

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

**September 4, 2012**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d'Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d'Alene City Library Community Room September 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., there being present upon roll call the following members:

Sandi Bloem, Mayor

Loren Ron Edinger	)	Members of Council Present
Mike Kennedy	)	
Woody McEvers	)	
Deanna Goodlander	)	
Dan Gookin	)	
Steve Adams	)	

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

PROPERTY NUISANCE: Richard Cheryl, 1308 Coeur d'Alene Avenue, stated that he is concerned with a property nuisance located at 13<sup>th</sup> and Coeur d'Alene. Additionally, he does not agree with the victim of graffiti having to remove it within 48 hours. Councilman Gookin asked if he has seen an improvement with the skateboarders mentioned at last meeting. Mr. Cheryl stated that he has seen fewer bikes, which were the largest problem.

URBAN RENEWAL: Russell McLain, 2360 E. Hayden View Drive, Kootenai County, requested the City give the urban renewal dollars to the County to go toward a new jail.

WEST COAST LEAGUE SUPPORT: Jim Foucher, 4127 S. West Way Drive, spoke in support of the West Coast League. Councilman Goodlander requested and Mr. Foucher provided the video flyby presentation.

Harry Amend, 21917 Twin Lakes Village, spoke in support of the West Coast League and stated it would be state of the art, with availability to all sports.

Al Williams, 640 E. Bunker, Post Falls, spoke in support of the West Coast League and believes it would be a positive economic impact to the community. Councilman Kennedy questioned the overlap of scheduling. Mr. Williams stated that an artificial turf level field would allow a college team to start early and be done with their season before other schools start their sports season.

ANIMAL CONTROL CONCERN: Dennis Hinricksen, 946 E. Spruce Avenue, stated he has a concern that the 2012 budget has a decrease in animal control and code enforcement and is concerned about the preservation of neighborhoods. Councilman Gookin requested clarification regarding the cut to animal control budget. Chief Longo clarified that the budget reflects the ebbs and flows in seasonal calls.

CONTRACT CONSISTANCY: Frank Orzell, 310 E. Garden Avenue, requested that the City provide better care and management of contracts. Councilman Goodlander offered to meet outside of the Council meeting to discuss this issue.

WEST COAST LEAGUE SUPPORT: Linda Wolovich, 1018 N. B Street, spoke in support of the baseball concept and requested clarity regarding the Legion baseball team. Councilman Kennedy stated that the Ramsey field would be a permanent field for the Legion. The potential West Coast League field would provide another scheduling opportunity for the Legion. Parks Director, Mr. Eastwood, clarified that it is estimated that \$300,000 will be spent on Ramsey field enhancements.

CROSSWALK REQUEST: Roy Wargie, 222 Coeur d'Alene Avenue, requested a sidewalk for the children to walk safely at 21<sup>st</sup> and Coeur d'Alene Avenue. City Clerk Apprentice, Renata McLeod, mentioned that CDBG funds are allocated for Harrison Avenue, so no CDBG funds are available this fiscal year. Street Superintendent, Tim Martin, mentioned that there might be funds available from his budget, but not sure they have time this year to install it; he will work with Mr. Wargie on a solution.

**CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL OF THE WEST COAST LEAGUE:** Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Goodlander to move this item forward. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Kennedy introduced the item as discussed at the General Services Committee meeting. Councilman Kennedy explained that the General Services Committee is recommending City Council endorse the concept of allowing a West Coast Collegiate Team to locate in Coeur d'Alene in 2014 as the anchor tenant for the Cherry Hill Sports Complex. He noted from the staff report that the Parks Department and other interested baseball enthusiasts have been proposing a new baseball field in Coeur d'Alene for approximately 12 years. Councilman Kennedy said the request is to adopt the concept of bringing a West Coast League Team to Coeur d'Alene. Fee structures, management, and uses would be worked out over the next several months including routine maintenance and capital improvements. The estimated cost of the facility is \$2,700,000 and those funds are being raised privately. The Panhandle Parks Foundation is taking on the fund raising and all funds are going to that organization.

