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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 – October 14, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council member Finley
3. **ROLL CALL – Council:** Hoerner, present; Pomykala, present; Finley, present; Duchesne, present
Staff: Mihara, present; Wheeler, zoom; Espe, present; Sauter, present; Fondahn-Baker, present
4. **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT, EX-PARTE CONTACTS:** None
5. **MINUTES**

ACTION ITEM:

. *Minutes of September 9, 2025 – 6:33 p.m.:* Council member Pomykala complimented on a good review and moved to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2025 as presented. Council member Hoerner seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

6. **MAYOR, Bill Ray**

. *Fire Department's Request to Store a Fire Truck in the City Hall Garage:* Hauser Fire Chief Neils contacted City Hall requesting to store their 1934 Chevy fire truck, with water tank, in our garage. It is in running condition and needs to be permanently stored for one year. It will be insured and covered while in the garage. The Mayor and him will talk next week, and revisit storing it next year. Council member Finley moved to provide enough space for the fire department's 1934 fire truck. Council member Duchesne seconded the motion. Chief Neils added that the Office of Emergency's Fire Mitigation Grant for property at Waterford and Hauser Hills needs mitigation. 2.5 million in grant funding will be attained the next fiscal year (2026/2027). The Hauser Fire Dept. identifies the area, then City of Hauser signs the contract and the fire department determines who and how said properties get cleaned up, ie clearing brush/ingress/egress.

7. **REPORTS**

. **Cindy Espe, Code Enforcement**

. **Monthly Report:** Planning and Zoning have a new budget starting 11/1/25. The Post Falls District has two parcels behind Epic Storage on Hwy 53. Due to the new Pleasant View overpass, they want to purchase 70ft which crosses at Cloverleaf Rd. and will build the road for that property. Espe will see if that pans out for them.

8. TREASURER, Lee Wheeler

ACTION ITEM:

. **Treasurer Report – September 9, 2025:** Cash flow is \$890,000; The general fund is under \$200,000 and the interest is high; Property revenues are up 13%; Business licenses are up 64% than budgeted; The actual building permit budget is 23% and significantly lower; The trends for alcohol consumption include traffic violations, DUIs, and liquor licenses that are per population for alcohol sales and are within budget; Idaho revenue sharing is being reviewed in the 2023/2024 audit; There was an increase for IT and computer services; Council member Duchesne asked what the \$450,000 dollars was for. Wheeler replied that that number is the offset of the highway and general funds; Duchesne commented that the \$883,870.80 checking/savings asset will act as a buffer for the City of Hauser back-up budget, which Wheeler confirmed. Council member Duchesne moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of September 9, 2025. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried. Mayor Ray brought up October 1st COLA increase for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk. The Treasurer said he will add the increase prorated from 10/1/25. Ms. Espe interjected in reference to the Comprehensive Plan budget saying it is not cost effective and will go beyond the contracted amount. She is concerned about the invoices not being itemized for the hours worked. Duchesne suggested withholding payment for now and clarifying what deliverables we believe SCJ still owes us. The attorney spoke up saying all confidence in them is lost. The Mayor would like the attorney to send an email (for documentation) to SCJ to explain their intentions, itemize their invoices and make it known they will not get paid until the City of Hauser is satisfied. Duchesne remarked that whether we expect further deliveries or not, we have a professional obligation to communicate what we see as the contractors' shortfalls against expectations. Finley finished by saying that we need to make sure that we have a fiduciary responsibility and need accountability before making a legal decision. This is a large amount of money coming out of the City of Hauser's budget.

9. COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

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

. **Daniel Finley, Special Projects:** No report.

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

. **Kristin Sauter, City Clerk**

. **Missing Records Discussion:** Both clerks became aware that Ordinance 202 and 208 are missing from the City's records. Both of them searched City Hall and could not retrieve such ordinances. Ms. Espe can research her P&Z records for those two. In the interim, the Deputy Clerk compiled a new ordinance list dating from 2009 so that we are now current.

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

10. CITY ATTORNEY, Kinzo Mihara

- . **Potential Enforcement Action:** The City had a potential code enforcement issue; however, that issue had resolved positively by the time of the City council meeting.
- . **Comprehensive Plan/SCJ Agreement:** This was covered by Ms. Espe's Monthly Report. He will work with her to draft a letter contact vendor to clarify billings.

ACTION ITEM:

- . **Area of Impact Boundary Agreement/Maps:** Legislature has now renamed ACI to AOI. Initial discussions between Hauser and Post Falls resulted in some disagreement and parcels in dispute will be removed from Hauser and Post Falls maps. Five years ago, AOI negotiated a sliding scale with Kootenai County for building permit fee revenue. The City still retains consultation rights within the area of the ACI, now AOI. The county has jurisdiction and wants us to get our maps together with legal descriptions with no material changes. Therefore, 50% of the building revenue moving forward, will go to the City and 50% goes to the county. Council member Duchesne moved for the City of Hauser spend the funds for AOI's necessary documentation with signatures from the Mayor, the City Clerk, and others to implement the agreement. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Roll call: Hoerner, aye; Pomykala, aye; Finley, aye; Duchesne, aye. Motion carried.

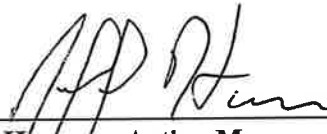
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT: 7:56 p.m.



Kristin Sauter, City Clerk



Jeff Hoerner, Acting Mayor