

**MINUTES OF THE
HAILEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday January 30, 2012 * Hailey City Hall Meeting Room**

Present: Carol Brown, Don Keirn, Fritz Haemmerle, Pat Cooley, Martha Burke
Staff Present: Jeff Gunter, Ned Williamson, Heather Dawson, Tom Hellen

CALL TO ORDER

[5:31:27 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle called the meeting to order.

OPEN SESSION FOR PUBLIC CONCERNS

[5:31:49 PM](#) None offered.

AIRPORT ISSUES

[5:32:08 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle opted to bypass this item until later in the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

CA 028 *Motion to call a special meeting for Monday, April 30, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of a general public hearing on the Quigley Canyon annexation application (no documents).*

CA 029 *Motion to ratify final Request for Proposals for Rubbish Hauling Franchise, as amended by staff following direction from City Council on January 9, 2012.*

CA 030 *Motion to approve minutes of January 23, 2012, and to suspend reading of them.*

CA 031 *Motion to approve claims for expenses incurred during the month of January, 2012.*

[5:32:15 PM](#) **Martha Burke moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Don Keirn seconded.**

Roll call vote: Brown, yes; Keirn, yes; Cooley, yes; Burke, yes.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

[5:32:45 PM](#) None.

APPOINTMENTS

[5:32:49 PM](#) None.

PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

[5:32:53 PM](#) None.

PUBLIC HEARING:

PH 032 *Discussion of airport relocation issues and current operations at Friedman Memorial Airport.*

[5:33:04 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle explained that his reason for calling this special meeting was to gather the Council together with citizens as a collective body to determine direction and goals, to formulate a base line for airport policies, and to encourage public input. He further gave some historical background and his understanding of the FAA's current position in this process.

[5:39:19 PM](#) Ned Williamson noted written comments received on this topic. In favor of keeping the airport in its current location were Betty Grant, John Melk, Karen Melk, Richard

Henning, Marybeth Waterman, Dale Ewersen, Pam Rheinschild, and Brian Emerick. Richard Fassino shared similar airport improvement discussions at the Kahului Airport in Hawaii. Trent Sanders wrote regarding safety concerns at the current location. Carol Comtaruk wrote in favor of relocation and no expansion of the current location. Karen Province expressed hope that noise levels would be addressed.

[5:41:03 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle opened the meeting to public comment.

[5:41:17 PM](#) Lisa Horowitz, 610 Eastridge, spoke in general favor of the airport for the sake of the local economy and keeping commercial air service here, but felt relocation was not feasible right now. She supported the current location for the next 10 to 15 years.

[5:43:46 PM](#) Galen Hanselman, 811 Quigley, spoke as the publisher of aviation books, noting that the current airport is important to his work in aerial photography and spreading ashes for Wood River Chapel. He also noted a German business peer is interested in basing an operation here. He emphasized that he felt the airport is good for business.

[5:46:37 PM](#) Rob Cronin, 521 Deer Trail, explained that he was previously in favor of moving the airport, but in light of the current economy, he now favors doing whatever it takes for reliability and safety here and now.

[5:47:39 PM](#) Victor Thomas, 3371 Berry Creek, noted that instrument landings bring planes in too low and will affect everyone in town. He expressed his hope that the Council would not allow regional jets to fly in and out at will, and asked the Council to first “first protect our quality of life, and that will direct a lot of other answers.”

[5:50:36 PM](#) Max Casebeau, 810 N. 2nd Ave., explained that technology currently exists to properly land planes here with little impact, and he further offered to share information on the ways that can be done.

[5:51:58 PM](#) Judy Foster, 2270 Winterhaven Dr., reminded the Council that air travel has a serious and negative effect on the environment. She noted that aviation is likely unsustainable into the future.

