

Potlatch City Council Meeting

City Hall – 195 6th Street – Potlatch, ID 83855

June 13, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the City Council was presided over by Mayor David Brown. Council members present: Donna Winther, David Cada, and Martin Anderson. Also, present: Harmony Nowack, City Clerk-Treasurer.

Absent: Joan Bender

Guests: Jake and Cass Meissner

Shan and Rachael Hemphill

Sharon Montgomery

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. CONSENT AGENDA: David Cada made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda (being regularly considered by the City Council, these items will be enacted by one motion unless requested by a City Council member that one or more items be removed for separate discussion): Minutes from May 23, 2022 City Council meeting, the City of Potlatch bills and payroll.***

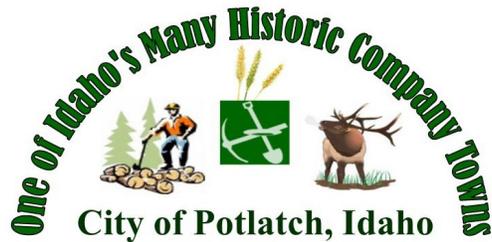
Donna Winther seconded the motion. Motion was approved with a Roll Call vote:

Martin Anderson, yes

Donna Winther, yes

David Cada, yes

2. RED FIR CAFÉ LIQUOR LICENSE



Mayor Brown presented the Red Fir Coffee House LLC's state and county liquor license to the council for a vote to approve the liquor license thru the city. Martin Anderson asked if liquor was to be sold for consumption on or off premises. Rachael Hemphill (owner of LLC) said she will be selling wine and beer by the glass on premises and also selling bottles of wine to go.

David Cada motioned to approve the liquor license for Red Fir Coffee House LLC, Martin Anderson seconded the motion. Motion was approved with "all ayes".

3. CITY BUY BACK PLAN

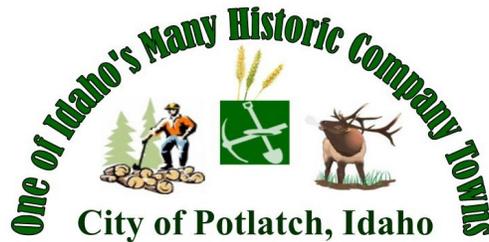
The city has previously had a "buy back" or "buydown" plan that pays the employee's health insurance deductible. The MBA plan the city held previously is no longer in service. The city has looked into other plans but the cost for these plans is higher than the previous plan. To save costs Mayor Brown and the City Clerk would like the city to be responsible for taking care of the "buydown" plan in-house.

Donna Winther made a motion to approve the City Clerk responsible for the employee deductible like a "buydown" plan. Dave Cada seconded the motion and the motion was approved with "all ayes".

4. VFW HALL RENTAL

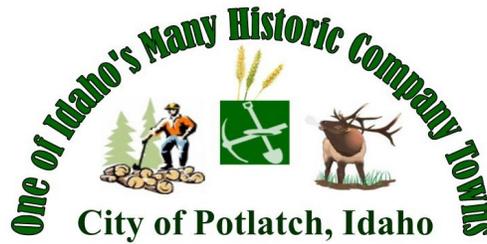
There has been some interest in having a permanent rental in the old VFW hall. Mayor Brown said the council needed to figure out how much rent would cost. The renter would be responsible for all utilities. Currently the Lions Club uses the back end of the hall for their gatherings. Donna Winther asked that the issue be tabled until the council could have a chance to look at the building and decide what kind of rental it would be appropriate for.

Issue tabled at this time.



REPORTS:

1. **Mayor – David Brown** – Mayor Brown said he is looking into a grant for bathrooms at Scenic 6 Park near the splash pad or for a liner for the city pool. Currently there is grant money for ADA approved restrooms at the splash pad. Until the city can get money for restrooms the Mayor would like to have a porta-potty placed at the splash pad for the rest of summer. Council agreed to the rental of a porta-potty for the summer. Mayor Brown also reported that Faith Church in Onaway will be putting in a 12' x 16' gazebo in memory of Kathy Cramer near the slash pad at Scenic 6 Park. Regarding the bulky waste site the Mayor said he and the county have not yet heard back from Potlatch Deltic on the easement to use their road to get to the proposed new site for the bulky waste. This week the Mayor met with a representative from Fatbeam a new fiber provider. Fatbeam will be running fiber to the school district in Potlatch this summer and within the next year will likely be able to provide fiber to the residents of Potlatch. The fiber lines will be overhead on the existing Avista polls.
2. **Parks – Joan Bender** – Absent
3. **Pool & Cemetery – Donna Winther** – The pool was able to open on June 10th. New sinks, toilets, flooring and dividers have all been installed. Pool staff said the new floors have been a bit slippery where water pools. Donna called Crocs Coatings, they are looking into a product they can put down to make the floor more gritty and should have an answer to Donna and the city by the end of the week. The health department came out to inspect the floors and approved. Next step for the pool is painting the outside of the building. Council asked if it might be possible to commission a mural? Donna will look into grant money that might be available for the pool as the pool needs a new liner and the pump and heaters could use an upgrade. The new filters are doing fine.



4. **Water & Sewer – David Cada** – Dave Cada gave his report on the water in our area. He said that by the end of May we were on track weather wise for an average year, now with the current weather we have been experiencing this June we are on track for a wetter than normal year. Even though the hot summer we had last year didn't affect the Aquaphor the rain we have been getting this year is certainly recharging the Aquaphor.
5. **Streets - Martin Anderson** – Paving was done on Cedar Street between 6th & 7th streets, Spruce street from 6th to the elementary school and on Cedar between 3rd to 4th street where the potholes were very bad.
6. **Scenic 6 - David Cada** – Scenic 6 meeting will be this Wednesday morning.
7. **Clerk – Harmony Nowack** – Children Pedestrian Safety Grant was submitted last week. If accepted the grant would be used to put sidewalks in on 10th street. Council was informed that the Jake Brake Ordinance will be back on the next council agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kass Meissner came to meet with City Council tonight on behalf of herself and her neighbors near 335 Spruce Street. She and her neighbors have concerns regarding new construction on the other side of the ally behind their respective houses. They feel as though the neighbors didn't get a chance to know what was happening or comment on the new residential construction. The neighborhood is in the historic Nob Hill section of Potlatch and Kass and many in the area are trying to restore the neighborhood to it's historical use. Mayor Brown said the owner of the property has gone thru all the correct processes with Planning and Zoning as well as the County. Kass said she would like to protect the neighborhood from high density housing. She said the historical value is in the 10 year plan and she would like the Council to make recommendations to preserve the historical aspects of the town before allowing development of very small properties. Mayor Brown said the city is working on updating codes for subdivisions and the like and also that there are state rules regarding updating historical buildings if they are on the historical register.

Sharon Montgomery at 630 Spruce had it approved by the city 6 years ago to plant two small maple trees in front of her house on the strip between the sidewalk and the street. This last Friday city summer crew came and trimmed the trees and left the branches on the ground. Sharon said the branches on this



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particular maple grow up, not out and were not growing over the sidewalk. The pruning was not done properly as evidenced by the branches she brought in. She also stated large stubs were left behind on the tree. Sharon said the tree trunks are less than 10” in diameter and the trees were not in need of trimming. Sharon stated that the city gave no notice that they would be trimming the trees in her neighborhood. She asked that the city would properly notify residents when work such as tree trimming is to be done in the residential neighborhoods.

Martin Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Donna Winther seconded the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST: _____ David L. Brown, Mayor

Harmony Nowack, City Clerk-Treasurer

The next City Council meeting will be Monday, June 27, 2022