MOTION: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Goodlander to endorse the concept of allowing the West Coast League to locate a baseball team in Coeur d'Alene and direct staff to work out the details with the WCL for a future Cherry Hill sports complex. Motion carried with Gookin voting No.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Edinger hopes that when negotiations that the City Recreation Department is involved in scheduling of events, as it is City owned property. Councilman McEvers wanted clarity regarding wooden bats. Councilman Kennedy clarified that little league and college play with aluminum bats, professional to major leagues use wooden bats. Councilman Gookin stated that the stadium looks good and that the financing is under review. He is also concerned that the maintenance and operation would be a City liability, and would like assurances on that issue. Councilman Gookin is concerned with conceptual part of the motion. Councilman McEvers asked if Maintenance and Operations will be in the contract. Councilman Kennedy clarified that it will be a city owned facility and be maintained by our Parks Department. The hope is that it will be able to pay for itself. A bigger piece may be how to build up a fund for future replacement of turf, etc. Councilman Adams stated that Ron Ouren stated that the field of dream committee's intent is to continue fundraising after the structure is built.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Adams to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams, to amend the motion to approve Resolution No. 12-037 to excluding item 1, destruction of records from Administration and Legal Departments, to retain Mayor's Correspondence, Mayor's Miscellaneous file, and Mayor's State of the City files.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Gookin expressed concerned with the destruction of Mayoral records while the Mayor is still in office. Councilman McEvers asked the City Clerk, Ms. Weathers to explain why the City keeps some items and destroys others. Ms. Weathers clarified that Idaho code allows that temporary records can be destroyed after two years and semi-permanent can be destroyed after five years but permanent records must always be maintained. She clarified that the intent is for previous mayor term records to be destroyed while current mayor records retained. Mayor stated that she does not mind retaining records during her term.

ROLL CALL ON MOTION TO AMEND: Goodlander, No; Gookin, Aye; Kennedy, No; Edinger, Aye; Adams, Aye; McEvers No. The amended motion carried with the Mayor's tie-breaking vote in the affirmative.

1. Approval of minutes for August 21, 2012.
2. Setting General Services and Public Works Committees meetings for Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. respectively.
3. RESOLUTION NO. 12-037 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 APPROVING THE DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS FROM ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL DEPARTMENTS; APPROVING S-3-12 – FINAL PLAT APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE / WARRANTY AGREEMENT FOR COEUR D'ALENE PLACE 18<sup>TH</sup> ADDITION; AND APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH GREENSTONE KOOTENAI FOR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (PUD-2-94M.5).
4. Setting of Public Hearing: V-12-3 – Vacation of portions of Right-of-Way in the Merriam Park Addition and Relinquishment of Remainder Portion of College Drive and Carlin

Avenue (aka Garden Avenue) to North Idaho College for October 2, 2012

5. Authorizing Sole Source Procurement for a Street Smart Snow Plow.
6. Acceptance of Water Main Easement – Mill River Seniors Project

ROLL CALL: Goodlander, Aye; Gookin, Aye; Kennedy, Aye Edinger, Aye; Adams, Aye; McEvers Aye. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENTS – LIBRARY BOARD:** Motion by Councilman Goodlander, seconded by Councilman Kennedy to re-appoint Steve McCrea to the Library Board. Motion carried with Gookin voting No.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:** The Coeur d’Alene Arts Commission is seeking nominations for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor’s Awards in the Arts. You may pick up a nomination form at City Hall, or download and print a form from [www.cdavid.org](http://www.cdavid.org). Nominations must be submitted by September 5, 2012. For more information, call Eden Irgens at 818-3067, or email [eden@rangeus.com](mailto:eden@rangeus.com). The lower City Hall/Library parking lot will be temporarily closed for 90 days. Visitors will be directed to use the upper lots (the two-hour Library lot and the current visitor spaces off of 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the small upper lot). Because the lower City Hall parking lot will be closed after Labor Day, the city’s utility drop-off box will be located off of 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the upper visitor parking lot at City Hall. On Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, the Coeur d’Alene Fire Department, Station III (located at 1500 N. 15<sup>th</sup> Street), will host an Open House from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information, call 769-2340. The potential new water well on Atlas Road north of Hanley Avenue has passed the initial water quality tests. The Emma Avenue water main replacement project continues, which is approximately one week from completion.