[5:53:02 PM](#) Peter Schiermeier, 1840 Copper Ranch Lane, spoke as the operator of Avis Rent-a-Car at the airport and noted his hope that “we maintain and grow everything we can right now.” He further opined that “money to any other airport is money right out of our local pocket,” and encouraged the Council to first expand the current location as much as feasibly possible for now. Following that, and assuming an upturn in the economy, he then suggested looking into the possibility of relocation.

[5:55:31 PM](#) Jim Perkins, 541 River Trial, as president of the Blaine County Pilots Association, noted that the airport is a vital economic asset and offers other benefits such as medical flights and package delivery services. He spoke in favor of maintaining the existing airport, improving as possible, and “making it work.”

[5:58:53 PM](#) Patrick Buchanan, 520 Cedar Lane, noted the importance of having viable and reliable air service here. He proposed immediate and incremental progress to improving the existing location.

[5:59:57 PM](#) Linda Haavik, 608 3rd Ave. S., opined that reliability of the airport should be improved in the short term, but also encouraged developing mid- and long-term plans for solutions. She further noted that “Hailey is not a little island. We are all in this together.” She emphasized the importance of medical service through the airport, and that perhaps the City’s Comprehensive Plan might need to be changed or to be more fluid given the current economy.

[6:02:30 PM](#) Jeff Anderton, 841 Sunrise, reminded that discussions about the airport have gone on for “at least 24 years” and advocated changing the paradigm of the discussion. He proposed

continuation of the status quo for the short-term and the City dictate that the airport must move by 2020. He noted that dollars spent on “endless discussions have led to no return,” and spoke in opposition to using tax dollars for any relocation.

[6:06:40 PM](#) Evan Lawler, 1921 Northridge Drive and board member of Sustain Blaine, expressed belief in the economic benefits of the airport. She proposed that if the airport must expand outside the existing fence, there must be some noise mitigation.

[6:08:52 PM](#) Judy Hanselman, 811 Quigley Road, noted that the airport was indispensable in fire fighting efforts, that new jets are far quieter than older ones, that this year marks the 80th anniversary of Friedman Airport, and that Hailey has built itself up around the airport.

[6:10:06 PM](#) Keith Roark, 409 N. Main St., urged the Council to “move with extreme caution” on this matter, and that “every improvement designed to increase reliability came with a cost.” He further proposed the Council recognize that “we all came, and try to remain, for the lifestyle and quality of life [here].”

[6:14:21 PM](#) Kathy Rivers, 3190 Mountain Ash, noted that the noise primarily affects full-time residents who will be most affected by airport expansion, and that she believes a focus on economics only is short-sighted. She offered the example of Steamboat Springs, Colorado where they “had great success with a new regional option.” She favored a larger regional airport that would have a greater chance for direct flights. She further noted that many people came here, and even settled near the airport, when it was a small airport. She wondered why residents near the airport should be expected to accept a larger airport now.

[6:18:53 PM](#) Bill Grimburg, 1919 Briarwood, agreed with Kathy Rivers, and advocated use of the Twin Falls airport as a regional option. He opposed spending any more money on Friedman because “noise is a problem here.”

[6:20:08 PM](#) Scott Levy, 401 2nd Ave. in Ketchum, brought a newspaper fact sheet and noted the location of hangars at the north end of the airport. He suggested looking at moving those hangars back from the runway center line as an option for improving safety at the current airport.

[6:22:08 PM](#) Krista Gerhke, 370 Little Indio, said it is time to start talking about this and time to make clear choices. She asked for leadership and action.

[6:22:56 PM](#) Gary Busch, 15 W. Chestnut, reminded that a verbal commitment was earlier given to the Eccles family that the City would not seek imminent domain. He asked if that promise has changed. And, he further asked if expanding the airport to the south and into the Eccles’ ranch would truly improve the glide path. He pressed for a quick response and action.

[6:25:16 PM](#) Paul Hopfenbeck, 870 Maple Leaf, initially speaking on behalf of Sweetwater, encouraged leaving the airport as it is for now, and to move it later if possible. And, as a resident of lower Broadford, he was not in favor of expansion and encouraged leaving the airport in its current location for now.

