

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
HAILEY CITY COUNCIL  
HELD JANUARY 22, 2018  
IN THE HAILEY TOWN CENTER MEETING ROOM**

The Meeting of the Hailey City Council was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Mayor Fritz Haemmerle. Present were Council members Colleen Teevin, Kaz Thea, Pat Cooley, and Martha Burke. Staff present included City Attorney Christopher P. Simms, City Administrator Heather Dawson, and City Clerk Mary Cone.

[5:30:18 PM](#) Call to order by Mayor Haemmerle

Open Session for Public Comments:

No public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- [CA 019](#) Motion to approve Resolution 2018-005 authorizing an Employment Contract with Brian Yeager for the position of City Public Works Director/Engineer/Land Surveyor.....
- [CA 020](#) Motion to approve revised Resolution 2018-006 with corresponding Water Rights JPA contract authorizing Michael Creamer with Givens Pursley to represent City of Hailey (if needed) and enter into scope of work with Spronk Water Engineers where Hailey will pay 1/3 of amount – up to \$17,400.....
- [CA 021](#) Motion to approve Resolution 2018-007, appointing Jim Finch as Hailey’s Representative to Mountain Rides Transportation Authority, to complete the term vacated by Becki Keefer which expires October 31, 2018.....
- ~~[CA 022](#) Motion to approve Resolution 2018-008, appointing new members to Hailey Tree Committee, and establishing terms.....~~
- [CA 023](#) Motion to approve E-Banking customer review and authorize the Mayor to sign.....
- [CA 024](#) Taxi License Renewals – Sun Valley Shuttle 2018 rates .....
- [CA 025](#) Motion to approve minutes of January 8, 2017 and to suspend reading of them .....
- [CA 026](#) Motion to ratify claims for expenses due in January 2018.....
- [CA 027](#) Motion to approve claims for expenses incurred during the month of December, 2017, and claims for expenses due by contract in January, 2018 .....
- [CA 028](#) Motion to approve FY17 Annual Road and Street Financial Report and Quarterly Financial Report for FY18 Q1. .

[5:31:34 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle asks if anyone needs to pull an item from Consent Agenda.

Item CA 022 is pulled by Cone.

**Burke moves to approve all consent agenda items minus CA 022, seconded by Cooley, motion passed unanimously.**

CA 022 [5:31:54 PM](#) Heather Dawson lets council know that we received a letter of interest today and we have handed out to Mayor and Council a revised Resolution 2018-008 adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> appointment, Nelson Mills to the Tree Committee.

**5:32:22 PM** Burke moves to approve Resolution 2018-008 making 3 appointments to the Tree Committee Dayle Olau, Kelly Siemon and Nelson Mills for 3 year terms expiring Dec. 31, 2020, seconded by Teevin, motion passed unanimously.

**MAYOR’S REMARKS:**

**5:32:41 PM** The council has just approved a contract under consent agenda to hire a new public works director, Brian Yeager, we are supremely lucky to have him on board, Mayor announces.

**5:33:41 PM** Brian Yeager speaks to council, it is an honor, and he is looking forward to serving and working for Mayor and Council, thank you for the opportunity.

**APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS:**

- AA 029 *Assignment of City Council members to liaison positions and ex officio board opportunities .....*
  - Sun Valley Economic Development Corporation – Ex-Officio Board Member - Kaz Thea*
  - Blaine County Housing Authority – Ex Officio Board Member – Kaz Thea*
  - Regional Transportation Subcommittee for WR Bike-Pedestrian Master Plan Implementation – Kaz Thea*
  - Hailey Tree Committee Liaison – Kaz Thea*
  - Hailey Library Board of Trustees Liaison – Colleen Teevin*
  - Assignment of Don Keirn to Fly Sun Valley Alliance as Hailey’s representative and in his role with FMAA*

**5:34:51 PM** Mayor announces volunteered positions by council as presented on the agenda.

- AA 030 *Motion to approve Resolution 2018-009, appointing Martha Burke to the Hailey Urban Renewal Agency (replaces Jason Miller)*

**5:36:29 PM** Cooley moves to approve Resolution 2018-009, appointing Burke to the URA, seconded by Burke, motion passed unanimously.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

- PP 031 *Presentation by The Chamber and some Hailey businesses of the cash proceeds from “Sandbag Strong” t-shirt sales to the City of Hailey for restoration projects at Heagle Park (no documents)*

**5:37:06 PM** Chamber presentation Jeff Bacon introduces - Todd Hunter, Idaho Lumber owner and Leah Merklingshaus owner of The Contemporary Cottage on South Main Street. These business owners made T-shirts and sold them to raise money to benefit the Della flooding area residents.

