CITY OF POCATELLO

CITY OF POCATELLO, IDAHO
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Brian Blad. Council members present were Rick Cheatum, Linda Leeuwrik, Brent Nichols, and Hayden Paulsen. Council member Corey Mangum was excused.

Mayor Blad led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Dean Giesbrecht, representing Watersprings Pocatello.

Mayor Blad announced Agenda Item No. 9 had been pulled from the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: CONSENT AGENDA

Council was asked to consider the following business items:

(a) **MATERIAL CLAIMS**
Approve the Material Claims for the period of May 1 - 15, 2025 in the amount of $ 2,811,060.97.

(b) **TREASURER'S REPORT**
Approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2025 showing cash and investments as of March 30, 2025 in the amount of $3,985,742.59.

(c) **CITY COUNCIL DECISION – ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 77.95 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED NORTH OF EAST CENTER STREET AND SOUTHEAST OF VISTA DRIVE**
Adopt the Council's decision annexing approximately 77.95 acres of land located north of East Center Street and southeast of Vista Drive. The subject property will be zoned Residential Low Density (RL).

A motion was made by Ms. Leeuwrik, seconded by Mr. Cheatum, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Leeuwrik, Cheatum, Nichols, and Paulsen.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Cheatum, on behalf of Mayor Blad, proclaimed May 18-24, 2025 to be National Public Works Week and encouraged all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make protecting our national health, safety, and quality of life.

Jeff Mansfield, Public Works Director, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Council for the recognition. He shared that this year's American Public Works Association theme, "People, Purpose, and Presence," reflects the dedication of public works professionals who quietly work behind the scenes to serve the community and improve quality of life. He encouraged the public to thank staff for their service.

Ms. Leeuwrik, on behalf of Mayor Blad, proclaimed the week of May 11 - 17, 2025, as National Police Week in Pocatello and called upon all citizens to observe May 15 as Law Enforcement Memorial Day, and encouraged all citizens to commemorate the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities honoring police officers, past and present, who through their faithful and devoted service have contributed to their communities, and to pay tribute to peace officers who, through courageous deeds, have lost their lives or become disabled in the line of duty.

Roger Schei, Police Chief, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: CALENDAR REVIEW

Mayor Blad reminded Council members of the following meetings: May 27 Special City Council meeting at 10:00 a.m.; City Council Budget Development meetings at 9:00 a.m. on June 2, 3, 4, and 5; June 5 Clarification meeting at 5:30 p.m. and Regular City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.; City Council Budget Development meetings at 9:00 a.m. on June 10 and 11; June 12 City Council Work Session at 9:00 a.m.; all regularly scheduled City Council meetings on June 19 have been canceled for the Juneteenth holiday.

Mayor Blad announced May 23 – 26 will be Field of Heroes at Century High School; Ross Park Aquatic Center opens for the season, weather permitting, on May 24; City offices will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday on May 26. However, garbage, compost and recycling pick-ups will be on schedule; May 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. is Free Day at Zoo Idaho sponsored by Connections Credit Union; Dog licenses expire June 1 and the City is offering half-price dog licenses throughout the month of May. Licenses may be purchased at City Hall or the Animal Shelter; Mayor Blad congratulated all area high school graduates.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: TAXICAB LICENSE DENIAL APPEAL – VANZYVERDEN

Onnajohn VanZyverden was present to appeal the denial of his taxicab license, which was denied by the Pocatello Police Department.

Onnajohn VanZyverden, Pocatello resident, stated that he has appealed the denial of his taxi cab license, explaining past charges from 21 years ago. He acknowledged a misdemeanor child abuse conviction from 2004, explaining it stemmed from a difficult period in his life and emphasizing that he has since changed significantly. Mr. VanZyverden stated he has had no further criminal history, is now an Uber driver, and is focused on being a supportive husband and father.

Mallarie Bascom, Licensing Enforcement Officer, explained that Mr. VanZyverden's taxi license application was denied under City Code 5.56.5(e), which disqualifies applicants with convictions involving violence or moral turpitude. She stated that Mr. VanZyverden was convicted in 2004 of a misdemeanor offense related to child abuse, stemming from an earlier incident in Utah. He received probation, a fine, and a suspended jail sentence. Ms. Bascom confirmed he disclosed the conviction on his application and was forthcoming about the matter. In response to questions from Council, Ms. Bascom clarified that although the conviction was a misdemeanor, it is still disqualifying under City Code 5.56.5(e) because it involves a crime of violence, specifically physical child abuse or neglect. She confirmed that Mr. VanZyverden was upfront about the conviction on his application.