[6:26:27 PM](#) Jack Northcutt, 418 1st Ave. S., opined that the airport is considerably quieter than it was years ago. He further believed the quality of life here has improved and is supported by airport. He encouraged expanding the airport and making it work here.

[6:27:52 PM](#) Lynn Brewer, 100 Lindsay Circle in Ketchum, spoke as CEO of a new business here, recently relocated from Seattle and now looking to employ 200 people. She noted that she grew up here, and that the airport “is a deep concern for us and our ability to function as a business here.” She asked for a commitment to a strong airport in Hailey.

[6:29:48 PM](#) Steve Kearns, 231 Broadford Road, former mayor and supporter of the 1994 Master Plan, spoke as a proponent of the airport for 30 years, but said the economy and FAA has scared

him. He suggested exploring every alternative for relocation, but if that is not possible, he hoped we modify the existing airport.

[6:31:54 PM](#) Bonnie Layton, 121 Tendoy, opined that planes have gotten louder, traffic has increased, and more homes have been built here. She asked that we revisit Site 10 versus putting more money into this airport. She also asked that “something be done to relocate within the next four years.”

[6:33:43 PM](#) Doug Brown, Wood River Economic Partnership and 12698 Highway 75, noted the size and mission of WREP, and emphasized that the airport is highly important to members. He spoke in support of a replacement airport, but noted the costs and environmental problems may prohibit that. He favored taking time to reconsider a replacement airport while the economy recovers. He encouraged the City to look at WREP’s newsletter to better understand their position.

[6:36:09 PM](#) Julie Lawson 105 Lower Broadford, suggested thinking in terms of this being “an incredible opportunity to move 5 miles down the road.” She cited the St. George airport in Utah as a good example of success in that regard and favored moving the airport now rather than putting more money into the existing one.

[6:37:06 PM](#) Harry Griffith, Sustain Blaine and 104 Sage Willow in Sun Valley, asked the Council to visit Sustain Blaine’s website for their position, noting the group represents “a lot of businesses and employees.”

[6:38:42 PM](#) Jim Kuehn, 2114 Buttercup, encouraged looking at Central Idaho from a regional perspective and working with other regional airports in the southern part of the state. He further noted that safety improvements may be achieved by moving “outside the fence” and could then offer the option of keeping general aviation at Friedman to support tourism and the local economy. He spoke as a proponent of a new regional airport south of the interstate, and keeping the GA community here in Hailey. He further suggested changing the preamble to the 1994 Master Plan and “let’s take action tomorrow.”

[6:45:24 PM](#) John Strauss, 102 Water Hole Lane, came here for the GA community at this airport. He acknowledged that this is a tough decision, but encouraged thinking ahead, working toward lessening airport impact and overcoming “hostility toward the airport here” because “we all lose then.” He thought perhaps a two-airport scenario may be the best option.

[6:49:27 PM](#) Geoff Moore, 406 1st Ave. S., asked what will be expected of the typical Hailey tax payer, and further asked for advance notice before “you commit me to any more taxes.”

[6:50:21 PM](#) With no further comment offered, Mayor Haemmerle brought the discussion back to Council. Mr. Haemmerle asked Rick Baird to explain what the reliability issues are and whether Friedman can ever be truly reliable.

[6:51:46 PM](#) Mr. Baird spoke on the airport’s efforts, research and study to improve reliability. A report is currently being prepared to submit to the FMAA board soon. “We believe reliability can be improved.”

[6:56:17 PM](#) Fritz Haemmerle noted various methods may be employed, but the terrain and weather here affirms it is unlikely we can ever “have a fully reliable airport here.”

[6:56:55 PM](#) Mr. Baird explained other possibilities, including technological approaches, for achieving maximum visibility and reliability.