A check for \$580 from the t-shirt sales was presented to Mayor Haemmerle by Todd Hunter.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### *NB 032 Presentation and City Council Acceptance of the audited FY 2017 Annual Financial Statements*

[5:39:07 PM](#) Dennis Brown presents his auditor's statement, the big thing last year was Biosolids project, you have left over funds for future development in that fund. Total water ww funds, \$750,000 left over, increased fund balance to close to \$3 million dollars. General fund, \$650,000 received more revenue or spent less – both in this case. 2.982 million dollars is 1.7 is general fund.

Dennis Brown will answer any questions council may have.

Mayor will ask for Public comments.

No public comments.

No comments by council.

Mayor thanks Dennis for his work and attending this meeting.

[5:43:22 PM](#) **Motion to accept the 2017 fiscal year financial statements made by Burke, seconded by Thea, passed with roll call vote. Teevin, yes. Cooley, yes. Burke, yes. Thea, yes.**

### *NB 033 Discussion of Hailey Greenway Master Plan project priorities.*

[5:44:02 PM](#) Horowitz presents a history of this item and refers to a map showing the Hailey Greenway Master Plan area in gold. Public comments have been received, since the packet was put together these were handed out before tonight's meeting.

[5:45:28 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle explains this is a partnership between WRLT and Hailey city. Mayor, Patty Lousen, Heather Dawson, Scott B., Lisa met to discuss respective project priorities. We have received many public comments, will keep taking public comments for months to come as priorities develop. Haemmerle explains some outcome of this recent meeting with WRLT, Lions Park is the first topic covered. One of the ideas, is to find a new snow storage spot, in order to redo the entrance to Lions Park. Other ideas include an upgrade to the softball field to regulation size, improve the entrance to WRLT owned area at Pavilion. Action items in the plan are in the Implementation section #6, they are delineated by 3 project types: "A" projects are Access and Connectivity, "L" projects are Land Use, Recreation and Conservation and then "R" projects are River Restoration and Floodplain Function. Under R, there are suggested projects including; south stream stabilization and a berm through draper preserve. In discussions with WRLT, there is consensus, we do not want to channelize the River and add berms. Mayor Haemmerle is not in favor of channelizing the Big Wood River. The county is engaged in a long-term plan with the Army Corps of Engineers, we are in support of this work. Mayor Haemmerle asked for a picture of the proposed berm, the green line is a berm location, interesting concept, ultimately has possibility to channel waters towards 3 particular properties. In regards to Heagle

Park, we have discussed removing the tennis courts. [5:53:36 PM](#) there are FEMA funds available, but we don't know where we stand with grant funds yet or other competing projects. We are considering removing the tennis courts and want public input on this topic. Haemmerle, we received many comments on RV camping in the park, we intended on special event related camping, not overall full time camping.

Public comments:

[5:55:20 PM](#) Sean Guisasola owns a construction company in valley, things like this master plan, are things that keep him in the valley. Would like to see Lions Park built up more, he played (softball) there as a child. The field needs to be bigger - regulation size. Sean offers help if the city needs it.

Chase Uhrig, speaks to council, he grew up in the valley, he has played softball on this field. His league moved last year to Bellevue, he would like to move back to Hailey if regulation size field is built. Want to bring more sanctioned softball tournaments in the valley. We could offer more fields if Lions was expanded. Uhrig played 200 games last year, would like to host some tournaments here. Please make this a priority, good thing to keep young people.

[6:01:41 PM](#) Jon Gove – aren't these parks fill and aren't they channelizing the river. How are decisions made? Wants to make sure all sides are considered and equally balanced and weighed.

[6:03:13 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle responds, this was not initially a flood mitigation project, but we added scope to the master plan after last year's flooding. Blaine County is working with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding flooding mitigation. This (master plan) is a plan that deals with a particular segment along the river, keeping in mind what the long-term flooding plans are.