Congratulations to Coeur d’Alene Fire Inspector Brian Keating who was selected to attend the National Fire Academy (NFA), Executive Fire Officer (EFO) course in Emmitsburg, MD this March. Bistro on Spruce and Dave Smith Motors have been presented with Landscape of Excellence awards, by the Community Canopy tree care education program, in recognition of the outstanding use and care of trees within these businesses’ landscapes. Bistro on Spruce is located at 1710 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and Dave Smith Motors is located at 1916 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Landscape of Excellence awards are presented by Community Canopy for encouraging good tree care by highlighting those businesses or organizations who are doing things right. A tree safe zone is an area around a tree trunk where grass and weeds do not grow to prevent damage to trees from the use of lawn equipment close to the tree trunk. Community Canopy recommends that a grass and weed-free safe zone be established at least 18 inches out from the trunks of trees. More information can be found at [www.communitycanopy.org](http://www.communitycanopy.org). A safety tip from the city’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee this week is to not talk or text on your cell phone while driving or riding your bike. Distracted driving accounts for 20% of all traffic accidents. The Police Department has received several letters commending the Police Department for its professionalism on various calls.

ORDINANCE NO. 3445  
COUNCIL BILL NO. 12-1019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ACT OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, KNOWN AS ORDINANCE NO. 1691, ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, BY CHANGING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY FROM R12 TO NC, SAID PROPERTY BEING DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: +/- 0.288 ACRE PARCEL AT 2202 N. GOVERNMENT WAY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF A SUMMARY OF THIS ORDINANCE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

Motion by Edinger, seconded by Gookin to pass the first reading of Ordinance No. 3445.

ROLL CALL: Adams Aye; Edinger Aye; Gookin Aye; Goodlander Aye; Kennedy Aye; McEvers Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Goodlander, seconded by McEvers to suspend the rules and to adopt Ordinance No. 3445 by its having had one reading by title only.

ROLL CALL: Adams Aye; Edinger Aye; Gookin Aye; Goodlander Aye; Kennedy Aye; McEvers Aye. Motion carried.

**RECESS:** The Mayor called for a 5-minute recess at 7:25 P.M. The meeting resumed at 7:33 P.M.

**PUBLIC HEARING – ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2012-2013:** Mayor Bloem read the rules of order for this public hearing. Finance Director Troy Tymesen presented the staff report and provided a historical comparison of the City from 125 years ago. The proposed budget includes the 2% increase in property tax reserve, personnel reductions, and minimal capital acquisitions. Mr. Tymesen stated that he received one constituent contact (Ms. Snedaker) regarding the budget. Councilman Kennedy asked what the City's experience was regarding health insurance, as his small group plan decreased this year. Mr. Tymesen stated that the City is directly underwritten, claims versus premiums, and overhead costs are all known, which directly affects increases. Councilman Edinger asked in which department the professional services contract for public relations reside. Mr. Tymesen stated that it is currently under the Administration Department. Administrator Gabriel clarified that it would be a contract position that would start out at approximately 15 hours per week. Some of the funds may be used for research/surveys, etc. Mr. Tymesen stated that the Lake City Employee Association and the Fire Union have verbally agreed to no cost of living increase during the proposed fiscal year. The Police Association is still in negotiations, however, the budget is proposed without a cost of living increase. Councilman McEvers stated that he calculates that we are providing services to more people with less employees. Councilman Goodlander asked about the recent legislation regarding personal property tax revenue and how that would impact the City. Mr. Tymesen stated that it would not be a significant impact on the City budget. Councilman Edinger questioned the \$400,000 for McEuen from the Parks Capital Improvement. Mr. Tymesen