[6:59:25 PM](#) Mr. Haemmerle asked if there are any ways to mitigate the terrain impact on reliability.

[7:00:03 PM](#) Mr. Baird noted that high terrain on three sides will not compare to an airport on flat land. He felt improvement is possible, but that this location cannot fix all reliability issues.

He opined that the 1994 preamble established an expectation, but that the FMAA is not responsible for the current economy and has made the earlier expectation less attainable now. Mr. Baird suggested looking at the existing site “like we have never done before. It can serve us well until the economy repairs.”

[7:03:52 PM](#) Mr. Haemmerle questions the reasonableness of looking at alternative sites while simultaneously looking at options for improving existing airport. Mr. Baird emphasized the idea of creating short, medium, and long-term goals.

[7:06:11 PM](#) Mr. Haemmerle asked for clarification of the FAA’s intention in suspending the EIS process. Mr. Baird opined that “all options are still on the table.”

[7:09:58 PM](#) Council discussion ensued and included: the importance of commercial service; the importance of GA service; and the economic viability of running the existing airport without commercial service.

[7:13:06 PM](#) Discussion continued on the level of commitment to the 1994 Master Plan, and if so, what steps are necessary to restart the relocation process. Carol Brown appreciated a short, mid, and long-term goal approach, while being mindful of impact, and supported the preamble “with one minor exception.” She would consider a minor push outside the fence as she thinks reliability is critical, but she asked to accompany any expansion with impact mitigation. She further noted that she believes relocation is the ultimate solution in the long term.

[7:16:29 PM](#) Don Keirn voiced support for the 1994 Master Plan, but emphasized that any proposed distance outside the fence was a critical matter and asked for a clear definition of that distance and its impact on surrounding community and reliability. He further asked if the FAA would pay for that. He added that the long-term goal should be to relocate.

[7:18:49 PM](#) Pat Cooley expressed support for the Master Plan, but also wanted a clear definition of acceptable distance outside the fence. He further noted his position that the best long-term answer is relocation.

[7:19:20 PM](#) Martha Burke agreed and noted the importance of mitigation to achieve the “highest quality and safest airport possible.”

[7:20:17 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle spoke in support of the 1994 Master Plan, and expressed understanding that relocation depends somewhat on economic conditions, but he noted it should remain the long-term goal. He further suggested that the City ask the FAA to restart the EIS process, and restart the site identification process. The Council reached consensus on those points, and Mr. Haemmerle asked the FMAA representatives to take that information back to the board.

[7:23:03 PM](#) Discussion continued on expansion possibilities and included questions about planning options. Mr. Baird suggested that an Airport Layout Planning process should be the next step, and he believed the ALP could be completed within six months. Discussion continued on the definition of expansion and what policy might be set in place for that. Further discussion questioned whether those decisions could be made before the ALP was completed.

[7:39:16 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle asked that Hailey representatives on the FMAA not sign off on any decisions until they first come before the City Council. Discussion continued on the FMAA decision-making process and Mr. Baird clarified what can be decided by the community and what can be decided by the FAA.

[7:44:00 PM](#) Mr. Haemmerle stressed that he wanted to know about any FMAA decisions before they happen. Martha Burke explained how her role with the FMAA has worked, how it has changed, and the ways in which communication can be improved. Council consensus was reached to seek better communication between the parties.

[7:49:46 PM](#) Mr. Haemmerle restated the goals of this meeting. Carol Brown pointed out that she prefers planning options that will give the City an ‘out’ after the ALP is presented. She encouraged continuing with the EIS and proceeding with the site identification process, having consultants continue on ALP, and making relocation the long term goal with a short term goal of improving reliability in the current location.

[7:57:26 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle emphasized that public safety should be “guiding principle number one and never sacrificed.” Ms. Brown requested that the guidelines be printed and ready for review at the next meeting. The Council agreed and acknowledged that the County may not agree fully with the City on these principles and they should stay open to reviewing the Joint Powers Agreement.