[6:05:29 PM](#) Al Hackel Hailey resident speaks to council, he has owned the property for 20 years, he retired about 8 years ago. In 2006 there was a flood, and the Mayor at the time said the city would do what they could to mitigate future floods. Then council determined it was too expensive to do anything, and nothing happened. Hackel is astounded at the amount of work that has gone into this master plan. We were out of our house for 3 months mainly because the electricity was off. Hackel would appreciate a priority of helping the neighborhood prevent another disaster from happening. Lions Park is not in city limits, please prioritize city properties.

[6:09:47 PM](#) Haemmerle comments, electrical power boxes were raised in all Della neighborhoods in case of future flooding.

Haemmerle asked if Hackel had comments on the master plan? Hackel, responds, looks like a lot of work went into it.

[6:11:05 PM](#) Jeff Jones softball player comments to council, he would like to see the field made to regulation. Jones built the Bellevue softball fields, he can help Hailey increase the size and many people will offer to donate time to make it happen. It would be special to have another regulation size field.

[6:14:24 PM](#) Megan Balis with softball group and loves the sport. Agrees with all of the comments on the field.

[6:15:06 PM](#) Lora Nea works for Pioneer Montessori School, she would love to have a regulation size field in Hailey.

[6:15:40 PM](#) Sal Wendland speaks to council, she plays softball and would love to see a larger field at Lions Park. Sal moved here from Chicago, many activities are solitary in this area, not community events. Sal thinks of these softball people as family. There is a long list of events we could bring to town if we had 2 softball fields. Thank you for the opportunity to comment today. Please make the softball field a high priority. Thanks for listening to all of us tonight.

[6:21:43 PM](#) Larry Schoen Blaine County Commissioner speaks to council, he appreciates the city keeping the public comment period open longer. Schoen comments on the Mayor's comments on "fitting in with the county's plan" we just had a workshop on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> with the Army Corps and a man from University of Idaho on conference call at that meeting. There is a follow up meeting on Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, will be run by the Army Corps, topic is Planning Assistance to States, section 22 portion is a study, and the county has requested a report covering Stanton crossing to North of Ketchum. The timeline for this study, if scope of work is approved, will be a 12-month horizon for completion of the study. At the completion of this study the county hopes to have some project ideas. The county has also requested from the Army Corps a different set of programs, continuing authorities program, for the "Hailey Reach" [6:24:08 PM](#) sections 14, 205, and 206 those reports will come later on this reach, and the timeline for these studies are longer than 12 months out. All components of the plan are important, it will take time and we will have to prioritize them. [6:25:54 PM](#) Schoen thinks more can be done, options are to lengthen the river, connect the river to floodplain, these are his thoughts, and slow the river down by Dr. Hackle's house. A setback levy might be an option, think about making flood mitigation a high priority to reduce impacts to residents, and beneficial in the long run, while recreation is still important, Schoen concludes.

[6:28:10 PM](#) Haemmerle responds to Schoen's comments. Flood mitigation will cost millions of dollars, and should not be shouldered by city or county solely, and we do not have the funds. There are things we can do which cost less. We can do certain things now. Flood mitigation will take many hours and dollars. Mayor Haemmerle thanks the county for their efforts.

[6:30:11 PM](#) Schoen responds it is a 20-year plan, army corps is a 50/50 match, it will be expensive.

[6:30:55 PM](#) Patty Lousen with WRLT, speaks, it has been tremendous working with the city of Hailey on this plan. Lousen would like to discuss the berm idea, WRLT wants to explain proactive goals of returning floodplain lands near the river. This is why they purchased land in the Colorado Gulch property, they found funds and bought the property within 3 weeks, raised \$1 million dollars from funders. The green dotted line on the map depicts a possible berm location, Lousen explains it would rebuild the habitat. We (WRLT) are not thrilled about dredging and channelizing the river. We want to do the most minimum changes, that is why we are agreeing to the berm to aid in the most natural action of the river. On Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, the WRLT is

bringing a floodplain expert in at 6 pm at The Community Library to speak. He will speak on solutions being implemented in other communities around the west.