clarified that no general fund money will be going to McEuen project, the Front Avenue project is an overlay project. Councilman Kennedy felt that the original motion regarding no use of general funds dollars for the project meant that no new funds other than what was outlined would go toward the project. Councilman Kennedy felt that use of Park's Department workers for removing and retaining fencing for other parks, etc. was a sensible use of staff resources and is part of everyday duties. Councilman McEvers clarified that this budget does not include any use of fund balance, however includes the 2% increase, in order to balance.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Susan Snedaker, 821 Hastings, commended the employee Associations and Union for the zero COLA. Ms. Snedaker expressed concern that \$65,000 is allocated for a public relations contract for duties that have yet to be described. Ms. Snedaker stated that \$65.00/hour is a lot of money, and hopes the City reconsiders it. Additionally, she expressed her concern with Persons field appearance and believes it should be beautified.

Administrator Gabriel clarified the proposed duties of the contract position, including the use of all media forms available, including social media. Mrs. Gabriel clarified that the allocation includes the contract amount and additional dollars for survey's etc. and that she has interviewed the person and does not intend to go out to bid. Councilman Kennedy clarified that other cities do have public relations positions including the City of Post Falls.

Linda Wolovich, 1019 N. B Street, stated that \$65,000 for public relations should not be allocated. Ms. Wolovich stated that employee merit pay should be removed for one year, and disagrees with McEuen plan expenses. Additionally, she does not agree with any new taxes.

Jay Sanders, 2320 W. Fairway Drive, spoke in opposition of any increase in taxes and is concerned that LCDC would get some of the 2% increase. Mr. Tymesen clarified that if the levy rate increase LCDC would get an increase, it is not directly related to the City's increase. Mr. Sanders stated that the city should close the Urban Renewal Districts.

MAIN MOTION: Motion by Kennedy seconded by Goodlander to pass the first reading of Council Bill No. 12-1023.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Kennedy stated that the City of Post Falls is considering extending an urban renewal district to pay for infrastructure improvements. Councilman Kennedy stated that he believes that public relations person is needed to deal with facts. Councilman Kennedy thanked the Associations and Union for giving up their contracted cost of living allowance. Additionally, he believes the City is providing a value for the money and feels a balance has been struck with this budget and will support it. Councilman McEvers stated that raising taxes is awful, but good to know that the City has not always taken and increase. Councilman McEvers stated that in recent years the City took care of more citizens with less staff. Additionally, he recalls that employees have given up increases several times over the past few years and believes that if employees are making the effort, then the compromise is to take the 2%. Councilman Adams provided a statement based on citizen input, requesting a vote against raising taxes. Councilman Adams stated

that he is not in support of an increase in taxes. Councilman Gookin has suggestions for cutting items in the budget, specifically \$65,000 for the public relations contract.

MOTION TO AMEND: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams to amend the motion to remove the \$65,000 from the Administration budget and reduce the property tax increase.

ROLL CALL: Goodlander No; Kennedy No; McEvers No; Adams Aye; Edinger Aye; Gookin Aye  
Motion failed with the Mayor's tie-breaking vote in the negative.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Edinger asked if removal of \$65,000 would make a difference in the property taxes. Mr. Tymesen explained that he has estimated the revenue amount, so if that is correct, the removal of \$65,000 from the 2% would be approximately four tenth of a point. He further clarified that the revenue side of the budget could easily be off by \$60,000. Councilman McEvers, stated that he believes that the public relations position is needed to get facts out to the community. Councilman Kennedy stated that a public relations person would be available to clarify rumors timely rather than staff spending time out of their daily duties. Ms. Gabriel clarified that she presented the idea of improving communications with the public in May. Councilman Goodlander recalls discussion of doing a better job of communicating and felt it was time to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with regards to communications. Councilman Gookin stated he believed the intentions to get facts out is good, however, it does not guarantee positive results. Mayor Bloem stated that she does not believe there are any other \$70,000,000 corporations without a public relations person and it is warranted for the City. Councilman Gookin presented a list of additional cuts totaling approximately \$300,000 to include the following; \$2,000 from the Mayor/Council budget for meetings; \$15,750 from Municipal Services for computer upgrades at the library; \$16,000 from the Planning Department budget for work on East Sherman; \$14,700 from the Police Department budget for tablets; \$7,500 from the Police Department budget for security cameras; \$16,200 from the Police Department budget for an office remodel; \$9,000 from the Police Department budget for a tactical robot; \$20,000 from the General Government budget to be transferred to the Cemetery/Perpetual Care fund budget, with additional items already removed from the proposed budget, including the Police Department storage building (\$123,000), Building Department minor equipment (\$40,000) and Recreation Department moving of a field lighting (\$47,000).