[8:02:19 PM](#) Rick Baird offered to attend meetings to help the City and the County make decisions. He assured the Council his intent is to be available.

[8:04:25 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle called a recess.

PH 033 Woodside Boulevard Project:

- Approval of Resolution 2012-01 authorizing signature of utility agreement with Cox Cable TV for moving utility infrastructure as coordinated through the Woodside Boulevard TIGER II project

- Approval of Resolution 2012-02 authorizing signature of utility agreement with Idaho Power Co for moving utility infrastructure as coordinated through the Woodside Boulevard TIGER II project

- Approval of Resolution 2012-03, authorizing agreement with Idaho Transportation Department for acceptance of \$200,000 by Hailey to be spent on traffic signal at Woodside Boulevard and State Highway 75

-Authorization to solicit a Request for Proposals (bids) for construction of the Woodside Boulevard Project

- Project schedule and general update

[8:13:11 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle called the meeting back to order.

Heather Dawson reviewed the utility agreements with Council, noting the Idaho Power agreement changed slightly from the last meeting. Ned Williamson explained the changes, pointing out that “it may not be perfect,” but he felt it was likely the best option and suggested the Council’s approval. Tom Hellen further noted there were other assurances in the contract to balance any concerns.

[8:16:01 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle opened the meeting to public comment. None was offered.

Carol Brown moved to approve Resolutions 2012-01 and 2012-02 and to authorize the mayor to sign. Martha Burke seconded. Roll call vote: Brown, yes; Keirn, yes; Cooley, abstained; Burke, yes.

[8:17:00 PM](#) Heather Dawson provided an overview on Resolution 2012-03 and suggested approval and authorization for the mayor to sign.

[8:18:21 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle opened the matter to public comment. None was offered..

[8:18:32 PM](#) Don Keirn moved to approve Resoluiton 2012-3 and to authorize the mayor to sign. Martha Burke seconded. Roll call vote: Brown, yes; Keirn, yes; Cooley, abstained; Burke, yes.

[8:19:14 PM](#) Heather Dawson clarified the authorization to solicit RFPs.

Mayor Haemmerle opened the matter to public comment. None was offered.

8:19:59 PM Carol Brown moved to approve advertisement for bids. Martha Burke seconded. Roll call vote: Brown, yes; Keirn, yes; Cooley, abstained; Burke, yes.

8:20:40 PM Heather Dawson noted that the project schedule was covered during the Council's last meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB 000

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

OB 034 3rd Reading of Ordinance 1096, amending Village of Hailey Ordinance No 1 and Hailey City Municipal Code Section 2.04 to increase the regularly scheduled meetings from 1 to 2 per month, and change the meeting dates from the 2nd Monday to the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month.

8:21:35 PM

Martha Burke moved to adopt Ordinance 1096, to read by title only, and to authorize the mayor to sign. Don Keirn seconded. Roll call vote: Brown, yes; Keirn, yes; Cooley, yes; Burke, yes. Mayor Haemmerle conducted the reading.

WORKSHOP:

Staff Reports Council Reports Mayor's Reports

8:23:16 PM Ned expressed hope that discussion will continue on emergency communication recommendations feeling that the recommendations made were extremely broad.

8:25:03 PM Carol Brown noted she would be out of town on vacation.

8:25:32 PM Ned Williamson noted he was contacted by Lubo under the Joint Powers Agreement, and just wanted Council to be aware. Mr. Haemmerle recommended talking about this as an agenda item in a future meeting.

SR 035 Final contract for re-bid engineering with JUB of \$105,712, as approved by city attorney under direction from city council on November 28, 2011.

SR 036 Draft Agendas for February and March, 2012 City Council Meetings (Feb 6, Feb 27, Mar 5, Mar 12, Mar 19)

8:27:23 PM Mayor Haemmerle adjourned the meeting.

Fritz X. Haemmerle, Mayor

Mary Cone, City Clerk