD and building inspectors. Howard Gould does a great job with city properties and keeping public right of way clear. We would also welcome citizen's help in adopting a fire hydrant in your area and digging it out if you can.

Building Services Director Ed Wagner, and Building Inspector Keith Clemans recently presented the library with new 2006 code books. In the spirit of helping the public use the construction codes as they are intended, the North Idaho Code Enforcers, of which Ed and Keith are members, will be donating the commonly used construction code books to four local public libraries and NIC.

We are currently accepting applications for Information Technology Technician – deadline is February 8th; Wastewater Field Inspector – open until filled; and Police Officer – application deadline is March 7th for an April 7th testing date.

Councilman McEvers is working on a documentary to submit to the National Parks Foundation for an award. We look forward to seeing how we rank there. Part of the documentary will include some of our local activities including the Hangover Handicap, polar bear plunge, and sledding hill.

Councilmen and city staff were in Boise last week to meet with our legislators. Our rapport with the legislators keeps getting better. We are continuing to learn about the North Idaho water adjudication process. The city sent word to Boise that we are in favor of the adjudication process.

We received notice from FEMA that our levy dike road has been officially recertified.

We have added a link to the city web page for HousingIdaho.com. It is a user friendly site that allows people to seek affordable rentals in Idaho. Councilman Kennedy also commented there is a link on the web page to informational documents regarding ending homelessness.

RECESS: Councilman Edinger called for a five minute recess at 7:55. The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-007

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO AUTHORIZING A VENDOR AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PREVENTIVE HEALTH ASSISTANCE (PHA) BENEFITS TO MEDICAID PARTICIPANTS WITH THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE MEDICAID DIVISION, WITH ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS AT 3232 ELDER STREET, BOISE, ID 83720-0036.

STAFF REPORT: Steve Anthony, Recreation Director, stated that this is a new program started by the State of Idaho Health & Welfare Medicaid Division which recognizes the importance of recreation in people's lives. Anyone that qualifies for Idaho Medicaid can get a voucher to sign up for programs through the Recreation Department of the City of Coeur d'Alene. The city will accept the vouchers as payment and will be reimbursed by the state.

MOTION: Motion by Edinger, seconded by Kennedy, to adopt Resolution 08-007.

ROLL CALL: Kennedy, Aye; McEvers, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Edinger, Aye; Hassell, Aye; Goodlander, Aye. Motion carried.

FOURTH STREET RECONSTRUCTION: Gordon Dobler, Engineering Services Director, discussed possible scenarios for the reconstruction of Fourth Street, from simple reconstruction to an LID. The simplest scenario would be to bring 4th Street up to ADA standards. Staff's recommendation is that the city look at a full reconstruction that would include an LID and participation by LCDC. The LID would most likely be city initiated. The cost for the project depends on how many place-making enhancements are put in. The recommendation is that staff move forward and begin some dialogue with LCDC and property owners regarding their participation. Mr. Dobler stated that the reconstruction would probably take around three months.

Mr. Dobler explained the normal process for the reconstruction, which would include meetings with property owners and open houses. He also confirmed that the reconstruction would be on Fourth Street from Lakeside to Harrison. Once plans have been drafted and funding sources identified, they would come before council.

MOTION: Motion by Hassell, seconded by Kennedy, to authorize staff to proceed forward with looking at options for funding of the 4th Street Reconstruction, including a possible LID and funding from LCDC. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER ANNEXATION (BLM) RCA-1-08: John Stamos, Senior Planner, explained that this Request to Consider Annexation is a new procedure that was adopted by the council. The council can vote yes to allow the applicant to proceed forward with a formal application for annexation, or they can vote no, which would prevent the applicant from coming forward with the same request for a period of one year. Mr. Stamos reviewed his staff report, and stated that the subject property is within the Area of City impact, and the land use designation pursuant to the 2007 Comprehensive Plan is Stable Established. The property is within the Spokane River District and the Shorelines Special Area. He also reviewed public facilities and services, and stated that no public sewer extension would be needed. Mr. Stamos stated that the reason for the annexation is that BLM wants to establish an RV pad for a seasonal care taker.

Motion by Hassell, seconded by Goodlander, to allow the applicant to proceed forward with a formal application for annexation.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDING SIGN PERMIT FEES: Mayor Bloem read the rules of order for this public hearing. Kathy Lewis, Deputy City Clerk, gave the staff report. The Sign Board is recommending the implementation of a new double fee for obtaining a sign permit after a sign is installed, adopting the same re-inspection fee of \$47.00 charged by the building inspectors when they arrive at site for sign footing

inspection and are unable to approve due to site not being ready, or not done properly according to the plans submitted, and increasing the fee charged for political signs from \$5.00 to \$25.00. Ms. Lewis explained that currently signs are being installed without a permit and the installers just wait for the city to discover the installation. Some clients are being told by sign installers not to get a permit but to wait and see if the city notices, and then obtain a permit at no higher cost. Ms. Lewis also explained that the fee for political signs is a one-time fee for all signs placed within the city limits.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Bloem called for public comments, with none being received.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO ESTABLISHING AND AMENDING VARIOUS FEES.

Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Edinger, to adopt Resolution 08-008.

ROLL CALL: McEvers, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Edinger, Aye; Hassell, Aye; Goodlander, Aye; Kennedy, Aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Hassell, that there being no further business, this meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy C. Ferguson, Deputy City Clerk