MOTION TO AMEND: Motion by Gookin, seconded by Adams, to amend the budget and apply the savings toward property tax reduction by removal of the following budget items: \$2,000 from the Mayor/Council for meetings; \$15,750 from Municipal Services for computer upgrades at the library; \$16,000 from the Planning Department for work on East Sherman; \$14,700 from the for tablets and \$7,500 for security cameras and \$16,200 for an office remodel; \$9,000 for a tactical robot from the Police Department; and \$20,000 from the General Government budget to be transferred to the Cemetery/Perpetual Care fund budget. Motion failed.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Goodlander stated that she felt that the City staff is knowledgeable regarding the needs of the organization and that the Council role should be to support staff's budget recommendations. Additionally, she does not believe the proposed cuts will translate to a true savings as explained by Mr. Tymesen. Councilman Gookin stated that he believes he is representing those that elected him. Councilman Kennedy believes it is the role of a

Councilmember to act as a board member of a Corporation and trust staff and provide them with the appropriate tools to do their jobs and allow them flexibility to manage their departments.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3449**  
COUNCIL BILL 12-1023

AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2012" APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$72,705,505 TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE FOR SAID YEAR; LEVYING A SUFFICIENT TAX UPON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN SAID CITY FOR GENERAL REVENUE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH APPROPRIATION IS MADE; LEVYING SPECIAL TAXES UPON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY WITH SAID CITY FOR SPECIAL REVENUE PURPOSES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SAID CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF A SUMMARY OF THIS ORDINANCE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Gookin says there are a couple of items in the Municipal Services budget that should be on the Library budget such as internet usage and computers. Additionally, he stated that LCDC does have an impact on the City budget, as increment goes to LCDC not the City, which he estimated to be at \$2,000,000.00. Councilman McEvers, stated that he has never understood why everything needs to be free to Library patrons; however, over the years he has grown to understand that sometimes the City does things for the good of the people. Additionally staff is laying fiber pipe to save money now and into the future. Councilman Edinger would like to thank the staff for their hard work, and the Associations and Union for the zero cost of living increase. He stated that he has only one problem with the budget and that is McEuen Park funding coming from the Parks Capital Improvement fund and is concerned that General Fund dollars are being used for the project. Councilman Goodlander state that police robots could save a Police Officer's life, and believe that this is an example of when it isn't about dollars, rather life safety.

MAIN MOTION ROLL CALL: Goodlander Aye; Kennedy Aye; McEvers Aye; Adams No; Edinger No; Gookin No. Motion carried with the Mayor's tie-breaking vote in the affirmative.

Motion by Goodlander, seconded by Kennedy to suspend the rules and adopt Council Bill No. 12-1023 by its having had one reading by title only.

ROLL CALL: Goodlander Aye; Kennedy Aye; McEvers Aye; Adams Aye; Edinger Aye; Gookin Aye. Motion carried.



ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Kennedy, seconded by McEvers to recess to September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room for a joint meeting with the Coeur d'Alene tribal Council, then to September 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon in the City Hall former Council Chambers for a workshop on the CDBG 5-year plan, and then to September 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon in the City Hall former Council Chambers for a workshop on the stormwater utility. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 9:30 p.m.

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Sandi Bloem, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Renata McLeod,  
City Clerk Apprentice