Mr. VanZyverden acknowledged the incident occurred over 20 years ago, expressed remorse, and stated he has changed significantly since then. He described rebuilding relationships with his children and emphasized his commitment to being a responsible citizen.

A motion was made by Mr. Paulsen, seconded by Mr. Cheatum, to overturn the decision of the Police Department and approve the taxicab license for Onnajohn VanZyverden. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Paulsen, Cheatum, Leeuwrik, and Nichols.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: PUBLIC HEARING – POCATELLO HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

This time was set aside for the Council to hear comments from the public regarding the Pocatello Historic Preservation Plan. Council was asked to adopt the proposed document as an official City plan by resolution.

Mayor Blad opened the public hearing.

Jim Anglesey, Long Range Planner, presented information regarding a proposed update to the Pocatello Historic Preservation Plan originally adopted in 2018. While the current plan effectively identifies historic architectural styles and preservation history, its goals lacked detailed objectives and implementation strategies. Since its adoption, significant progress has been made in outreach, education, and standardizing preservation guidelines in the historic district. The updated plan was developed with community input from surveys and public meetings and was reviewed during a recent City Council Work Session. Key goals for the next 10 years focus on survey and national register designations, public education and partnerships, policy and incentives, and training and operations. The plan aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan by aiming to preserve the authenticity of neighborhoods, increase public awareness, support preservation-friendly regulations, and collaborate with communities to enhance neighborhood culture. He added that all public notice requirements were met. He stated no written comments had been received.

Mayor Blad announced no written comments had been received.

There being no public comments, Mayor Blad closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Ms. Leeuwrik, seconded by Mr. Paulsen, to adopt a resolution (2025-13) approving the proposed Pocatello Historic Preservation Plan document as an official City plan. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Leeuwrik, Paulsen, Cheatum, and Nichols.

Council expressed appreciation to staff for their effective and thoughtful planning efforts.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: FY 2024 PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD (PSN) PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Council was asked to approve submission of the FY 2024 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Grant Application in the amount of $11,500.00, and if awarded, accept the grant and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review. Grant funding would be used to lease two (2) License Plate Readers (LPR) through Flock Safety and installed in Bannock County and Power County to assist in identifying and tracking vehicles involved in criminal activity. There is no required grant match.

A motion was made by Mr. Cheatum, seconded by Ms. Leeuwrik, to approve submission of the FY 2024 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Grant Application in the amount of $11,500.00, and if awarded, accept the grant and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Cheatum, Leeuwrik, and Nichols. Paulsen voted in opposition. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: FINAL PLAT APPLICATION – HOSPITAL VIEW DIVISION 1

As announced earlier, Agenda Item No. 9 to consider a final plat application submitted by JG Ventures, LLC, represented by Bryce Marsh, Horrocks Engineering (mailing address: 2194 Snake River Parkway, Suite 205, Idaho Falls, ID 83402) to subdivide 3.56 acres (more or less) into four (4) commercial lots and two (2) common lots, located east of Portneuf Medical Center, to be known as Hospital View Division 1, was pulled from the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – THE LAND GROUP

Council was asked to accept the recommendation of staff and approve a professional services agreement with The Land Group in the amount of $106,775.00 to develop a landscaping plan for firewise and waterwise landscaping along interstate interchanges and South 5th Avenue and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review. The project is funded by a US Forest Service grant, administered by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Idaho Department of Lands.

A motion was made by Mr. Nichols, seconded by Ms. Leeuwrik, to approve a professional services agreement with The Land Group in the amount of $106,775.00 to develop a landscaping plan for firewise and waterwise landscaping along interstate interchanges and South 5th Avenue and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review.

In response to questions from Council, Hannah Sanger, Science and Environment Division Manager, presented information regarding a grant-funded project to redesign landscaping in several areas, including the Center Street interchange, Pocatello Creek, Fourth and Fifth Avenues, and near the Pocatello sign. The designs will follow water-wise and firewise principles to reduce wildfire risk, particularly near interstates. Ms. Sanger confirmed the grant is active after a temporary pause. She explained that firewise practices involve removing flammable vegetation like junipers and tall grasses. The project will also serve as a demonstration site, with final plans available for public use.

