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CITY OF HAUSER

11837 N. Hauser Lake Road, Hauser, Idaho 83854

HAUSER CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

(ZOOM Meeting & Public Attendance)

REGULAR MEETING – August 12, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Ray at 6:35 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Council member Duchesne
3. **ROLL CALL** – *Council:* Hoerner, present; Pomykala, present; Finley, present; Duchesne, present.
Staff: Mihara, present; Wheeler, zoom; Espe, not present; Sauter, present; Fondahn-Baker, present.
4. **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT, EX-PARTE CONTACTS:** None.
5. **MINUTES**
ACTION ITEM:
Minutes of July 8, 2025 – 6:37 p.m.: Council member Hoerner moved to approve the Minutes of July 8, 2025 as presented. Council member Duchesne abstained from voting as he was not present at the last meeting. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye. Motion carried.
6. **MAYOR, Bill Ray**
Lakeview Trailer Park – Special Meeting discussion: Attorney Mihara is requested to reach out to RIZR and respectfully decline their proposal.
Personnel Policy discussion: He wanted to continue to review the other city policies before developing our own personnel policy. Council member Pomykala read the other city policies and commented they are comparable to ICRMP's policies. Council member Duchesne disagreed because we have no full time employees, we are a small town, and do not need such a complex document nor do we need to restate state and federal laws which are documented and available elsewhere. He suggested having a simple one-page policy that pertains to the City of Hauser employees. Attorney Mihara added that there are liabilities with legal documents/policies and maybe we don't need one, but whatever policy is implemented, we need to follow it legally. Mayor Ray would like to set up a meeting with the clerks for recommendations and he will contact ICRMP for additional research.
Hauser City Park plan: He would like a consensus if this project is worth pursuing. Setting a sand or gravel path with dock system access to the lake from 2nd St. seems feasible so small watercrafts can enter there instead of going all the way to Hauser City Park. Council member Finley said there are mixed feelings from residents for development. However, he likes the idea of another entrance. Council member Hoerner would also like to pursue this knowing there are issues but said it can be worked out.

ACTION ITEM:

- . ***Retire obsolete surplus office printers – Epson ET 3850 and HP Officejet Pro x476dw:*** He motioned to have our IT contact destroy the equipment after thoroughly “cleaning” them. Council member Hoerner moved to surplus the obsolete printers and have them destroyed by IT. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

7. REPORTS

- . ***Cindy Espe, Code Enforcement:*** Not present.

8. TRESURER, Lee Wheeler

- . ***Preliminary Budget Review – July 18 Workshop:*** Due to clerical error, Council member Finley moved to amend the Agenda to approve the budget required by state law. Council member Hoerner seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried. From the July 18 Special Meeting Workshop, Council made suggestions to change the budget for ICRMP insurance, IT computers, donations worth \$1,000, and a staff increase of 3% which Wheeler corrected. Council member Finley proposed a wage increase for Planning and Zoning (P&Z) coordinator, Cindy Espe. However, Mayor Ray clarified that she is a contracted employee. Council member Duchesne moved to approve the preliminary budget. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM:

- . ***Treasurer Report – July 2025:*** Bank accounts were under \$914,000; Profit and Loss is awaiting revenue; Building revenue is down due to less building permits; IT computer services is significant and the general dollar amount is between \$4-5,000. Council member Duchesne moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report of July 2025. Council member Hoerner seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

9. COUNCIL MEMBERS & STAFF

- . ***Jeff Hoerner, Public Works – Streets & Roads:*** No report.

- . ***Alice Pomykala, Land & Buildings:*** No report.

- . ***Daniel Finley, Special Projects:***

- . ***City Clerk training:*** Training the clerks is high priority and suggested Ms. Espe’s knowledge to help.
- . ***Council check-in with ACJ consultants:*** Is questioning the progress with P&Z. Council member Duchesne wants to be informed about schedules and budget. Attorney Mihara suggested that P&Z give updates to Council.
- . ***Adding City ordinances to website:*** Asked why the City does not have our ordinances published on our website. Attorney Mihara said other cities have links to their city ordinances and suggested Council member Finley reach out to our IT contact.
- . ***Storage space for YouTube:*** Unlike Zoom, there is no limit on storage space and we can store as much as we want. The model of Zoom is different than YouTube. He added that if YouTube and the internet go down, it would be a good idea to store the information on Cloud as it is a secure backup system. However, it could backfire financially.

- . ***Mark Duchesne, Council Member:*** No report.

- . ***Kristin Sauter, City Clerk:***

- . ***TextMyGov app:*** Explained this app feature helps open up the line of communication with text alerts between local government and its citizens. This system allows us to ask questions, address problems for

any issues, and uploads photos. It is a messaging app that finds information such as office closure hours, events, creates surveys, notifications, flyer creations, etc. The staff and clerks would get training from this resourceful tool for the City and the public. There are 30 different municipalities in Idaho. TextMyGov would manage the app and no software is necessary making it user-friendly. Cost is negotiable and Council will review this proposal at next month's meeting.

. **Laurie Fondahn-Baker, Deputy Clerk:** No report.

10. CITY ATTORNEY, Kinzo Mihara

ACTION ITEM:

- . ***Offer of Settlement – RIZR:*** He is requested to notify RIZR of respectfully rejecting their offer. We should be receiving a check at the end of the month for \$458 in reference to the back taxes lawsuit.
- . ***City Impact Area:*** The Area of City Impact (ACI) has 15-20 acres on the south end of Hwy 53 and is in dispute with Post Falls. ACI has changed its name to AI, Area of Impact (not Artificial Intelligence) and is setting criteria for Council, Attorney Mihara, and P&Z to review the Kootenai County land area maps, then the county must have the final say by December 31, 2025.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS: This is an opportunity to address concerns Not on the agenda (no formal action allowed.) There is a three-minute time limit. Comments regarding performance by City employees are inappropriate at this time and should be directed to the Mayor.

- a. Robin Brodhead: In the future, she would like the attorney on a mic so the public can hear comments better; She questioned if the TextMyGov is free to citizens? Mayor Ray answered yes; She wanted to know if the City of Hauser's back garages can be used as revenue for the City? Mayor Ray said they are not empty; Was curious about getting access to the RIZR lawsuit. Attorney Mihara said it is public record and gave her the case number.

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 p.m.



Kristin Sauter, City Clerk



Bill Ray, Mayor