[6:36:46 PM](#) Haemmerle responds with comments on the berm, it starts and stops and potentially could cause water issues for 3 houses next to the berm.

Council discussion:

[6:38:01 PM](#) Thea comments, wildlife ecology is her background. You always have to start with studies, and it must be tied to other larger studies. People want to move quickly, but we must move slowly. Thea is in favor of this plan, and there are some projects we can do that won't physically impact flooding, signage being one of them. We need to prioritize flooding projects and must follow science in riparian areas. These plans allow you to get grant funds. Mountain Rides completed a bike/ped master plan, and then was able to secure grant funding. Thea loves the softball field idea, is there better location for a bigger field? Highest priority is to provide floodplain area for River. This needs to be a living document.

[6:43:20 PM](#) Haemmerle asks if any study shows the ball field as impacting the floodplain. Thea no, haven't seen one.

[6:43:55 PM](#) Thea continues her comments, we must look at the location of Lions Park. Is there a better spot for a park.

[6:44:30 PM](#) Cooley is it common sense that health safety and welfare are our priority. From Hailey's perspective snow storage is a number one priority. Improving conveyance to wetlands in conjunction with the reconstruction of the ballfields, is a desire of our citizens, as seen by the 300 signatures. Cooley, comments on Lousen's berm explanation. Cooley has not seen a berm or levy he liked. We need to keep working at it.

[6:46:41 PM](#) Burke likes that we started the Greenway Master Plan before the flooding events last spring. We are talking 2 issues here, life and home, we are limited in what we can do. We are working with the right partners. 2<sup>nd</sup> is recreation with our family in the community. Burke agrees with Mayor, we have tried to relocate Lions Park snow storage for many years. That site used to be the city dump many years ago. In the meantime, we will work through the priority list. Burke wants to move forward on projects if they will not increase the risk for flooding or damage to the riparian area. We have big money issues, to solve future flooding issues, we will work with WRLT, county and the County works with Army Corps. None of this is simple.

[6:53:02 PM](#) Haemmerle comments, man has always failed when trying to move rivers.

[6:54:36 PM](#) Thea does not want to see this stall out. Would like to see projects continue to be done when possible.

[6:55:08 PM](#) Teevin cannot give a priority list tonight, she is having a difficult time nestling it with the county projects – the larger plan.

[6:57:54 PM](#) Haemmerle encourages thought in the 3 parts of the plans Mayor points to some property East of river in county, not city property. There are zoning land use issues we need to think about.

[7:01:08 PM](#) Thea asks about item L-7 establish conservation area – what is the cost in this project? Lousen this is almost a completed piece.

[7:01:57 PM](#) Lousen comments on the river and Colorado Gulch Bridge, in talking with Geomorphologists and hydrologists about a new bridge and its impact up and down the river. The comments generally say that projects like a new bridge would have a span of 500-1000 feet impact above and below the river - very limited on its effect on the watershed.

Teevin asks about the parking lot in Colorado gulch area, does the WRLT own that property? It is in the right-of-way of the County's easement, replies Lousen. [7:04:16 PM](#) Then Lousen refers to a commissioned analysis on new bridge area, which they should get report back around February.

[7:06:18 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle will continue to take public comments for several more months on this project.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

*OB 034 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 1228, amending Title 12.14, revising banner specifications and conditions when hardware is not included with banner*

[7:06:49 PM](#) Mayor Haemmerle conducts the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1228 by title only.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

[7:07:37 PM](#) Craig Aberbach announces there is a Joint Fire Board meeting this Thursday at 4:30 at city hall.

Horowitz, there is an Idaho smart growth, ACI, presentation to all cities, and the county will sponsor it, February 22<sup>nd</sup> (evening session) and 23<sup>rd</sup> (morning session) at county. Morning session for staff and evening for council and public.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Real Property Acquisition (IC 74-206(1)(c)), Pending & Imminently Likely Litigation (IC 74-206(1)(f)), and/or Personnel (IC 74-206(1)(a/b))

Chris Simms announces, no executive session is needed.

[7:09:24 PM](#) Burke moves to adjourn meeting, Cooley seconds, motion passed unanimously.

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Fritz X. Haemmerle, Mayor

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Mary Cone, City Clerk