Council noted the City recently received a $1.75 million EPA grant, highlighting ongoing federal support.

Mr. Nichols' motion was voted upon at this time. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Nichols, Leeuwrik, Cheatum, and Paulsen.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: AIRPORT LEASE TERMINATION, RESOLUTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT - AIRPORT

Council was asked to consider the following requests for 5,600 square feet of property at the airport, and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review:

(a) TERMINATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT
Approve termination of the lease agreement between the City of Pocatello and Stacy Meyer, dated November 5, 2020; and if approved

(b) ADOPT A RESOLUTION
Adopt a Resolution and approve a lease agreement between the City of Pocatello and JRM Flyers Club, LLC, for 5,600 square feet of property upon which JRM Flyers has purchased an aircraft hangar. The lease will be for a term of 40 years. Rental rate will be $1,288.00 per year and will be increased annually according to the CPI with a full rate review in 2026 and every five (5) years thereafter.

A motion was made by Mr. Cheatum, seconded by Ms. Leeuwrik, to approve the termination of the existing lease agreement between the City of Pocatello and Stacy Meyer, dated November 5, 2020, and to adopt a Resolution (2025-14) and approve a new lease agreement between the City of Pocatello and JRM Flyers Club, LLC, for 5,600 square feet of property at the Pocatello Airport and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review.

In response to questions from Council, Alan Evans, Airport Manager, explained that the lease cancellation is due to the sale of a hangar previously owned by Stacy Meyers. The new owner, JRM Flyers, will assume the lease. Mr. Evans confirmed the hangar is sized for one or two aircraft and that the 40-year lease term requested by the new owner meets FAA requirements.

Mr. Cheatum's motion was voted upon at this time. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Cheatum, Leeuwrik, Nichols, and Paulsen.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: LEASE AGREEMENT AND RESOLUTION – RIVERBEND COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

Council was asked to adopt a Resolution and approve a lease agreement with Riverbend Communications, LLC for a property easement to operate and maintain a broadcasting booster antennae and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review. The lease term will be three (3) years and the rental rate will be $260.00 per month.

A motion was made by Mr. Cheatum, seconded by Mr. Paulsen, to adopt a Resolution (2025-15) and approve a lease agreement with Riverbend Communications, LLC for a property easement to operate and maintain a broadcasting booster antennae and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Cheatum, Paulsen, Leeuwrik, and Nichols.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT – SANITATION DEPARTMENT

Council was asked to accept the recommendation of staff and declare two (2) Sanitation Department vehicles as surplus property and approve an Equipment Exchange Agreement with Future Enterprises, Inc. to exchange the vehicles for cardboard recycling routes and containers and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review.

A motion was made by Mr. Cheatum, seconded by Ms. Leeuwrik, to declare two (2) Sanitation Department vehicles as surplus property and approve an Equipment Exchange Agreement with Future Enterprises, Inc. to exchange the vehicles for cardboard recycling routes and containers and authorize the Mayor's signature on all applicable documents, subject to Legal Department review.

Tom Kirkman, Director of Public Services, gave an overview of a proposal involving the planned surplus of sanitation trucks as part of the department's Capital Replacement Program. He explained that the department replaces vehicles every 7 to 8 years and may trade them in or auction them. Western Recycling, doing business as Future Enterprises, Inc., a longtime partner with the City, expressed interest in acquiring the surplus trucks. During discussions, the opportunity arose to exchange the trucks for approximately 59 to 60 commercial cardboard recycling containers and the associated customer accounts. Mr. Kirkman noted that this exchange aligns with the City Council's goal to expand commercial cardboard recycling services.

In response to questions from Council, Tom Kirkman confirmed the cardboard collection route is entirely within Pocatello and includes containers behind commercial businesses. The containers represent the full extent of Western Recycling's local operations, which will cease. Future Enterprises, Inc. has indicated they will continue serving a small number of customers in Chubbuck.

Mr. Cheatum's motion was voted upon at this time. Upon roll call, those voting in favor were Cheatum, Leeuwrik, Nichols, and Paulsen.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no individuals signed up to speak at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Blad adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

BBl

BRIAN C. BLAD, MAYOR

ATTESTED BY:

Konni R Kendell

KONNI R. KENDELL, CITY CLERK

PREPARED BY:

Aubriana Resendes

AUBRIANA T. RESENDES, DEPUTY CITY CLERK